

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-04

**CITY OF CHESTER
BUDGET ORDINANCE
FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024**

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS AND THE LEVYING OF TAXES FOR ORDINARY PURPOSES IN THE CITY OF CHESTER FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE THEREOF.

WHEREAS:

- 1) Section 5-11-40 (c) of the South Carolina Code of Laws (1976), as amended, provides the authority to prepare an annual budget for all departments and agencies for the City Government; and.
- 2) the annual budget shall be based upon estimated revenues and shall provide appropriations for City operations and debt service for all City departments, is hereby declared to be a part of this ordinance and is attached hereto; and,
- 3) Pursuant to the above noted section of the Code of Laws, total funds appropriated in Fiscal Year 2023-2024 for the above purposes shall not exceed estimated revenues and mandated carry forward funds available for expenditures in Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, SOUTH CAROLINA, DULY ASSEMBLED THAT:

SECTION 1: Funds appropriated herein are to be expended only in compliance with policies adopted by Council, or at Council's direction, as formulated and implemented by the City Administrator, either existing or adopted.

SECTION 2: The City Administrator, by direction and supervision of Council, shall be responsible for the administration of the budget following adoption.

SECTION 3: Council reserves the right to amend any appropriation contained herein during the fiscal year by addition to, deletion of, or transfer of any item; provided, that the total amended estimated expenditures do not exceed total anticipated revenue. Council may increase the total budgeted appropriations by adopting supplemental appropriation ordinances during the year and shall cite the source of revenue and the line item of expenditure in same; and,

SECTION 4: The City Administrator, by direction and supervision of Council, is hereby authorized to arrange for the issuance of tax anticipation notes from time to time in anticipation of receipt of taxes by private or public sale of such notes from one or more financial institutions, as the City Administrator shall determine. The aggregate amount of tax anticipation notes authorized hereunder to be issued by the City shall not exceed \$1,000,000, plus costs of issuance. The notes shall be issued in compliance with State and Federal law. The City Administrator may designate such notes as qualified tax-exempt obligations under Section 265(b) of the Internal Revenue Code. The City Administrator is authorized to award the notes to one or more financial institutions based on a number of factors, including the lowest rate of interest to the City, and to name the paying agent for the issue without further action of

the City Council. Any such notes shall be executed by the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tempore and be attested by the Municipal Clerk.

SECTION 5: Appropriations are absolute. Department Heads shall not exceed the line item amounts budgeted without prior approval by the City Administrator. The City Administrator must approve use of contingency funds and transfers between line items within a department.

SECTION 6: Any and all revenues received by the City, regardless of source, must be credited to the general fund to supplement and provide sufficient funding for all ordinary City purposes. The only exceptions being those revenues, which are received for a specific purpose and are mandated by State or Federal Law requiring funds to be accounted for separately.

SECTION 7: Such funds as are herein appropriated as a contribution, donation, or support of any agency organization shall be requested in writing by such agency or organization. Council reserves the right to request a copy of the agency's or organization's financial documents prior to any disbursements.

SECTION 8: Contracts must follow Procurement Guidelines and be approved by the City Administrator.

SECTION 9: Any funds not expended during the fiscal year cannot be carried forward to subsequent years and any excess of revenues over expenditures shall accrue to the fund balance of the general fund. The only exceptions being those revenues which are received for a specific purpose and are mandated by State or Federal Law requiring funds to be accrued and carried forward.

SECTION 10: Any funds not expended from the Fire Department budget shall be invested or transferred to a separate account at the discretion of the Fire District. Should the Fire Department expenditures exceed budget appropriations; the overage will be due from the Fire District to the City.

SECTION 11: Capital assets owned by the City of Chester shall not be sold, rented, leased, optioned, disposed, or destroyed without prior approval of Council by ordinance.

SECTION 12: Any prior Budget Ordinance or any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of any prior Budget Ordinance that may be in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby declared to be invalid.

SECTION 13: If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any Court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Ordinance.

SECTION 14: The current fiscal year 2023-2024 budget revenue and expenditures are \$6,782,680 for the twelve (12) month period ending June 30, 2023. The projected revenue and expenditures for fiscal year 2023-2024 are \$6,868,684. The projected decrease in revenue and expenditures is 1.3%. The millage rate for fiscal year 2023-2024 is 201.2.

SECTION 15: On March 11, 2021, the American Reserve Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law establishing the state and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. The fund is intended to support governments in responding to the impacts of COVID-19 and their efforts to contain COVID-19. The City of Chester appropriates ARPA funds for the uses and amounts of generally as set forth in Exhibit attached hereto.

Exhibit for Budget Ordinance 2023-04
as identified in SECTION 15.

\$100,000	Police Building Improvements
\$45,000	Lawncare Equipment – Parks & Recreation
\$15,000	Governmental Access Channel 3 – Sharp Upgrade
\$4,000	Playground Equipment – Hughes Bagwell Park
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\$164,000	

First Reading: May 22, 2023

Second Reading: June 26, 2023