

CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES

R. Carlisle Roddey Chester County Government Building

1476 J A Cochran Bypass- Council Chambers

June 11th, 2020 at 4:00 PM

Special Called Meeting and Budget Workshop

Present: Chairman Shane Stuart, Vice Chairman Joe Branham, Council Member Brad Jordan, Council Member Alex Oliphant, Council Member Pete Wilson, Councilman Vaughn, Clerk to Council Karen Lee, Treasurer Tommy Darby and Finance Director Wes Carter. Council Member Mary Guy came in after the vote to go to executive session.

1. **Call to Order**-Chairman Stuart called the meeting order.
2. **Executive Session**-Councilman Jordan motioned to go to Executive Session, second by Vice Chairman Branham. Vote 5-0 to approve.
 - a. Discuss Economic Development Project 2024.
 - b. Discuss Economic Development Project 2026.
3. **Action Taken after Executive Session**-Councilwoman Guy motioned to go back to Regular Session, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 6-0 to approve.
 - a. **Action Taken Regarding Economic Development Project 2024.** Taken as information only.
 - b. **Action Taken Regarding Economic Development Project 2026.** Taken as information only.
4. **New Business**
 - a. **Discuss Refrigeration Problems in the Detention Center.**

Sheriff Dorsey stated the compressor in the freezer at the detention center was old and has been worked on a lot. The HVAC technician had told them it stop was a matter of time when they would completely stop working. They had two quotes to purchase a new one, first quote was \$ 9400 and the second \$9700 dollars to change over with new compressor lines inside and out, evaporators on top of the units. Treasurer Darby stated a salary line item to equipment line item in the Sheriff's budget could be used to purchase through a vacancy where they had a budget transfer and no council action would be required.
5. **Budget Discussion-Chairman Stuart**
 - a. **Budget Ordinance Items**
 1. **Workers Comp and Property Liability**

Treasurer Darby stated the annual contribution for the periods of July 1, 2020 through July 1, 2021 was \$629,529 dollars for property and liability insurance renewal, workers compensation renewal was \$430,215 dollars for the same period. Together they have increased by \$230,000 dollars from the prior year and the county is ranked twenty-four out of forty-six counties. The increase was due to excess property insurers having significant losses the past year and increases in their property premiums along with COVID-19 crisis impacting insurance and financial markets.

2. General Fund Revenue

Treasurer Darby gave a brief history of past revenues and what it looks like now for the next budget cycle. Fiscal year 2020 anticipated revenue at \$ 22,520,882 and does anticipate the sale of Southeastern Petroleum if the \$600,000 is taking out the budget would be short by that amount. Next fiscal year anticipating \$22,333,214 dollars and does have an appropriation of fund balance around \$579,000 dollars.

3. Online Convenience Fees

Treasurer Darby stated the fee for online payments had been waived, the current total cost from March to June was \$22,857 dollars. The actual online payments were up 244 percent from the prior year, people staying at home paying their taxes and not coming out during the coronavirus. The state of emergency for this will run out the middle of July, typically, the taxpayers pay around \$28,000 dollars in fees from using the online service. He stated he needed to add \$4000 dollars to add back to his budget

4. Litter Enforcement/Nuisance & Abatement Request.

Treasurer Darby stated TJ Martin had requested \$720 added to his professional service account to order to obtain the Sheriff's office to for civil process services to deliver certified letters to owners who do not pick them up.

5. List of Services the County provides to other Municipalities.

Council discussed the lease agreement with Great Falls which included lawncare and utilities services that came to the amount of \$28,548. 41 dollars. It was asked what other municipalities were provided services. The County collects city taxes for Great Falls, Fort Lawn and the City of Chester, along with building permits for Great Falls, Fort Lawn.

6. Other Carry Over Items

Chairman Stuart stated \$ 4051.42 was left over from a vehicle accident, the vehicle was replaced, he asked Council if the left-over funds could be reallocated for Census to be finished off for the rest of the month of July. Councilwoman Guy motioned to reallocate \$4051.42 funds to Census to the end of July, second by Vice Chairman Branham. Vote 6-0 to approve.

EMS Director Britt Lineberger stated call volumes were slightly down from last year but within the past few weeks the call volumes have went up due to the coronavirus. An EMS 6 truck was placed in West Chester Fire Department a few months ago but since it the weather has changed and its hotter they can no longer use it as sleeping arrangements since was basically a garage. Councilman Wilson asked if the building at Baton Rouge Park could be used by EMS, Operation Manager Tyanne Perry stated the building was not an option and was in bad shape. Councilman Wilson asked if the concession stand could be used, Public Works Director Robert Hall stated he could add an air conditioner window unit at the cost of around \$1500 dollars that would include hooking it up. Councilman Wilson motioned to fund the addition of cool space at the concession stand at Baton Rouge Park for the use of EMS using the funds of \$10,000 set aside for supplies to be reallocated for this use up to \$2000, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve. Councilman Jordan stated the shoreline that is currently at West Chester would be moved across the street to the concession stand, Mr. Lineberger stated that was correct.

b. Capital

1. Rolling Stock

Chairman Stuart went over items on the list departments had requested which came to around twelve million dollars. Treasurer Darby stated there was little over a 1.5 million in rolling stock. Council asked Chairman Stuart to send them the list he was using when this would be on the agenda. Treasurer Darby stated he thought the deadline was July 15th to have back to the bond attorney Michael Kozlarek.

2. Grant related to the Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Max Dorsey stated he was proud to receive the COPS grant of one million dollars with no match from the County that saved the \$250,000; this will enable him to hire six deputies. Currently there are four frozen slots on his org chart but with the grant he can fill them for the next three years. The other two positions he hoped Council would fund them as well. He stated this was for the salaries only and not cars, radios, etc., he recognized it would be Council's decision to make to equip the cars. Vehicles needed to be self-sustainable to print out reports in the car, he needs money to purchase seven new vehicles. Councilman Oliphant motioned to accept the grant, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote was 6-0 to approve. Vice Chairman Branham motioned to take \$490,000 from the general fund to purchase vehicles for the sheriff's office, second by Councilman Vaughn.

Councilman Oliphant stated the \$490,000 was to pay back the rolling stock, Joe's motion was not to pay the rolling stock back but to use the money for what it was originally spent on new cars. Treasurer Darby stated there was a resolution in place where the County would pay itself back the \$490,000 dollars for the purchase of ten vehicles purchased in March of this year. He stated the resolution could be strike since the cars have already been purchased from the fund balance this would free up \$490,000 from the rolling stock fund.

Councilman Vaughn withdrew his second, Vice Chairman Branham withdrew his motion. Vice Chairman Branham motioned to repeal the resolution to repay the County and take \$490,000 from the rolling stock fund, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to approve.

c. Landfill

1. Tonnage Cost for Debris

Treasurer Darby stated the information provide to him by Sharon Bickett, Recycling Coordinator the cost for the cleanup in Great Falls from the tornado damage put in the landfill came to \$2689. 92. Councilman Oliphant motioned to waive the fee, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to approve.

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

K. Shane Stuart, County Supervisor & Chairman

Karen Lee, Clerk to Council

Time: 7:10 PM

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