

CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

R. Carlisle Roddey Government Complex

**1476 J A Cochran Bypass, Chester, SC
September 16th, 2019 Tuesday at 6:00 PM**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Shane Stuart, 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. **Absent:** Vice Chairman Joe Branham with prior notification.

- 1. Call to Order-**Chairman Stuart called the meeting to order.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation-** Pledge was recited in unison; Councilwoman Guy gave the invocation.
- 3. Approval of Minutes**

- a. Approval of September 3rd, 2019 Council Minutes**

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

- 4. Citizen Comments**

Hank Eisenga, 1000 GITI Drive, Chester, SC, Vice President of Manufacturing for GITI Tire, addressed Council concerning recent articles published concerning two lawsuits brought against the company. One from Rilable Management and the other from Gateway Finance. They are currently in the process of responding to them both. GITI does have disagreements with the vendors but not uncommon for disputes to occur within the commercial world. They plan to defend and hopefully resolve the issues with both vendors. He also gave an update on GITI tire, currently they have over 700 employees, they have increased production over the last 18 months and are committed to the success of the Richburg plant, the employees and Chester County.

Chris Collinge, 529 Pall Mall, Chester, SC stated her question was how someone from the County government can block people from a County page since three people have been blocked. She asked if someone could reply back to her with an answer.

- 5. Public Hearing-**Chairman Stuart opened the public hearing. No one signed to speak for or against.
 - a. 3rd Reading of Ordinance 2019-12 An Ordinance to Amend Chester County Code Section 46-93 Littering.** Chairman Stuart closed the public hearing.

- 6. Ordinances/Resolutions/Proclamations**

- a. 3rd Reading of Ordinance 2019-12 An Ordinance to Amend Chester County Code Section 46-93 Littering.**

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

- b. Resolution 2019-22 Resolution in Support of the Piedmont Gateway State Scenic Byway.**

Cal Harrison stated he was the Ridgeway Planning Commission Chairman and with the scenic byways project, the Piedmont Gateway Scenic Byway would like to include Hwy 21 North, Hwy 321 North, Brooklyn Road, Republic Road and Dearborn Street to the Scenic Byway. All of this area is scenic, historic, cultural, recreational and archaeological. Their vision statement is "To support the preservation and enhancement of the scenic, historical and recreational resources of South Carolina's Piedmont, and tell the area's story to help attract visitors, support economic growth and improve the quality of life for citizens." Chairman Stuart motioned to approve, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 5-0 to approve.

c. Resolution 2019-23 to Authorize the County of Chester, by Chester County Council, to sell certain vehicles identified herein upon such terms and conditions as described.

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

7. Old Business

a. Litter Report for July and Litter Enforcement Report-Chairman Stuart.

Chairman Stuart stated 475 bags of trash, 23 tires and 20 miscellaneous items were picked up last month. The Sheriff has given the County two inmates to help and it is extremely appreciated. Councilman Oliphant stated the County really needs the schools help with the education of littering.

b. Discuss Economic Development Position.

Chairman Stuart stated this position is already on the County website and will also be advertised. He and Chester Development Association will be working on a list of names of people for the hiring committee, the salary for this position will also need to be addressed. Economic Developer Karlisa Parker Dean will be hard to replace she has done very well over the years, she will also be involved in the hiring process. Councilman Oliphant stated Karlisa has been one the best and most successful economic developer Chester County has had.

8. New Business

a. Delivery of Voting Equipment to Voting Precincts-Karen Roach and Bill Marion.

Bill Marion, Chairman of the Chester County Election Commission stated they had received the new voting machines approved by the State Election Commission. To use the machines, you install a blank piece of paper into the express vote, make your selection, review and print the ballot and cast your vote. There concerns were getting the machines to the polling wards, the machine itself weighs around one hundred pounds and they would need help getting those delivered. They will also need tables to set the express vote machines on. Mr. Marion stated they could have County Maintenance or the public works department to deliver and retrieve the machines and tables or could possibly rent a truck with a lift gate and hire outside personnel to deliver and retrieve the machines. They must be delivered the day before the election and picked up the day after the election, the machines must be in an enclosed van. The State has stated they need to have at least three or five poll workers at each voting precinct, they have tried to use only three in the past but needs one extra poll worker at each precinct.

