

Chester City Council Meeting
Minutes
December 10, 2012, 6:30 pm

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tempore Annie M. Reid, Council Members Bagley, Williams, Kovas, Thompson, Caldwell and Killian. City Attorney April Counterman; Human Resources Director Carla Roof.

ABSENT: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow; Council Member Linda Tinker.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tempore Reid called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PRAYER: Councilman Williams led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS FORUM: Gloria Kellerhals thanked everyone who participated with the Christmas Event. The event had over 300 children in attendance. This event was very successful and Council thanked Mrs. Kellerhals for all her work in this event.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: No report provided.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the 11-5-2012 and 11-12-2012 meetings as presented. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT:

Finance – No report

Fire – Councilwoman Bagley commended the Fire Department for the great job on their annual banquet.

Human Resources – Mrs. Roof informed Council that she has received 21 applications for City Administrators position.

Police – Councilman Williams had questions concerning placing advertisement on utility poles. The city has an ordinance and we need to enforce it.

Public Works – No report

Recreation – No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Safety – The Committee met last week, no business at this time.

Recreation – No report

Economic Development – No Report

CDDA – Councilwoman Bagley addressed Council concerning the funds previously discussed at the budget workshop requested by CDDA. After much discussion, Council agreed to defer to next meeting.

Beautification Committee – No report

Properties Committee – Councilman Williams and Mr. Douglas will meet with SCDOT concerning cleanup of gutters and curbing.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the reports as submitted. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Evergreen Cemetery – No report
Historic Preservation – No report
Planning Commission – No report
Zoning Board of Appeals – No report
Housing Authority – No report
Recreation – No report

NEW BUSINESS: Second Reading Ordinance 2012-05 amending the Business License Ordinance as presented. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid read as presented. Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to approve second reading of Ordinance 2012-05 as presented. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Filming Request Downtown Chester – Vision Scape Media – Mayor Pro Tempore Reid requested to move this item of business for discussion in Executive Session. No objection was made.

Safety Incentive Award – Mrs. Roof proposed to Council a safety incentive award for full time employees in the amount of \$400.00 and part time in the amount of \$200.00. This does not include employees employed on or after July 1, 2012. Mrs. Roof explained to Council that the credit received was due to the good safety rating during July 2011 thru June 30 2012. With no further discussion, Councilman Thompson made a motion to aware full time employees employed prior to July 1, 2012, a safety incentive of \$400.00 and part time \$200.00. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

First Reading Ordinance 2012-04 – Mayor Pro Tempore presented first reading of Ordinance 2012-04 Nuisance Abetment Ordinance – Councilman Thompson made a motion to accept as presented. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. Councilwoman Kovas had questions concerning several items and stated that she will not be voting as presented. Councilwoman Bagley indicated there were several things in the ordinance that were previously requested to be deleted and they were not deleted. Councilman Kovas indicated we do not have the staff to enforce this proposed ordinance. Councilman Thompson indicated that we should pass and move on. After much discussion, Councilman Thompson made a motion to resend his original motion. Councilman Williams rescinded his second to the original motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid requested that those who have changes please get to Attorney Counterman by December 30, 2012.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Pro Tempore Reid stated that Council would convene in Executive Session for discussion of Personnel Matters in the Administrative and Police Departments and receive a legal updated in the Administrative Department. Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to go into Executive Session. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilman Caldwell opposing.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:45 pm. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. While in Executive Session, Council discussed Personnel Matters in the Administrative and Police Departments and receives a legal updated in the Administrative Department. No action was taken.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to provide Mayor Stringfellow a stipend beginning October 15, 2012, forward, until further notice, for the administrative duties she has undertaken, due to the administrator's position being vacant. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The motion carried with Caldwell opposing the motion.

With no further business, Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 pm. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla R. Roof