

CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

R. Carlisle Roddey Government Complex

1476 J A Cochran Bypass, Chester, SC

Monday, September 21st, 2020 at 6:00 PM

Chairman Shane Stuart Presiding

Minutes

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

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. September 8th, 2020 Council Minutes
Councilman Wilson motioned to approve, second by Vice Chairman Stuart. Vote 6-0 to approve.
 - b. September 16th, 2020 Special Called Council Minutes
Councilwoman Guy motioned to approve, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote was 4-0 to approve. Councilman Jordan and Wilson was not present for that meeting and did not vote.
4. **Citizen Comments**-No one signed up to speak.
5. **Public Hearing**-Chairman Stuart opened the public hearing. No one signed up to speak.
 - a. **3rd Reading 2020-28** An Ordinance to Amend Chester County Ordinance No. 2020-16 the 2020-2021 Chester County Budget Ordinance in Certain Limited Particulars Only. *Part time position in the Assessor's Office.*
 - b. **3rd Reading 2020-29** An Ordinance to Amend Chester County Ordinance No. 2020-16 the 2020-2021 Chester County Budget Ordinance in Certain Limited Particulars Only. *Solicitor/Public Defender Office*
Chairman Stuart closed the public hearing.
6. **Ordinances/Resolutions/Proclamations**
 - a. **3rd Reading 2020-28** An Ordinance to Amend Chester County Ordinance No. 2020-16 the 2020-2021 Chester County Budget Ordinance in Certain Limited Particulars Only. *Part time position in the Assessor's Office.* Vice Chairman Branham motioned to approve, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 6-0 to approve.

b. 3rd Reading 2020-29 An Ordinance to Amend Chester County Ordinance No. 2020-16 the 2020-2021 Chester County Budget Ordinance in Certain Limited Particulars Only. *Solicitor/Public Defender Office.* Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve.

c. Resolution 2020-22 Supplementing Resolution #2018-3, Relating to The Installment Purchase Plan Of Finance Relating To Various Capital Projects In The County; And Other Related Matters. Councilman Oliphant motioned to approve to use bond money for the animal shelter, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to approve.

d. Declaration 2020-4 A Declaration of a Continued State of Emergency for Chester County. Chairman Stuart motioned to approve to add sixty more days, second by Councilman Jordan Vote 6-0 to approve.

e. 1st Reading 2020-30 An Ordinance to Amend Chester County Ordinance No. 2020-16 The 2020-2021 Chester County Budget Ordinance, In Certain Limited Particulars Only. *Equipment for West Chester Fire Truck.* Councilman Wilson motioned to approve, second by Vice Chairman Branham. Vote 6-0 to approve.

7. Old Business

a. 2nd Reading of CCMA20-08: Daisy Rollings request Tax Map # 159-01-01-044-000 located off Looper Road, Great Falls, SC be rezoned from RG-1 (Multi Family) to R2 (Rural Two). Planning Commission voted 5-0 to approve. Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve.

b. Consideration to Purchase Vehicles for Rural Fire- Barkley Ramsey and Meghan Brewer. Councilman Oliphant motioned to approve using fund balance to purchase two 2020 Ford F-250 Pickup Trucks with camper tops, second by Councilman Vaughn. Treasurer Tommy Darby said this would be an amendment to the budget. Councilman Vaughn withdrew his second, Councilman Oliphant withdrew his motion. Councilman Oliphant motioned by title only to amend the budget to purchase two 2020 Ford F-250 Pickup Trucks with camper tops for \$ 37,961.00 each, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to approve.

c. Update on Pinckney Road & Eureka Community Project and Derelict Houses in Chester County.

Councilman Oliphant said he had spoken with Building Director Mike Levister who had met with RCI, currently there were some technically, but they were working with County Attorney Winters to get the issue resolved by the next meeting. He asked to have this back on the agenda for the meeting. He along with Councilman Vaughn asked to have on the next meeting agenda how other counties take complaints.

d. Estimates on the Burnt Meeting House Cemetery Cleanup.

Councilman Oliphant thanked Public Works Director Robert Hall and his staff for clearing the Road. Mr. Hall stated they were still working on finishing the road and clearing out the underbrush. Councilman Oliphant asked to have this back on the agenda.

e. Information on the Use of County Buildings for Functions Spreadsheet.

