



Chester City Council Special Called Meeting
September 26, 2018, 5:30 pm
Minutes

Minutes typed verbatim

PRESENT: Mayor George Caldwell; Council Members Angela Douglas, William Killian, Carlos Williams, and William King; City Administrator Stephanie Jackson and Human Resources Director Carla Roof.

ABSENT: Council Members Betty Bagley, Susan Kovas, Annie Reid and Linda Tinker

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor George Caldwell called meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

PRAYER: Councilman Killian led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Caldwell led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Caldwell made a motion that Councilman Carlos Williams chair the meeting today. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Volunteer Policy – Councilman Williams informed Council that they were here today to look at and to try to revise some of the policy requirements as of today. He stated that Councilman King had some ideas that he is going to present to Council on how to revise the current policy. First, Councilman Williams state that he wanted the public to know that Council had some legal advice on some items concerning the current policy. City current practice in policy is to go back ten years on the volunteer status for felony and misdemeanor charges. He stated that Council, Councilman King and Councilman Killian wanted to revise how far we go back to looking at felony, misdemeanors and the current policy based on if an individual participated in volunteer efforts for the city before as coaches for the Recreation Department.

Councilman Williams turned discussion over to Councilman King to provide Council with some of his recommendations. Councilman King thanked Councilman Williams, Council Members and the public. Councilman King stated that on the criminal charges it has ten years, am I correct Administrator? Mrs. Jackson's response was, yes that is correct. He continued after her response with, basically it kind of hinders a person from getting a job even though they are showing good moral character in their working

community. So, my recommendation would be that the major, I mean felony charges other than murder, sexual assault and malice crimes that the consequences stay the same, but other than that, we lower that down to seven years on the rest of them that are nonviolent crimes, to seven. Than on your misdemeanors, that we do a standard of five years and my recommendation to Council is that with the volunteer policy, if anyone who has volunteered and done any volunteer work within the last three years, that we leave that up to the department head and that we will waive that and let them go ahead and coach on, coach or do volunteer work within the city. That's my recommendation. Councilman Killian seconded the recommendation. Mayor Caldwell asked Councilman King was that in a form of a motion? Councilman King responded with, yes sir. Mayor Caldwell said okay. Mrs. Jackson asked if that was a motion? Councilman Williams said yes, it's on the floor for discussion.

After a brief discussion, Councilman King thanked Councilwoman Douglas for her opinion and discussion. Councilman King said that he would like to make a motion that, however, Councilwoman Douglas informed Councilman King that a motion was already on the floor. Councilman King stated to Council that he would like to amend his motion to, if you have worked with the Volunteer Policy within the last past three years, with discretion that you be reinstated to do volunteer work and it will be left up to the department head along with the Administrator and if the city would be, so the city wouldn't be responsible for liabilities. Councilman King stated that it would have to still go thru HR and the department head who they are volunteering for, and they would have to make a recommendation.

Councilman Williams stated to Council that the motion was unclear. After a brief discussion, Councilman King stated to Council that with the policy, to bring the time down from ten to seven for felony, bring the misdemeanors down to five and the amendment to this motion was that, if you have worked volunteer services with the city for the last past three years that it will be left up to the department head that you are volunteering for, along with HR, and if that person is volunteering after they go thru HR and the department head, if HR and the department head make a recommendation that they would have to sign a waiver in order to volunteer, that the city will not be responsible for any liability.

After a brief discussion, Councilman King stated to Council that if anybody that have worked with the city within the last past three years for volunteer work alright, that we, that it be a waiver, a waiver and if it's necessary for a waiver, understand what I'm saying, if it's necessary for a waiver but it be left up the department head which their volunteer and HR, all that will cover to make the decision and it is necessary that they would have to sign a waiver, that the person who volunteering would have to sign a waiver.

After a brief discussion, Mrs. Roof stated to Councilman King, I just need clarification, because I got your amended motion and it indicates that it comes to HR, that it's the discretion of HR and the department head, but our policy does say that the Administrator must review. Councilman King asked Council if it should come thru HR and the Administrator only. Councilman King asked Mrs. Roof to read to Council the final motion. Mrs. Roof stated to Council that with the last amendment I have that you have amended the motion to recommend that the volunteer policy that anyone that has previously worked three years, it can be the discretion of the HR and Administrator, the way it currently is, and it comes thru the last amendment taking the department head out because that what our current policy is. After

a brief discussion, Mrs. Roof continued with that she has the first change of felonies from ten to seven, and you have indicated the types of felonies. Council agreed to remove the types of felonies from the motion, its either felony or misdemeanors. Mrs. Roof continued, you have ten to seven on felony, misdemeanors ten to five, going forward, anyone who has worked within the last three years they will go thru HR and they will go back for the executive discretion of the City Administrator to make that decision. Council Members William King, Carlos Williams, William Killian and Mayor Caldwell voted in favor of motion. The motion carried with Councilwoman Douglas opposing.

With no further discussion, Councilman Williams made a motion to adjourn meeting. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The Council meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Carla Roof