

Chester City Council Meeting
February 13, 2017, 2017
Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor George Caldwell; Council Members Linda Tinker, Susan Kovas, Annie M. Reid, Betty Bagley, Ike McBrayer, Carlos Williams, William Killian and Angela Douglas; Human Resources Director Carla Roof and City Attorney Megan Gaston.

ABSENT: Councilman William Killian, City Administrator Sandi Worthy

Call to Order: Mayor Caldwell called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. No one was present to speak.

Public Hearing called to a closed.

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

Prayer: Councilwoman Kovas led in prayer

Pledge of Allegiance:

Citizens Forum – Raymond Carter stated the police department is corrupt and has snitches. Mr. Carter stated he would not stop until justice is done.

Netti Archie – Recently stated that Mrs. Wascher was on the board of Safe Passage, which is a conflict. We had a qualified applicant that could have been hired. Mrs. Archie addressed her concerns with the hiring of the prosecutor, judge and paralegal. The prosecutor needs experience to prosecute.

Al Relevance wanted to know if the old Anna's Arbor building could be changed in color when painted. Council informed him that he would have to go before Zoning Board Appeals.

Citizens Forum – Melba Carter spoke to Council concerning an incident that happened in town with her son and two other boys. Police officer pulled them over and said they smelled weed. The officers searched the vehicle and found nothing. Mrs. Carter tried to reach out to the Chief who told her she had to file a complaint form. We need to work together and get this right. Officer Canupp, Newton and Moss were the officers who responded.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Strategic Planning Dates

NEW BUSINESS:

Council Committees and Efficiency – Councilwoman Douglas has informed Council that she feels that Council has lost control of what's going on in the City. Councilwoman Douglas requested that Council think about bringing Committees back. We need to know what is going on. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to reinstate Committees. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. After discussion,

Councilwoman Tinker withdrew her motion. Councilwoman Reid withdrew her second to the motion. No action was taken.

Legislative Update – Councilwoman Douglas recognized the graduates of the Municipal Elected officials. Mayor Caldwell graduate of Advanced, Williams and Douglas graduated from the Elected Officials Institute.

Business, Blighted and Law Enforcement – Councilwoman Douglas encouraged Council to talk to legislators about our roads and business growth. The business license process is trying to reduce the license fee to \$100 .00, this will reduce our revenue. Much discussion took place. Discussed Law Enforcement Training and funding available for body cameras and training. We are trying to clean up Chester. There is a bill that is currently being discussed which will allow us to re-cooperate money when we demolish a home.

Take Home Vehicle Policy Resolution – Attorney Winters provided a Take Home Vehicle Policy to Council. Asking Council to allow the officers to take home the vehicles. Much discussion took place. After much discussion, Captain Moore will bring a comprehensive plan to Council and will review during the budget workshop.

Police Department Retention – Councilwoman Douglas requested that HR, City Administrator and Police Captain to come up with a strategy. Captain Moore already has a plan with eliminating two positions. Administrator has the authority to make changes with salaries.

Councilwoman Tinker motioned to add Executive Session to the agenda. Councilman McBrayer seconded the motion. All in favor of the motion were, Kovas, Bagley, McBrayer, Williams, Reid and Tinker. Police department item was added Executive Session. All opposed were Douglas and Caldwell. The motion carried.

Councilwoman Douglas had question concerning the position of Recruiting Standards position.

Mayor Pro Tempore made a motion to go into Executive Session for discussion of a Police Department – Personnel Matter. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried with Caldwell opposing.

Mayor Pro Tempore made a motion to reconvene form Executive Session for discussion of a Police Department – Personnel Matter. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. While in Executive Session, Council discussed a Police Department Personnel Matter. No action was taken.

With no further business, Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof