

## Public Safety Meeting Minutes

DATE OF MEETING: August 20, 2020

PRESENT: Susan Kovas, Annie Reid, Chief Eric Williams, Chief James Jackson, and Stephanie Jackson

Meeting was called to order by: Susan Kovas at 3:26 PM

I. **Item Discussed:** New Business---Report Fire Chief James Jackson

Chief Jackson stated that Kaniya Givens started the Fire Academy on August 3, 2020. She is doing well. Chief Jackson stated that all last week they held a Leadership Summit to plan and to brainstorm ideas to improve and grow at the Fire Department. He stated that the paperless system is going great. Chief Jackson stated that he has provided Human Resource Director, Carla Roof with several job descriptions from Firefighter to Captain. He stated that they are working on updating the lighting that will decrease the monthly bill for them. He stated that Don Wood is continually working on an educational grant to assist in the educational materials. Chief Jackson stated that he did put in for a Fire Inspector to assist the Fire Marshall. Chief Jackson stated in close that they are glad to have a Firefighter back who was ill with COVID-19. He stated that they are taking the necessary precautions to stay safe and healthy.

**Action Taken:** No Action was taken.

II. **Item Discussed:** New Business---Report/ Positions Chief Eric Williams

Chief Williams reported that the Department has had three shootings within the City of Chester (Brendale, Pinckney, and Ashford). Chief Williams explained that he has had to re-organize some people so that the front line is taken care of. Chief Williams explained that he has had four resignations and three grant positions. He stated that the Department is trying to attract the most qualified applicants possible. Mrs. Reid asked if the Department was receiving psychological testing for new hires. Chief Williams explained that the Human Resource Department sets that up for candidates and reimbursement is given back to the Department in part. Chief Williams explained the Bonus concept and where he would retrieve that money from to attract candidates. Chief Williams mentioned briefly the First Citizens Bank, and Mrs. Kovas stated that she would bring that to council in the next meeting. Mrs. Kovas stated that she had received several complaints about speeders on Jeter Street and MLK Drive. Chief Williams stated that he would address that with patrol. Chief Williams advise the Committee that a camera system company has reached out to him with several financial scenarios for him. He will schedule a meeting with them soon. Mrs. Kovas mentioned the Evidence Technician position and displayed the job description that Chief Williams presented for the committee. Chief Williams stated that he will make the effective changes to the job description. Chief mentioned that he is looking at several Victim Service Grants for assistance in Victim Services.

**Action Taken:** No Action was taken.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:21 PM

These minutes were prepared by:  
MaKeesharia S. Tobias