

Chester City Council Meeting
March 11, 2019, 6:30 pm
Minutes

Present: Mayor George Caldwell: Council Members Betty B. Bagley, Angela Douglas, Annie M. Reid, Susan Kovas, Linda Tinker, William Killian and Carlos Williams; City Attorney Edwards, City Administrator Jackson and HR Director Carla Roof.

Absent: William King.

Prayer: Councilwoman Bagley led in prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizens Forum: John Massey, 171 East Lacy Street – Mr. Massey stated that he would like to support the Public Works Department and help with litter. The Bounty Bag Program will be funded by private donations. The plan is to keep the City of Chester clean. I would like to hear from someone from the City of Chester concerning this program. Also, I would like to see Tanyard Branch cleanup concerning the pollution of the waterway.

Ken Lebbon – Mr. Lebbon, CURES – we have just acquired the Masonic temple and really happy to use this building and youth center. We will be having a building bash with some food, music and would like to invite the Mayor to give us some history on the building. The Bash will be held March 23, 2019, 11am until.

Susan Nazian – Executive Director of Cures – At the last meeting Shelia Johnson provided a list of things that needed to be done in the city. Ms. Nazian informed Council of what they do and things they would like to do and would like to have Council's help. We plan to fully restore the building at 125 Main Street, former Masonic Temple. We look forward to working with you.

Moment of Silence – Mrs. Jackson stated, "it is with regrets that I inform you of the passing of former employee, Mr. Jack McGillis." A moment of silence was held.

Petitioners

Dashekia Wylie and Alaysia Gaston – Down Under Sports Tournament in Australia – Alaysia has been invited to participate in the Track and Field event. A request was made to help support this event. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid congratulated Alaysia for her accomplishment. The trip will cost a total of \$10,546.00. Downundersports.com/itsam-QQP

Dr. Stephen Lloyd – Colon Cancer Awareness – "there is a killer on the loose," Dr. Lloyd stated. We need people to think outside the box. Chester County is eight in the state in deaths from colon rectal cancer. We would like to come to Chester Hospital to train the doctors how to do colonoscopies. We need to work together to get the death rate to zero. Nine deaths in Chester last year. We want to partner with

Chester County. This will be an economic impact for the City. For more information, contact Dee Federick at 581-1960.

Administrative Report - Relay for Life – May 17, 2019 – Administrator Jackson informed Council that we have a city team and would like for Council to join and donate. We would like to raise a total of \$1000.00, please donate and join the team.

Unfinished Business – no business

New Business

Safe Passage, Inc. – Mayor Caldwell – After discussion, this item was deferred to Finance. Councilwoman Douglas made a motion to defer to Finance Committee to research request. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

MOU- Catawba Brownfields Coalition Assessment Program – Administrator Jackson provided Council with an update. Catawba COG has some money that can be used to look at the levels of chromium at the site. There is no cost to the city and there will be an additional assessment of the area. We do not qualify for the Brownfield grant because we have had one before. There is a loan that is available. If we get a developer to develop the land, there are monies that the developer can apply for. The MOU is to allow for the up to date assessment for the property. City Attorney has reviewed and found it to be satisfactory. Attorney Edwards stated that based on her research, 239 Gadsden Street is owned by the City and Springs Street lot 6 is a part of the same track. Springs Street lot 6 needs to be a part of the environmental assessment as well. Attorney Edwards recommended that tract 6 will be added to the MOU. The County Assessor needs to be notified to let them know that Lot 6 is a part of the same track. After much discussion, this item was deferred to the next scheduled meeting. A request was made to add the tax map number of Lot 6 to the MOU.

MOU Creation of Strategic Economic Development Plan – Administrator Jackson - Opportunity Zones has a total of \$25,000.00 that has not been used. After much discussion, Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to accept the MOU in the amount of \$8275.00, with funds coming from Economic Incentive funds. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Personnel Matter – Summer Feeding Service Program Assistant Director – Administrator Jackson and HR Director Carla Roof, Contractual Matter – Evergreen Cemetery Contract – Administrator Jackson. Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:41 pm. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried with Caldwell and Douglas opposing.

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:06 pm. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. While in Executive Session, Council discussed Personnel Matter – Summer Feeding Service Program Assistant Director – Administrator Jackson and HR Director Carla Roof, Contractual Matter – Evergreen Cemetery Contract – Administrator Jackson. No action was taken.

Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to allow administrator to collect proposals for Evergreen Cemetery and coming from the salary line item. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

With no further business, Councilman Killian made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof