

CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

R. Carlisle Roddey Chester County Government Complex

1476 J.A. Cochran Bypass Chester, SC 29706

Tuesday, April 19th, 2022 at 6:00 PM

Present: Vice Chairman Branham, Councilman Jordan, Councilwoman Guy, Councilman Killian, Councilman Vaughn, Councilman Wilson, Councilman Killian, County Attorney Winters, and Clerk to Council Lee. **Absent:** Interim Chairman Dr. Frederick.

1. **Call to Order-** Vice Chairman Branham called the meeting to order.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation-**Pledge was recited in unison; Councilwoman Guy gave the invocation.
Councilman Wilson motioned to add an emergency item to the agenda: add 10.c. To Receive legal advice regarding the open position of the Human Resource Director and 11c., second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve.
Vice Chairman Branham removed 6.b. from the agenda.
3. **Approval of Minutes-** minutes was not approved.
4. **Citizen Comments**
Lisa Plyler stated she and other residents on Silverbrook Road asked if it could be added to the County Road system. The first part of the road was worked by the state, the second part the state does not work now has potholes and was only one lane wide, the road was only a tenth of a mile.
5. **Public Hearing -None**
6. **Ordinances/Resolutions/Proclamations**
 - a. **1st Reading of Ordinance 2022-6 Authorizing The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds, In One Or More Series, Tax-Exempt Or Taxable, In An Amount Not To Exceed \$850,000 For The Purpose Of Acquiring, Constructing, Equipping, Or Rehabilitating Various Capital Projects In The Lando Rural Fire District; Authorizing The Interim Chairman Of The County Council/County Supervisor To Prescribe The Form And Details Of The Bonds; Providing For The Payment Of The Bonds And The Disposition Of The Proceeds Of The Bonds; Providing For Borrowing In Anticipation Of The Issuance Of The Bonds; And Other Related Matters.**
Treasurer Tommy Darby stated to clarify the terminology it was the cost of issuing the bond not the insurance of the bond. Currently Lando Fire District has two outstanding bonds, when those bonds that are currently on the tax rolls roll off the millage rolls on and the millage would roughly stay level and would be no tax increase for the district. If it did increase, it would be minimal.

Councilman Jordan motioned to approve the first reading with a small increase in the issuance, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve. Councilman Jordan motioned to allow the Lando Fire District to move forward with a contract for the purchase of a pumper truck and to enter into the contract before May 1st, 2022, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.

b. Removed 1st Reading in Title Only Ordinance 2022-7 Chester County Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget to Establish Operating And Capital Budgets For The Operation Of The County Government Of Chester County, South Carolina For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2022; To Provide For The Levy Of Taxes For Chester County For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2022; To Provide For The Expenditure Of Tax Revenues And Other County Funds; To Provide For Other County Purposes; To Authorize The County To Borrow Money In Anticipation Of Taxes And To Provide For The Repayment Of Sums Borrowed By The County Governing Body; To Provide For The Payment Of Tort Claims And Worker's Compensation Claims Against Chester County; To Provide For Certain Fiscal And Other Matters Relating To County Government.

7. Old Business

a. 3rd Reading of CCMA22-01 Alexander Ricks PLLC – Collin Brown for Applicant: MacKenzie Investment Group LLC request Tax Map #: 115-00-00-017-000 on Lancaster Highway, Chester SC to be rezoned from General Commercial (GC) to Limited Industrial (ID-2). Planning Commission voted 6-0 to approve. Councilman Jordan motioned to approve with a reverter clause, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to approve.

8. New Business

- a. Council to authorize the approval of a \$7000 grant from Project Safe Pet Matching for spay & neuter with 50% match. -Animal Control Director Kelli Simoneau. Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 6-0 to approve.**
- b. Council to authorize the approval of a bid for the construction of a county sign to Bullock Creek Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$74,000 to be installed at Exit 65 Southbound of I-77. Procurement Director Susan Cok. Councilman Jordan motioned to approve, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 6-0 to approve.**
- c. Update Council regarding hiring an engineering firm for county projects. Procurement Director Susan Cok.** Mrs. Cok stated this was for information to Council that they would be hiring Alliance Consulting Engineers for some projects going forward.
- d. Council to authorize the approval for additional funding needed for North Chester Fire Station- Procurement Director Susan Cok.** Mrs. Cok stated unfortunately it had taken a while to get this project moving forward. With prices going up constantly they need additional funds to finish it out. Treasurer Darby stated North Chester Fire Department was part of the ordinances that was passed were funding sources, the capital project sales tax and the facilities corporation were funding sources. Both of those sources were available for the additional funding and should fit within what had already been approved by Council.

Mrs. Cok stated the extra cost was approximately \$75,000 dollars between the engineering services and the construction cost from the contractor. As soon as that happens, they can order the supplies and that will be when the price increase would stop.

Councilman Wilson stated they were issues with our side and with previous engineering that led them not to allow the work to begin on time. That is why the bid had increased. He asked with the new engineers would they redo the drawings, and what work would they be doing. Mrs. Cok stated they had noticed things on the land that were not quite where they should have been with the old engineers before. So those problems need to be fixed. They will be on the site once a month for six months which should also be timeframe to finish the project. She stated it should not be any additional cost for the minor things that would be corrected by the contractor. Councilman Wilson stated it was important that they make sure the engineering team is doing a good job, it has been frustrating and disappointing for Council and the citizens and Mrs. Cok as well. Councilman Wilson motioned to approve \$75,000 dollars, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve.

- e. Council to authorize the approval of a 3-year contract from ICSolutions for inmate calling platform and tablets. Detention Center Director Wayne Alley.** Mrs. Cok stated this contract was no cost to the county, the money that gets collected comes from the use of the service. Mr. Alley stated they have been using this company since 2017 and would like to upgrade and provide tablets to the inmates. The tablets would provide revenue back to the detention center which would be used to buy clothing, slides, socks, mattress covers towels, washcloths, and supplies for the inmates. The inmates would have to pay to use the tablets. Councilman Wilson asked what would the primarily use of the tablets be. Mr. Alley stated they can buy music, games, reading books, look at the law library but also use it to make medical request along with other things. He stated it would be a closed network and maintained by ICSolutions. Councilwoman Guy asked if other detention centers were doing the same thing. Mr. Alley stated yes. Councilman Jordan asked if Mr. Alley could get someone from the company to come and demonstrate how the tablet would work. Mr. Alley stated yes, he could come back next month to provide the demonstration. Taken as information.

9. Boards and Commissions

a. Appointment to the Library Board- Councilman Killian.

Councilman Killian stated Ms. Fair's job did not give her the time to devote to the board. Councilman Killian motioned to remove Marquita Fair off the Library Board, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.

Councilman Killian motioned to appoint Shannon Hyde to the Library Board, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to approve.

10. Executive Session

Councilman Jordan motioned to go to executive session, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.

- a. To receive legal advice regarding the purchase of property. Attorney Winters.
- b. To receive legal advice regarding County infrastructure. Attorney Winters.
- c. To receive legal advice regarding the HR Director position.

11. Council Actions Following Executive Session

Councilwoman Guy motioned to go back to regular session, second by Councilman Killian. Vote 6-0 to approve.

a. Action taken regarding the purchase of property. Taken as information.

b. Action taken regarding County infrastructure. Taken as information.

c. Action taken regarding legal advice of the HR Director position.

Councilman Wilson motioned for Interim HR to list the open position for the Human Resource position on Indeed, also the South Carolina Association of Counties website along with the Municipal Association website to be done by the end of this week, second by William Killian. Vote was 6-0 to approve.

12. Council Comments

Attorney Winters stated for information to Council, Southeastern was sold and closed on April 8th. Nobel Oil owns it now, they will become a viable company for Chester County.

Vice Chairman Branham stated he planned to ask Bill Coleman (County engineer) to look at Silverbrook Road to see what was going on with the road past state maintenance.

13. Adjourn

Councilwoman Guy motioned to adjourn, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to adjourn.

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.