

CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

R. Carlisle Roddey Government Complex

1476 J A Cochran Bypass, Chester, SC

Monday, March 16th, 2020

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Shane Stuart, Vice Chairman Joe Branham, Councilman Pete Wilson, Councilman Alex Oliphant, Councilman Brad Jordan, Councilman Mike Vaughn, County Attorney Joanie Winters and Clerk to Council Karen Lee. Councilwoman Mary Guy arrived at 6:05 pm.

Note: The clerk had trouble hearing some of the speakers for this meeting.

1. **Call to Order-** Chairman Stuart called the meeting to order.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation-** Pledge was recited in unison; Vice Chairman Branham gave the invocation.
3. **Approval of Minutes of March 2nd, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes.** Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote was 5-0 to approve.
March 6th, 2020 Special Called Meeting Minutes. Councilman Wilson motioned to approve, second by Vice Chairman Branham. Vote 5-0 to approve.

Chairman Stuart motioned to add an emergency item to the agenda concerning the Coronavirus from Eddie Murphy, EMA Director, Treasurer Tommy Darby and John Faulkner from EMS, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve. Eddie Murphy stated as of today Chester County had not reported any cases. Thirty-three cases had been reported in the State, he suggested people to use common sense by staying at home. Tommy Darby stated he waived the convenience fee for taxpayers who pay online through March 31st, 2020. John Faulkner stated citizens could go online to MUSC.CARE to have a free virtual care consultations and screenings to anyone experiencing COVID-19 like symptoms in South Carolina by using the promo code COVID-19.

County Attorney Winters stated the House passed the families first act to provide some relief, it still has to pass through the Senate. In order to be available for federal funds Chester County would need to declare a state of emergency. Chairman Stuart motioned to declare a state of emergency, second by Vice Chairman Branham. Vote 6-0 to approve.

4. **Citizen Comments**
Mike Beam, 550 Second St, Chester, SC stated the Eureka Village needs to be cleaned up and invited Council to come look at the trash and derelict houses.
5. **Public Hearing.** Chairman Stuart opened the public hearing. No one signed up to speak.
 - a. **3rd Reading of Ordinance 2020-8 Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee In- Lieu Of Ad Valorem Tax Agreement By And Between Chester County, South Carolina, And A Company, As Sponsor, Identified For The Time Being As Project Sparrow, To Provide For Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Tax Incentives And Special Source Revenue Credits; Providing For The Inclusion Of The Company's Property In A Multi-County Business Or Industrial Park; And Other Related Matters.**

Chairman Stuart closed the public hearing.

6. **Ordinances/Resolutions/Proclamations**

- a. **3rd Reading of Ordinance 2020-8 Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Fee In- Lieu Of Ad Valorem Tax Agreement By And Between Chester County, South Carolina, And A Company, As Sponsor, Identified For The Time Being As Project Sparrow, To Provide For Fee-In-Lieu Of Ad Valorem Tax Incentives And Special Source Revenue Credits; Providing For The Inclusion Of The Company's Property In A Multi-County Business Or Industrial Park; And Other Related Matters.** Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- b. **2nd Reading of Ordinance 2020-9 An Ordinance Prohibiting Scavenging at the Chester County Solid Waste Management Facilities.** Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.

7. **Old Business**

- a. **Discuss Verbiage Change to the Mutual Aid Agreement between Richburg Fire Protection and EMS. County Attorney Winters.** Councilman Jordan motioned to approve with amendment under the insurance portion of the document Richburg would be covered under the County insurance, second by Vice Chairman Branham. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- b. **Update Regarding the Job Descriptions of Litter Control and Code Enforcement. -Councilman Oliphant.** Attorney Winters stated the job descriptions consisted of Code Enforcement Officer that reports to Planning & Zoning, Litter Control Officer reports to the Recycling Coordinator and Nuisance and Abatement reports to the Planning & Zoning Director. The Nuisance and Abatement job title was changed August 19th, 2019, all of the job descriptions are different. When the study for raises was done last year job descriptions were changed without notification to department heads. Councilman Oliphant stated he wanted clarity of who does what, citizens are scared to complain about their neighbors.
- Planning Director Mike Levister stated his department enforced the demolition of houses only, nuisance and abatement officers in the past took care of trash, grass and removal of unlicensed vehicles. Chairman Stuart suggested the nuisance and abatement ordinance should be updated and add chapter 22 from the county code of ordinance to the job description once it is clarified. After much discussion, Chairman Stuart asked County Attorney Winters to update Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances, add to the April 6th, 2020 Council meeting. Councilman Vaughn stated the job descriptions needs to have clarity.
- c. **Fort Lawn Revitalization Update- Mick Harrington**
Mick Harrington stated residents, employees, etc. were interviewed about values, hopes and concerns for the Fort Lawn area. He spoke about implementing partnerships with SC Arts Commission, SC Dept. of Commerce, USDA Rural Development and the Office of Economic Opportunities.
- d. **February Litter Pickup and March Litter Enforcement Report-Chairman Stuart**
Chairman Stuart stated 506 bags of trash was picked up in February, along with \$1200.00 dollars in fines from Litter Enforcement for the month of February as well.
- e. **Approval of 2020 Priority Needs and Assessment List.**
Councilman Oliphant motioned to approve with discussion, second by Councilman Vaughn. Councilman Jordan suggested adding the courthouse renovations and the security issues. Councilman Vaughn withdrew his second, Councilman Oliphant withdrew his motion. Councilman Oliphant motioned to include to the 2020 priority needs list to add under item 3. Chester County Courthouse, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to approve.

8. New Business

- a. **Approve bid: Cab-Chassis for Lando Fire in the amount of \$114,977.95. -Susan Cok**
Councilman Jordan motioned to approve, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- b. **Approval of a multi-year agreement: Priority Dispatch - \$21,600.00 for 3 years – Susan Cok & Doug McMurray.** Vice Chairman Branham motioned to approve, second by Councilman Wilson Vote 6-0 to approve.
- c. **Approval of a multi-year agreement: TSA Choice - \$4,131.97 for 3 years – Susan Cok & Doug McMurray.** Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- d. **1st Reading of CCMA20-02: Lewis Fire Protection Association, Jay Williams, President request 1.45 acres of Tax Map # 104-00-00-024-000 located approximately 1000 feet from Fishing Creek Rd be rezoned from R2 (Rural Two) to R1 (Rural One).** Planning Commission voted 6-0 to approve. Councilwoman Guy motioned to approve, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- e. **Approval of 2019-2020 South Carolina Forestry Grant Fund Match Request for \$ 4276.80 for Richburg Fire Department. -John Agee.** Councilman Jordan motioned to approve, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.

9. Council Comments

Chairman Stuart reminded everyone to be diligence during this time of the coronavirus, try to stay calm.

10. Adjourn. Councilwoman Guy motioned to adjourn, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to adjourn.

K. Shane Stuart, County Supervisor & Chairman

Karen Lee, Clerk to Council

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Chester News & Reporter, The Herald in Rock Hill, SC, WSOC-TV, Channel 9 Eyewitness News, the Mfg. Housing Institute of SC, WRHI Radio Station, C&N2 News, WCNC News and Capitol Consultants were notified and a notice was posted on the bulletin board at the Chester County Government Building 24 hours prior to the meeting