Councilman Oliphant said a spreadsheet was needed going forward, this is not the 1970's way of doing things. Everything was handwritten and very convoluting. This needs to be done on a spreadsheet, this would make the Supervisor and his staff's job easier. Councilman Vaughn agreed the documents

they were provided was very confusing, some of them not filled out correctly. Currently there are different policy agreements for each building and said they should all be under one agreement that fits all. Council would need to view all the rental applications to come up with a uniform document with the help from the County Attorney. Councilman Oliphant motioned beginning and no later of October 1st all rental and use of any County facilities be recorded on a spreadsheet format, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to approve. Councilman Wilson said the spreadsheet needs to show who rents it, if they are paying full or half rate, if it was by County employee discount, non-profit and no cost, there needs to be better transparency. The policy's in place now needs to be followed, Councilman Oliphant said hopefully they will have an example of the spreadsheet of what they propose to use by the first of October.

f. Information on all County Properties and Services Provided by the County.

Councilman Wilson said this has been asked for from two or three previous meetings and still has not received anything. He would like to see all services provided along with anything the County does for the City of Chester and the Town of Great Falls. He wants to know what is being offered in terms of grass cutting, recreation and other services provided. Chairman Stuart said he had provided them with some information several months ago. Councilman Oliphant said incomplete information was given to them. Councilman Vaughn asked to have the cost added to what the County spends on the services as well.

g. Litter Report for August and Litter/Nuisance Abatement Ticket Report for September.

Chairman Stuart said 594 bags of trash had been picked up from all districts for the month of August. Tickets were issued from the County Litter/Nuisance Abatement Officer with the court dates to be in October, the total number for fines were \$2800.00 dollars.

h. Approval of Dawson Drive Master Plan

Councilman Jordan motioned to approve, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 6-0 to approve.

8. New Business

a. Request to Apply for a SC Forestry Commission Matching Grant for Lando Fire Department.

Councilman Jordan motioned to approve the match request of \$5000 dollars and be funded through the Lando Fire Department account then refunded through general fund, second by Vice Chairman Branham. Vote 6-0 to approve.

b. Presentation of Economic Development Incentives, Opportunity Zones and the Bailey Bill.

City Councilwoman Angela Douglas presented an outline of the City of Chester Economic Development Committee, rehabbing historic properties, opportunity zones and the bailey bill. The City is currently working to establish the Bailey bill ordinance. Attorney Winters asked if she could do more research and bring this back to Council at the second meeting in October.

c. Referral of Parks & Recreation Items to the Committee Procedure.

Councilman Jordan thanked Public Works Director Robert Hall and his staff for all they do in the recreation department. He wants the public to know the Parks & Recreation Committee must review and approve all recommendations to County Council moving forward. He understood the partnership with volunteers and municipalities and wants to continue to partner with them, but the procedure must be followed, this allows the committee to review and make recommendations to the Council.

9. Boards and Commissions

a. Appointment to the Gateway Steering Committee.

Vice Chairman Branham motioned to appoint Herbert Lutz, Jr. to the Gateway Steering Committee, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 6-0 to approve.

10. Executive Session

Councilman Oliphant motioned to go into Executive Session, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve.

a. To Receive Legal Update on Southeastern Petroleum

11. Council Actions Following Executive Session

Councilman Oliphant motioned to go back to Regular Session, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve.

a. Action Taken Regarding Legal Advice to Update for Southeastern Petroleum.

Councilman Oliphant motioned to allow County Attorney Winters to proceed, second by Vice Chairman Branham. Vote 6-0 to approve.

12. Council Comments

Vice Chairman Branham encouraged everyone to vote for the 1 cents sales tax in November.

Councilwoman Guy thanked IT Director David Schuelke for his expertise by making it possible for her to stay at home and still participate in the meeting by zoom.

13. Adjourn

Councilman Jordan motioned to adjourn, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to adjourn.
Meeting adjourned at 8:15 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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Any citizen who wishes to make a public comment at the County Council meetings can do so in the following ways:

1. You may submit your comments in writing to the County Council by emailing Karen Lee, klee@chestercounty.org.
2. You may submit your comments by mail: Chester County Clerk to Council, Karen Lee, PO Box 580, Chester, SC 29706.
3. Anyone who wishes to appear in person before Council must register with the Chester County Clerk to Council by phone 803-377-7852 or by email at klee@chestercounty.org no later than 10:00 am on the day of the Council meeting. Such appearance will be limited to one (1) person to be permitted to enter the building while maintaining social distancing. The Clerk will confirm the appointment back to the requestor. A County employee will be on hand to open the back door of the Government Complex at the registered time. The individual may appear before Council for no more than three (3) minutes and will be required to leave the building immediately following their address to Council. Groups of presenters will not be permitted at this time, nor will individuals who have not registered by the deadline. All rules of social distancing as recommended by the CDC and the etiquette procedures of the County Council must be followed. Chester County Council remains committed and receptive to the comments of the citizens of Chester County and while the Council does not like these restrictions, they are being done in the interest of everyone's health.