



**CHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL**

November 13, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Mayor George Caldwell; Council Members Angela Douglas, Betty Bagley, Linda Tinker, Annie M. Reid, Susan Kovas, Carlos Williams, William King and William Killian; HR Director Carla Roof and Payroll Clerk Sylvia Young.

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

Prayer: Councilman Williams led in prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Caldwell and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizens Forum: Raymond Carter spoke to Council concerning the new police chief hire.

Forms of Government – Mayor Caldwell thanked the Council for the job well done and for their commitment with serving on Committees.

Approval of Minutes: Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2017 and October 30, 2017 as presented. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Audit/Finance – Councilwoman Douglas updated Council concerning the audit report and informed Council that the Finance Director will begin on Wednesday, November 15, 2017.

Fresh to You Vehicle – Mrs. Roof presented to Council a request to purchase the vehicle or return. The lease was up in October. After discussion, this will be deferred to the next meeting and requested more details from Mr. White.

Second Reading Ordinance 2017-05- Property 201-1-08-006-000. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve the second reading as presented. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

First Reading Ordinance 2017-06 an ordinance to donate certain equipment belonging to the City of Chester to the Town of Fort Lawn. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve first reading as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Council Committee Restructuring – Councilwoman Douglas stated that we should consider abolishing the Properties Committee and appoint a Standing Committee of the Economic Development. Requested that Council think about this and consider revising our Committees. Discussion took place and no action was taken.

National League of Cities – Councilwoman Douglas informed Council this event will be held in Charlotte this year and there will be a lot of information available. There is a fee of \$1,117.00, to become a member of this organization, which will give us discounts, etc. First time attendees only cost \$460.00. Councilwoman Douglas will pay for event out of pocket and would like to be reimbursed at a later date as funds become available. Discussion took place concerning joining this organization where members will have an opportunity for growth. Much discussion took place concerning this opportunity.

Employee Health and Financial Benefits – Presentation New York Life – Councilman Williams invited New York Life to present to Council. Tumiko Brown, benefits coordinator with New York Life and William Gallman provided a presentation to Council. They requested to offer whole life benefit to the employees of the City of Chester. This coverage does not end when the employee leaves the city. Mrs. Roof will follow up with them to schedule.

Oath of Office – Reginald McBeth – Mayor Caldwell presented the Oath of Office to Mr. McBeth and the Bible was held by Mrs. Roof.

Oath of Office – James Johnson – Mayor Caldwell presented the Oath of Office to James Johnson, the Bible was held by Lt. Milton Sims and Lt. Jagger witnessed.

Councilman Williams motion to amend the agenda to introduce the students attending the Shrine Bowl. Councilman King seconded the motion. A total of four students will be attending this year's event and Mrs. Erica Gallman requested Council's support. The Chester Middle School DeMorrious Thompson 8<sup>th</sup> grade and Zanjerry Dunham, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade will be attending. The goal is \$1500, per child. Council provided the students with contact information

Awarded Federal Historic Preservation Grant – Read by Councilwoman Tinker – Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve the \$25,000, matching grant with funds coming from the one cent sales tax. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Jingle Bell Bazaar – Finance Committee agreed to give \$500.00 from the budget and \$200.00 from the hospitality tax. Councilwoman Kovas made motion to accept the hospitality tax application in the amount of \$700, with \$500, coming from the budget and \$200 from hospitality tax. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## Executive Session

Councilman Killian made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:42 p.m. for discussion of a Personnel Matter Police Department, Legal Matter Administrative and Contractual Matter Police

Department. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried with Caldwell and Douglas opposing the motion.

Councilman King made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:27 p.m. Councilman Killian seconded. While in Executive Session Council discussed a Personnel Matter Police Department, Legal Matter Administrative and Contractual Matter Police Department. No action was taken.

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Young