



**CHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL**
Monday, February 26, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Present: Mayor Caldwell; Council Members Betty Bagley, Angela Douglas, Linda Tinker, Susan Kovas, Annie Reid, William King, and Carlos Williams; Interim Administrator, Carla Roof, City Attorney, Latonya Edwards, and Payroll Clerk/Clerk to Council, Sylvia Young.

Absent: Council Member William Killian

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

Prayer – Mayor Caldwell led in prayer.

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

CITIZENS FORUM:

Raymond Carter – Raymond Carter thanked Council for having him. He stated that it's been a worldwide ride with all of us. I have some evidence pertaining to the City Police Department about a situation that happened down on Saluda Street. I have the license plate number, what happened to that young man. If anyone wants to talk to me, perhaps SLED or FBI, it's a willing thing, the work has been done. There's no turning back, which you all already know; I will not be turning back because it will get you in trouble. Forward is the best thing! Councilman, once again, I have the evidence; I have put it in all of your boxes. I hope you read it because it's very interesting; and once again I thank you for your time' and I have the license plate number; I will read it off while I leave - NLW844. Trust me! Thank you!

Karen Hill – Downtown Event- Karen Hill informed Council about downtown light up event for Autism on April 2, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. She asked Council to waive the vendor permit fees for this event because the vendors have agreed to donate half of their proceeds towards the Work Abilities Program. Ms. Hill asked Council about food preparation guidelines. Council recommended that Ms. Hill contact DHEC for food preparation guidelines and inspections. She invited Mayor Caldwell to be a secret judge at the event. Council discussed downtown event in detail. No action was taken.

Mayor Caldwell introduced to Council the City Attorney Latonya Edwards. Council welcomed Attorney Edwards to city.

PETITIONER:

Hometown Heroes – Andrew Griggs – Andrew Griggs introduced himself and presented Council with a presentation concerning his Eagle Scouts' project called Hometown Heroes. He asked Council's final approval for entry to put banners on light poles within the city limits. He stated that he needs Council's final approval to implement project. After much discussion, Council requested that Mr. Griggs send PowerPoint presentation to Mrs. Roof to forward to Council for review. Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve Eagle Scouts project. Councilwoman Tinker seconded motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Defying the Odds – Debra Gill – Mayor Caldwell informed Council that Debra Gill was unable to attend meeting. Council is invited to attend Defying the Odds event at the Memorial Building on March 10, 2018 at 3 p.m. Additional information about event is available for review within Council package.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Administrative – Report included within Council package.

Councilwoman Douglas updated Council concerning “Opportunity Zone” to fund up to 25% of their underserved population thru economic development opportunity funds. She has discovered that Chester is eligible for funding and applications are due on Wednesday, February 28, 2018. She reported that Chester County is not applying for funding. Councilwoman Douglas asked Council if it is interested in pursuing funding. Council Members Carlos Williams, William King and Linda Tinker stated that they supported “Opportunity Zone,” and was interested in pursuing funding. Councilman King made a motion to grant Councilwoman Douglas and staff the power, within the guidelines, to complete required paperwork to apply for funding. Councilwoman Tinker seconded motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Finance – Report included in Council package.

Fire – Report included in Council package.

Human Resources – Report included in Administrative Report as a part of Council package.

Police – Report included in Council package. Councilwoman Reid asked Police Chief Williams to come before Council to present the new police uniform that he wore. She informed Council that the Committee asked him to wear new uniform to present to Council. She informed Council that the police uniforms have changed to all black and wanted them to be familiar with uniforms change. Council thanked Chief Williams for wearing new police uniform for Council.

Recreation – Report included in Council package.

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to accept the Departmental Reports as presented in Council package with any necessary corrections. Councilwoman Bagley seconded motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Reid commended the staff for employee breakfast. She stated that employee breakfast was enjoyable and gave everyone an opportunity to mingle.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – Councilwoman Tinker reported to Council that the Committee was still working hard on finances. The Finance Committee had a meeting today; however, if Council had any questions and/or concerns about financial report in package, please contact Mr. Baker or herself. Minutes for January 8, 2018 and February 12, 2017 were included within Council package.

Properties – No reports.

Public Safety – Councilwoman Reid reported that the Public Safety Committee had a meeting on Friday, February 23, 2018 and the following items were discussed at meeting:

- Request for five new vehicles
- Fleet program agreement
- Vehicle rotations and management
- Cutting maintenance and cost for repairs on vehicles
- Systemized program for vehicles

- New fiscal budget
- Public Safety Committee in favor of the purchase of new vehicles and fleet program

Public Works – Councilman Williams reported to Council that he met with Reginald McBeth to plan a Strategic Planning meeting for the Public Works Department. Councilwoman Douglas requested that every department has a Strategic Planning Sessions. Councilman Williams informed Council that he was awaiting finance information before planning dates for Strategic Planning Sessions.

Recreation – Minutes for February 9, 2018 included within Council package.

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to accept Committee Reports as presented in Council package with any necessary additions and/or corrections. Councilwoman Reid seconded motion. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Evergreen Cemetery – Minutes for February 15, 2018 included in Council package.

Historic Preservation – No report in Council package.

Planning Commission – No report in Council package.

Zoning Board of Appeals – No report in Council package.

Housing Authority – No report in Council package.

Recreation – No report in Council package.

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to accept Commission Reports as presented in Council package with any necessary corrections. Councilwoman Bagley seconded motion. The motion carried unanimously.

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Kitchen Committee – Councilwoman Kovas gave Council a detailed report concerning the following Kitchen Committee renovation project:

- Floor poured and installed
- Heating/Air Conditioning Unit
- Concert Pad for unit
- Plumbing

Economic Development Committee – Councilwoman Bagley reported to Council that she was awaiting dates for Strategic Planning Sessions before planning next meeting; however, a meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 4 p.m.

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to accept Kitchen Committee and Economic Development Committee reports as presented in package with any necessary corrections. Councilwoman Kovas seconded motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chester County Government – Application for Funding Requests – Mrs. Roof informed Council that she has received a request from the county to submit what funding request will be for the following year. She stated that she was waiting for the Strategic Planning Sessions; however, no success dates for sessions have been confirmed. She informed Council

that Friday, February 23, 2018 is the deadline date; however, city has been approved for an extension. She made a request that Council discuss application for funding requests. Councilwoman Douglas gave Council a detailed information on the following three items she would like to submit to the list:

- Park clean-up efforts – Especially Wylie Park
- Anti-dilapidation efforts
- Support the kitchen project

Council had much discussion about the following items to submit to list:

- County Jail - \$50,000 to \$75,000
- Basketball/Tennis Court
- Landfill Fees/Cost – Waive County Fees
- Demolition Cost
- Fees for Jail – Keep Chief Williams informed

Council received item as informational. No Action was taken.

Police Department – Approval to Hire for Two Open Positions – Councilwoman Reid informed Council that item was discussed in the Public Safety Committee. She informed Council that the Police Department has two Patrol Officers positions open that need to be filled to have a full staff, which will cover all shifts in department. She stated that the Public Safety Committee has recommended that Council give Chief Williams approval to advertise to hire two Patrol Officers for the Police Department. Council received item as informational. No action was taken.

City Administrator Position – Mrs. Roof informed Council that City Administrator candidates for interview has declined. Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to make a conditional hire to candidate Daniel Wells as City Administrator. Councilwoman Douglas seconded motion. After discussion, Councilwoman Kovas withdraw motion. Councilwoman Douglas withdraw second. No action was taken. To return items to agenda for further discussion.

Gaulden Monuments – Evergreen Cemetery Commission – Reginald McBeth – Reginald McBeth gave Council a detailed report concerning the Evergreen Cemetery Commission meeting on Thursday, February 15, 2018. Council received item as informational. Mr. McBeth informed Council that the Evergreen Cemetery Commission has made a recommendation to accept Gaulden Monuments quote to install grave markers at Evergreen Cemetery. No action was taken.

Two Control Gate Access Fence – Evergreen Cemetery Commission – Reginald McBeth – Reginald McBeth informed Council the Evergreen Cemetery Commission has made a recommendation to install a two-control gate access fence at the Evergreen Cemetery. Councilman Williams request that Mr. McBeth contact DOT about barrier or reflector in front of property at McClure Street. Councilwoman Douglas informed Mr. McBeth that a concerned citizen informed her about a fallen officer's, A.R. Wilson, headstone has fallen and repairs are needed.

With no further discussion, Councilman King made a motion to adjourn meeting. Councilwoman Reid seconded motion. The motion carried unanimously. Council meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Sylvia Young