

**Chester City Council Meeting**  
**July 9, 2018, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Minutes**

PRESENT: Mayor George Caldwell; Council Members Angela Douglas, Betty B. Bagley, William Killian, Linda Tinker, Annie M. Reid; Carlos Williams; William King; City Attorney Edwards; City Administrator Stephanie Jackson; Human Resources Director Carla Roof.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Susan Kovas.

CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC HEARING – Mayor Caldwell called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. 2018-19 Fiscal Year Operating Budget. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid stated three times is there anyone here present to speak for or against the Budget. With no one present to speak for or against, the Public Hearing was closed.

CALL TO ORDER COUNCIL MEETING:

Mayor Caldwell called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PRAYER: Councilwoman Tinker led in prayer.

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

CITIZENS FORUM: No one was present to speak.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Second Reading Ordinance 2018-03 Fiscal Year Operating Budget Ordinance – Mayor Pro Tempore Reid read the Ordinance as presented. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve as presented. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. Councilwoman Douglas had questions concerning Section 5 of the budget ordinance. The request was to setup categories. City Administrator Jackson spoke to Council concerning her duties and responsibilities with the approval of contingency funds and transfers between line items within a department. Attorney Edwards stated that the current language that we have in Section 5 is appropriate and is comfortable with what we currently have and we have proper safeguards in place. Mrs. Jackson informed Council that she and her team has already implemented categories, etc. This is used for helping department heads. Mr. Baker stated that he had not moved any money since he has been here and he and Carla have not moved any money, He cannot be responsible for what was done in the past. After much discussion, the motion failed with Killian, King, Douglas and Williams opposing. The motion did not pass due to a lack of majority. Attorney Edwards stated that you can approve the budget as is and come back with the changes in wording.

Mrs. Jackson explained the changes that were made in the budget. The bottom line, the figures did not change and \$20,000.00 was placed in the budget for a grants writer. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid made a motion to reconsider the previous motion. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2018-02, Fiscal Year Operating Budget. Councilman King stated for the record,

he did not vote in favor of the motion because the sanitation employees did not get a raise and the police department didn't get a raise. All opposed were Douglas and King. The motion carried with Bagley, Killian, Tinker, Caldwell, Reid, Williams.

Courtroom Security - Administrator Jackson updated Council concerning the previous request from Judge Frederick. The estimated cost was \$110,000.00. The county allocated \$95,000.00 for the renovation, which leaves \$22,000.00 needed. Administrator Jackson informed Council, of the \$22,000.00, the citizens of the City make up about 16% of the County. If we gave \$7000.00, that would be 16% of the makeup. We could give ½ from administration budget in capital expenditures this year and give the second half in the next year's budget. Administrator Jackson is asking the Council to help if possible. After much discussion, Council will bring back at the next meeting for discussion and have Mr. Frederick present to Council. Item was tabled until a later date.

Commission Appointments - Councilman King made a motion to appoint Mr. Ronald James Canty to the Recreation Commission. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion the motion carried.

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to reappoint Mr. Eddie Nunnery to the Fire District Commission. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

With no further business, Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to adjourn at 7:45pm. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof