****

CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING R. Carlisle Roddey Chester County Government Building 1476 J A Cochran Bypass- Conference Room Wednesday, July 24, 2019- 4:00 PM

**MINUTES**

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

**1. Call to Order-**Chairman Stuart called the meeting to order.

**2. Executive Session-** Councilman Wilson motioned to go into Executive Session, second by Councilwoman

Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.

**a.** Receive Legal Advice Regarding a Personnel Matter for Animal Care & Enforcement Office.

**b**. Receive Legal Advice Regarding County Council to Retain Outside Counsel.

**3. Council Actions Following Executive Session-**Councilwoman Guy motioned to go back to Regular

Session, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve.

**a. Action Taken Concerning Legal Advice of a Personnel Matter for Animal Care & Enforcement**

**Office.** Taken as Information Only.

**b. Action Taken Concerning Legal Advice for County Council to Retain Outside Counsel.**

Councilman Wilson motioned to form a committee of three consisting of himself, Councilman Vaughn

and Vice Chairman Branham to vet outside legal council candidates and choose one candidate to request a

letter of engagement, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve.

Attorney Winters stated she would like to be on record with Council, she had recused herself since she is the County Attorney, by law under the supervisor form government she reports directly to the Supervisor. Her client is Chester County and not the Supervisor, anything she does will always be at the best interest of the County but reports to Mr. Stuart. The scope of the engagement with outside counsel she feels she needs to retain clean hands. She stated she has spent the day listening to horrible things being said about her so that’s why she made the above statement. She has been the County Attorney for sixteen years and has always acted in the Counties best interest and believes by recusing herself will also be in the Counties best interest.

Councilman Oliphant stated he hoped the matters at hand will be expediated as quickly as possible so Council

can move forward. Councilman Wilson stated he agreed with County Attorney Winters recusing herself since

this is a conflict of interest. Makes sense to obtain outside help, do everything right to avoid litigation and find a

solution that is just and right.

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

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
K. Shane Stuart, 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**