Mr. Marion stated they love the building there are in at 109 Ella Street, but the building shares a common drop ceiling with the other occupants in the building that include Clemson Extension, First Steps and a church.

They have no reason to think the other occupants would do anything, they do have a lot of sensitive information and asked if they could use the vault in the building. He said SLED monitors them and they are written up each time for the fact they don't control the whole building. They requested they be the only tenant in the building or add walls to the ceiling of the original building to further insure the safety of voter information.

Chairman Stuart stated they have a or will have a 15-passenger van that also has a ramp. This could be used to deliver and pick up the machines. Councilman Oliphant stated the County also has a covered trailer. Mr. Marion stated anything the County can do to help would be greatly appreciated. He also thanked the staff at voter's registration without them this would not run as smoothly as it does.

b. Permission to Fly New County Flags- Moral Wellness and Recreation Director-Anthony Worthy.

Mr. Worthy stated he found out the County did not have a County flag and showed Council the flag he would like to fly on all County buildings in the near future with their permission. Currently he wants to

fly one on the outside of the County building. Chairman Stuart stated the current flag poles would have to be upfitted to add another flag. Councilman Oliphant asked how much each flag cost. Mr. Worthy stated \$96.00 dollars per flag, he would also like to put them at all the fire departments. He had touched base with Fire Coordinator Barkley Ramsey to see how many poles would need to be purchased.

c. Approval to Use Bond Monies for the E-911 CAD System - \$58,200.00 – Doug McMurray
Chairman Stuart motioned to approve, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 5-0 to approve.

d. Discussion on Impact Study.

Councilman Jordan stated Cole McKinney could not be here but had sent a memo outlining what the next steps would be and he wanted to update the public on where the County is on the impact fee study. He has been in favor of this for a long time and especially now since we have residential communities coming to Chester. The first step on the memo was to have the 357 plans for each department and they had been submitted and a meeting was held in July, he asked if they had been resubmitted back to the COG. Chairman Stuart stated they had, there was a couple CIP (Capital Improvement Project) plans based on the 357 plans but are still trying to work out some numbers on that. Councilman Jordan stated the time frame given was September or October to analyze the data of the 357 plans from department heads and in October to November the development of the Capital Improvement Plan. Deliver the Capital Improvement Plan to Council for adoption of consideration. He stated the first quarter of next year develop and deliver the Impact Fee Study for adoption consideration. Councilman Jordan stated he was glad to see this is moving now, it has been a long time getting here but now we have some movement.

e. FOIA Request and Document Request Regarding County Departments-Councilman Oliphant.

Councilman Oliphant stated he was contacted by citizens trying to view public documents in the Building & Zoning Department only to be turned away. He stated once the public hearing sign is staked out on the property and the notice is published in the newspaper anyone should be able to look at the documents, since it states you can come and view the documents at the office. They are being told they have to wait to see them after the Planning Commission has seen them.

On the York County website, they have a media packet before the meeting that has everything on it that will be presented to the Planning Commission for the public to view before the meeting. County Attorney Winters stated that can be done but some of the wording may have to be redacted. Councilman Oliphant stated Director Levister does a good job but wants everyone on the same page. After much discussion he asked to have on the next agenda to discuss adding a media packet to the Building & Zoning website for all meetings.

9. Executive Session-Councilman Jordan motioned to go to Executive session, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 5-0 to approve.

- a. Receive Legal Advice Regarding MUSC Hospital.
- b. Receive Legal Update on Existing County Litigation.

10. Council Actions Following Executive Session-Councilwoman Guy motioned to go back to Regular session, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 5-0 to approve.

- a. **Action Taken Regarding Legal Advice for MUSC Hospital.** Taken as information only.
- b. **Action Taken Regarding Legal Update for Existing County Litigation.** Taken as information only.

11. Council Comments

Chairman Stuart reminded everyone about the grand opening at 199 Gadsden Street for Chester Auto Sales.

12. Adjourn-Councilman Jordan motioned to adjourn, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 5-0 to adjourn.

Time: 8:00 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.