

SPECIAL CALLED

CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

R. Carlisle Roddey Chester County Government Complex

1476 J.A. Cochran Bypass Chester, SC 29706

Thursday, January 20th, 2022 at 2:05 PM

Present: Councilman Brad Jordan, Councilman Mike Vaughn, Councilwoman Mary Guy, Councilman Pete Wilson, County Attorney Joanie Winters and Clerk to Council Karen Lee.

Vice Chairman Joe Branham joined the meeting by Zoom at 2:10 pm.

Absent: Interim Chairman Wylie Frederick, and Councilman William Killian with prior notification.

1. **Call to Order**-Attorney Winters called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

2. **Ordinances**

a. **2022-1 An Ordinance to Suspend the Rules of Procedure.**

Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilwoman Guy. Councilman Wilson asked the reason why the County was going back to suspending the rules. Attorney Winters stated the ordinance states in the interest of COVID and the emergency the County declared in April 2020; this would be a continuation of that declaration of emergency. The rules had not been suspended since July and no one can attend by Zoom, the first order of business tonight is to renew the ordinance to suspend the rules of procedure which would allow council members to attend via zoom in accordance with certain procedures that have been presented to Council months ago. Once the rules are suspended the meeting will be handed over to Vice Chairman Branham to chair the rest of the meeting. Vote 4-0 to approve.

3. **Old Business**

a. **3rd Reading of CCMA21-31:** Raymond F. Reeves request Tax Map #: 079-03-02-007-000 (and to confirm tax map #: 079- 03-02-007-000 has been requested to be combined with 079-03-02- 008-000 is also included) located on First Street, Chester, SC be rezoned from RS-1 (Single Family) to RG-2 (General Residential). Planning Commission voted 7-0 to approve.

Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 5-0 to approve.

b. **3rd Reading CCMA21-32:** Mitch Benton request a 4.648 portion of Tax Map #: 080-01-02-001-000 located on JA Cochran By-Pass, Chester, SC be rezoned from RG-1 (Multi Family) to (General Commercial). Planning Commission voted 7-0 to approve.

Councilwoman Guy motioned to approve, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 5-0 to approve.

c. **From CCTC Meeting:**

1. **Action taken regarding approval of a bid from C-Fund to Lynches River Contracting in the amount of \$1,274,964.22 dollars.** Councilman Wilson motioned to approve, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 5-0 to approve.

4. New Business

- a. Council to consider allowing EMS to use additional ambulances through the fiscal year to assist with calls directly and indirectly associated with COVID. Britt Lineberger.**

Mr. Lineberger stated the state testing returns on positive cases was 29.8%, in Chester County the positive rate was 30.8%. EMS had done 129 rapid test and currently have 74.3 positive cases. He had received the total of death rates in South Carolina since COVID started that came to over 15,000. Chester County had had 127 deaths since the beginning of COVID. The call volume in 2019 for the first 20 days was 414 calls, in the first 20 days of this year 2022 they have had 537 calls, so the call volume has increased. Looking at the data he could not say that all the calls were directly COVID patients, indirectly they also have problems of where they can take patients since most of the primary facilities were on diversion. Most of the time they must wait three to four hours to place a patient.

Treasurer Tommy Darby stated EMS had worked with FEMA on reimbursing our cost, the last reimbursement submitted was denied by FEMA. EMA has appealed the denial. At the time of the request the numbers were low, but with the spike EMA was hoping that FEMA would grant the appeal. The last revenue received was \$250,000 dollars so that offsets, currently they were not sure if FEMA will award any additional funding or the loss of revenue, but he thought the \$250,000 dollars should get them through to the end of this fiscal year. If they don't get the reimbursements, they could do a budget amendment. Councilwoman Guy motioned to fund \$250,000 to allow EMS to use additional ambulances to the end of the fiscal year June 30th, 2022, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 5-0 to approve.

- b. Council to consider the approval of a bid from Clifton Construction in the amount of \$853,364.00 for the North Chester Fire Station. Susan Cok.**

Councilman Wilson motioned to approve the bid of \$853,364.00 dollars from Clifton Construction for the North Chester Fire Station, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 5-0 to approve.

5. Adjourn

Councilman Vaughn motioned to adjourn, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 5-0 to adjourn.

Time: 2:31 PM.

Karen Lee, Clerk to Council