

## CITY OF CHESTER

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Public Safety Meeting Minutes

Public Works Meeting Minutes

Properties Meeting Minutes

Recreation Meeting Minutes

(check which applies)

DATE OF MEETING: February 20, 2020

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

ABSENT:

Meeting was called to order by: Susan Kovas at 4:05 PM

I. **Item Discussed:** Police Station Building Update---

The update was concerning the meter being separated from the building. It will cost approximately \$5,000 for the separation. The bid to separate has been submitted. Chief Williams hopes to get approval for closure soon by the next two months. The heating and air conditioner must be replaced, and it will cost approximately \$10,000. Chief Williams wants someone to come and check the building again since it has been a lapse of time since the other check was completed. Cosmetics for the building will have to come from Capital Expenditures. He is in hope of obtaining a structural grant from someone. Mrs. Reid had no questions or concerns about the building.

**Action Taken:** No Action was taken. Information will be taken back to council meeting.

II.

**Item Discussed:** Police Grants---Chief Eric Williams discussed grants. Mrs. Kovas asked Chief Williams how many grants he had applied for since the last meeting. Chief stated that he had completed the MASC grant. He stated that he was working on a grant that will include EMA and the Chester County Housing Authority. This grant will have them take a part and they will also receive money. The COPS grant has been prepared and due in March.

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

III.

**Item Discussed:** Reverse 911---Mrs. Kovas stated that reverse 911 has been used frequently. Chief Williams explained that the recent radius for the reverse 911 was needed to alert citizens of what was happening next door. Chief Williams explained that sometimes citizens may not fall in the radius of the 911 calls. They have a radius of three

miles. Chief Williams stated that he makes his request over the air for the reverse to be completed. Mrs. Reid asked was the information up to date. Chief Williams stated that as far as he knows that 911 had system updates for that.

**Action Taken:** No Action was taken

- IV. **Item Discussed:** Fire Chief Report---- Coronavirus---Chief James Jackson stated that they are asking questions while on scene getting information from the person who request their assistance. He stated that nothing else has changed at that time. Chief Jackson stated the doctors have advised that they wear mask also. Chief Williams advised that TSA is purring restrictions on the airport. One case is in Charlotte, NC. Mrs. Reid asked could she share the information from the CDC to anyone. Chief Jackson told her that is was ok because it was listed on their site. Mrs. Jackson were the precautions helpful to his employees, and Chief Jackson stated that our hospital is not prepared for this virus to come in. They have been looking for red flags thus far.

**Action Taken:** No Action Taken for the Fire Department

- V. **Item Discussed:** Taken Home Policy---

Mrs. Kovas stated that five-mile radius is what is in the Handbook. Mrs. Jackson asked was the paperwork updated. Great Falls is one of them on the list outside of the area. Chief Williams stated that he has four people who are outside of the five-mile radius. Mrs. Kovas asked would it be possible for these men/women no to drive to the Department. Mrs. Reid asked Chief Williams explained that certain responsibilities would fall short. Chief Williams stated that he may have to go to Ohio and Wilmington, NC to extradite individuals. Chief Williams showed a percentage under each budget workshop to explain that he has always been under budget for fuel. Chief Williams stated that he brought Lt. Brian Sanders for the meeting to explain more about why we need take home policy. He explained that he only saw three officers to contain the crime scene recently. Sanders stated that officers need not to go to city hall to get their vehicle. This is going to take away time for response. His objective is to keep everyone on a response timely task. Sanders explained that as soon as a crime scene occurs, he loses evidence. He stated that it will work better if the officer still has their cars they can go straight to people. He stated that he may need someone to go the CMC Charlotte, NC hospital, and if he can use the officer who lives in Rockhill that would be great. Chief explained that officers must be able to get there as soon as possible. Mrs. Jackson wanted to know if there was anyway to cut or curb this vehicle take home policy. Mrs. Reid stated that the perception of the officers not doing anything is at an all time high. Mrs. Reid asked how many positions the Chief down and Mrs. Jackson was answered and stated that he only has two positions open.

**Action Taken:** No Action taken but the information will be taken back to council.

**VI. Item Discussed: Fire Chief Report---**

Chief James Jackson reported that most of their reports are done and completed on the I-Pads. He stated that this resource has helped cut the amount of time that the firefighters spend completing a report. He stated that they are almost 100% paperless. He currently has a Captain position open and firefighter position open. He is considering increasing the salaries because of Health Insurance. He states that he has two drill coming up on Feb. 26, 2020 at CHS and April 29, 2020 for Mass Casualty Drill at MUSC. Radio Committee met with the County Council so that a proposal can be completed for them. The 800mhz radios are not property working. They will have to add more towers for them to work properly. Chief Jackson stated that they are not hearing calls at the Station10 address. Chief Williams stated that this is a need because of the safety concerns. Mrs. Jackson asked if the Department could use the radios now. Chief stated that he will get the ball rolling on how many and a ballpark number. Chief Jackson is putting in Station 10 Renovations for flooring. Chief Jackson stated that the project will cost about 10 million. The firefighter position should be filled Monday. Chief may be restricting and that is why he has not filled the position yet. Chief Jackson stated that the system in the station need to be updated. Station 10 was ok, but Station 1 needs a Plemo Vent System at a cost of \$7,500. Chief Jackson stated that he has added that in the new budget for 20-21. Chief Jackson stated that the yearly maintenance is \$4,484.16 for both Stations for the vent systems.

**VII. Item Discussed: Police Chief Report---**

Chief Williams talked about how the community was able to help in several incidents to find the parents of the children. Chief elaborated on investigation and having more time and resources to solve cases. Chief talked about the State Training that took place at the Memorial Building. This straining was from Ethel Ford from the Attorney Generals Office. Chief stated that Lt. Brian Sanders have been picking up where Fournery left off. Sanders is attending a training at FBI Academy in 2 weeks. Radios are a concern. Chief stated that he will continue to submit grants to keep up with technology. Chief stated that he can hold off in ammo/firearms. He discussed that the Departments tasers are getting ready to expire. They no longer make them or the batteries to sustain them. Chief Williams discussed preparing the new building so that the Department can host classes and bring in revenue for those classes. Mrs. Jackson stated that she is waiting for Joanie Winters to call any day now. Mrs. Jackson stated that Joanie needed to say in the contract that the city would take the cost of the \$5,000 for the separation of the meters. Mrs. Reid asked what the status on the officers who was were working in the Walmart incident. Chief explained that the Administrative Leave is immediately given. Mrs. Reid asked how long does they have to stay on Administrative Leave. Chief Williams and stated three days unless stated concern about mental health of those officers. Chief stated that he and his officers will support the efforts of any assemblies that are created.

Executive Session: 5:34pm

Meeting was adjourned at 5:48 PM

These minutes were prepared by:

MaKeesharia S. Tobias

Printed Name

/s/ *MaKeesharia S. Tobias*

Signature

February 25, 2020

Date