

Chester City Council Meeting
Minutes
July 23, 2012, 6:30 pm

PRESENT: Mayor Stringfellow; Council Members Williams, Bagley, Thompson and Caldwell; City Administrator Jeff Kerr; Human Resources Director Carla Roof; City Attorney April Counterman.

ABSENT Council Members Tinker, Reid, Killian and Kovas.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Stringfellow called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PRAYER: Councilman Caldwell led in prayer.

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

CITIZENS FORUM: No one present to speak.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: Mr. Kerr informed Council that he would address the administrative report under new business.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Finance: Mr. Kerr informed Council that the next meeting he would provide financials.

Fire: No report.

Police: No report.

Public Works: Mayor Stringfellow had questions concerning the storm drains in the downtown area.

Discussion took place concerning drainage problems. Mr. Kerr will meet with SCDOT concerning these problems, corner of Church and Columbia and Lancaster Streets at the Railroad.

Recreation: Labor Day Music Festival – Councilman Caldwell indicated Recreation Committee did not meet.

Councilman Thompson made a motion to accept the reports as presented. Councilwoman Williams seconds the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nuisance Abatement Review Committee: Councilwoman Bagley updated Council concerning the updates made to the ordinance by the Review Committee and Council was previously requested to send changes or recommendations to Attorney Counterman. Mr. Kerr will get with Attorney Counterman and bring back at the next meeting.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

No reports

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Commission Appointments – Deferred to next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Beautification Committee: Mayor Stringfellow nominated Council Members Kovas, Tinker and Reid to serve on this Committee, with Mrs. Tinker serving as Chairwoman. They will work with the Administrator and maybe a few merchants. We need to make an attempt to make this city look its best.

Part Time Request – Recreation Department – Mayor Stringfellow stated that Mr. Woods contacted the Mayor about needing help. Mr. Kerr indicated that he was not aware of this and would talk to Mr. Douglas. Mr. Kerr indicated that he would like to talk to Mr. Douglas to work this out. Mr. Kerr indicated he will address this and will advise.

Bird Street Shelter – Mr. Kerr updated Council concerning the Bird Street Shelter, which we began about one month ago. We have about two days of work left to complete this project. I hope that we can finish this by the end of this week.

SC Uplift Community Outreach – Councilman Caldwell provided Council that this group needs a letter of support from the City of Chester. Council indicated this group can focus on other areas besides East Chester, due to the grant for the East Chester area. Councilman Thompson made a motion to accept the letter of support as read and provide the letter of support to the SC Uplift. Councilman Caldwell seconds the motion. After much discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution – Financing Terms for the Police Vehicles – Councilman Thompson made a motion to accept the resolution as read. Councilwoman Bagley seconds the motion. After discussion, Mr. Kerr said in 3 years we will be buying new police cars so finance them for 3 years. The purchase of these vehicles will update the fleet. The current cars they are driving will go back into the fleet. After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session – Mayor Stringfellow deferred to the next meeting.

With no further business, Councilman Thompson made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Bagley seconds the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof
Human Resources Director/CMC