

Chester City Council Meeting

May 13, 2013, 6:30 pm

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow; Council Member Odell Williams, Betty B. Bagley, Susan Kovas, King D. Thompson, William Killian, Annie M. Reid, George Caldwell and Linda Tinker; Human Resources Director Carla Roof and City Attorney April P. Counterman.

PRAYER: Councilwoman Betty B. Bagley led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS FORUM: Earl Moore presented to Council a package of information concerning the charges submitted to Council for the May 2013 election. After discussion, Council indicated the printout was presented and accepted.

Joel Lashaway– Stated that he came to this city as a broken person and now he has been changed. He presented that as a teacher I would like to celebrate education. I would like to give each child that brings their report card to him a gift. I would like to give a \$20.00 gift to each child. I am only here to support this city and the kids. I am only asking for your support. End of summer celebration in Finley Park, provide a lunch and a gift, play games. The age group will be K-12 to 12th grade. June 15th, 11:30 am. Teach at Chester High School. Everyone that brings a report card that is proud of what they have accomplished this year. The city can partner with this event. Recreation Committee can work with Mr. Lashaway.

PETITIONER: Joe Foster presented to Council that he would like Council to partner with him with this event. Event will be held on July 6, 2013, Joe Collins Stadium. At this time there is not a cost related to this event. Councilman Thompson requested that Mr. Foster get with Chair of Recreation Committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Chief Caldwell presented to Council a proposal to repair 2008 Pumper Truck which is at Cummings which has a Cummings engine in it. The truck needs to have some engine damage with an estimate of \$12,714.00. Proposed to pay for out of the Columbia Account which has \$99,000.00, transfer \$12,000.00 from the Columbia account to pay for repairs. Councilman Thompson made a motion to transfer \$12,000.00 from the Columbia account, to repair pumper truck. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Reid proposed to Council to suspend the current ordinance to allow them to shoot a few buzzards and hang them to deter the others from the tower. Major Gilmore provided Council with recommendation to suspend the ordinance. Attorney Counterman indicated that we should give a special authorization for 60 days. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to authorize a designated person, to eradicate the buzzards and bullets will be not be used. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Officer Robert Sprouse and Lt. Amanda Huey. Captain in training in the Sheriff's office. Mr. Sprouse presented to Council wellness fitness. Use of top floor for training jointly with the Sheriff's office. An agreement will be signed. Councilwoman Tinker had questions concerning the liability and would like to have the Attorney and the Fire Marshall review this request. Discussion took place concerning the Finley Center for the weight room. Make sure the Attorney has a contract. Receive as information and when report comes back from Mr. Wood, Council will discuss at a later date.

Councilwoman Kovas had questions concerning the Evergreen Cemetery Contract. Requested

East Chester Project Phase II- Thompson provided an update on this project. They are currently working with Church groups to help with getting facades. We currently have 4 Churches but we need more Churches to participate. We need a total of 10 churches to commit.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Commission Appointments – Deferred to next meeting.

Red Cross Building – Councilwoman Tinker was approached concerning selling this building. This item was deferred to the Properties Committee.

NEW BUSINESS – Gloria Kellerhalls updated Council concerning trees and flowers have been planted. Tables are currently being constructed. Councilman Williams will erect a wall before the opening. Mrs. Kellerhalls gave Council an update on the current and upcoming events.

Alex Oliphant recommended that Council allow him to put up a \$20,000.00 bond to demolish two sections on Cotton Street. After discuss, Thompson motioned to allow Mr. Oliphant to demolish with a 20,000.00. Kovas seconded the motion.

First Reading Ordinance 2013-01 International Fire Code – Bagley motion to approve as presented. Tinker seconded the motion. Councilwoman Kovas had questions and concerns. Fire Marshal Don Wood spoke to Council. We are adopting the code that has been adopted by the state code. This allows us a smooth transition. A fee schedule allows that we bring to council fee changes instead of changing by ordinance. Chapter 8. The motion carried.

Second Reading Ordinance 2013-02 – International Fire Code, Chapter 29, section 29-25. Tinker motioned to approve. Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation – Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month – Mayor Pro Tempore Reid read the proclamation. Tinker Thompson. Meredith Talford thanked Council for supporting Teen Pregnancy.

LLR –Public Fireworks Display Permit – Council accepted as information only.

Creation of Economic Development Department – Mrs. Kellerhalls presented to Council that the Recreation Department may not be the best for the Market and Kitchen. After searching, etc., a master

in nutrition, etc. Looking for someone in this community and found one qualified applicant. Provided the Council with a resume. Recommending bringing this person on part time and see how this works and then next budget year implement an Economic Development Department. This has been discussed with the Finance Director and recommends this person is brought in on a part time basis and then see what to do in the future. After much discussion, Councilman Thompson motioned to hire a part time person and to explore the opportunity to Caldwell. The motion carried. Councilwoman Reid motion to hire a part time person for entire hiring of a market manager and industrial kitchen. Thompson seconded the motion.

Mayor will bring back to council a fund process.

Exec Session – Tinker Kovas made a motion to 8:30 pm

Executive Session – 8:45 pm Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Contractual Matter, no action was taken.

Burley McDaniel talked with Council concerning the basketball hoops at the fairgrounds. McDaniel requested to remove the hoops. Friday it looks like a basketball tournament instead of the softball.

Council requested that rules be posted and if they break them lock them up.

With no further business, made a motion to adjourn Tinker Bagley