



CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Where: **Chester County Government Building**
1476 J.A. Cochran Bypass Chester, SC 29706

When: **Monday May 23, 2016 – at 6:00PM**

Members Present:

Chairman Shane Stuart – Presiding
Council Member Joseph Branham, Vice-Chair
Council Member Archie Lucas, Interim Clerk to Council
Council Member Brad Jordan, Recreation Liaison
Council Member Mary Guy
Council Member John W, Holcombe
Council Member Alex Oliphant
County Attorney, Joan E. Winters

- I. **Call to Order** ~ at 6:00pm by Chairman Stuart
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation** ~ pledge was recited in unison. Before Council Member Lucas led everyone in the invocation, he asked for all veterans and active military personal to stand. He then asked everyone to remember them, all the military individuals that have given their lives and all active military personal on Memorial Day. It is because of them that we have our freedom. Then Council Member Lucas led us in the invocation.
*** before the meeting got started, Chairman Stuart stated the item #4 under New Business & item #2 under Executive Session & Actions taken by Council after Executive Session were stricken from the agenda, still awaiting information ***
- III. **Approval of Minutes** –

1. **Chester County Council Meeting May 2, 2016 ~ Motioned by Council Member Lucas, 2nd by Council Member Guy to approve these minutes. **The council voted 6-0, to approve.****
2. **Chester County Transportation Committee Meeting May 2, 2016 ~ Motioned by Council Member Holcombe, 2nd by Council Member Lucas to approve these minutes. **The council voted 6-0, to approve.****
3. **Budget Discussion May 10, 2016 ~ Motioned by Council Member Guy, 2nd by Council Member Jordan to approve these minutes. **The council voted 6-0, to approve.****

IV. Citizen Comments ~ 3 citizens signed up to speak.

1. **Elizabeth Claytor, 119 Pinckney Street, Chester, SC 29706, (803) 379-1683,** Ms. Claytor along with Vanessa Zawn spoke about the annual “Eye to Eye” Garage Sale, June 3-4, from Fort Lawn, SC to Newberry, SC. The route is all along Hwy #9. They also thanked the council for their support in the previous years and asked for their support this year. They also asked for the signs to be left up throughout the duration of the sale.
2. **Heather Terry, 3116 W. Chester School Road, Chester, SC 29706, (803) 374-4672,** spoke on the importance of the EMS Operations Manager position that is to be phased out in June. She spoke about Jenni’s character and how valuable she is the EMS department. Heather stated that letting Jenni go and phasing out her position would be detrimental to the EMS department. They would be lost without Jenni’s leadership.
3. **Jason Ream, 997 Mallard Creek Drive, Chester, SC 29706, (803) 223-4441,** He thanked the council for letting him speak. stated that he was speaking on behalf of himself and several other citizens of Chester County, These citizens would like to know why are some of our council members (elected officials) so interested in what’s going on behind individual’s closed doors? Why are the elected officials not acting like it! He pulled out some rocks and stated that 1 of the citizens gave him some rocks and stated that if the council members

V. Public Hearing ~ 3 citizens signed up to speak

1. 3rd Reading of the proposed county council budget for 2016/2017 ~

- A. **Heather Terry, 3116 W. Chester School Rd., Chester, SC (803) 374-4672**, she stated that she only wanted to speak during the Citizens Comments.
- B. **Jason Ream, 997 Mallard Creek Dr., Chester, SC (803)223-4441**, said that he was at the last budget meeting and 2 of the council members attacked the County Supervisor, Shane Stuart concerning the position of the EMS Operations Manager. The position was created without the authority of the council. It was not in the budget. He believes that the council needs to create the position the way it should be done. If we don't have the money in the budget to cover school resource officers, how can we vote for or pay for a \$50k position? It looks like the buddy system to him again.
- C. **Nettie Archie, Chester, SC (803) 374-1080** ~ stated that she had requested information that she needed to make her comments to the council but had not received it. She told the council that they have not been following procedures and protocols. "She because someone comes up and ask for money doesn't mean that they should get it".

VI. Ordinances/Resolutions/Proclamations ~

1. 3rd and final reading of the proposed county council budget for 2016/2017 ~ Motion made by Council Member Oliphant, 2nd by Council Member Jordan to approve this budget. The council voted 6-0, to approve.

Mr. Holcombe asked if there was a raise in the budget? Tommy Darby, Chester County Treasurer, answered yes, there is a 4% cost of living adjustment in the Supervisor's recommendations. Holcombe also asked about the items in the Sheriff's office. There was a discussion about the SROs. We the request was for 5 but the council is only funding 1 & ½. Council Member Jordan brought up the increase to concerning the Public Defender. He stated that the solicitor's office got a raise and he would like to see the public defender get a raise as well.

1st Amendment to the Budget, Motioned by Council Member Jordan to bring the Public Defender's salary up to match the solicitor's at \$105,980, 2nd by Council Member Oliphant. The council voted 5-1, to approve. Council Member Lucas opposed.

2nd Amendment to the Budget, Motioned by Council Member Lucas to add the EMS Operations Manager to the Budget, 2nd by Council Member Branham. There

was a lengthy discussion concerning this position and the organizational chart that the current council would not approve. Chairman Stuart explained that this is about the position and not the person. **The council voted 5-1, to approve. Council Member Oliphant opposed.**

3rd Amendment to the Budget, Motioned by Council Member Branham to add \$6,000 per unit for the Chester and Great Falls Rescue Squad. This would be a total of \$12,000 in the budget. This was 2nd by Council Member Lucas. Council Member Oliphant asked Mr. Tommy Darby to make sure that he has the financial forms, information for any organizational that the county gives money to. **The council voted 6-0, to approve.**

4th Amendment to the Budget, Motioned by Council Member Jordan to go from \$98K to \$107K for the Rural Fire Monthly Allocations, 2nd by Council Member Branham. **The council voted 6-0, to approve.**

2. **Resolution to authorize the sale or trade county property** ~ Motioned by Council Member Oliphant, 2nd by Council Member Branham to approve this Resolution. **The council voted 6-0, to approve.**
3. **Lupus Awareness Month** ~ Chairman Stuart read the proclamation proclaiming May as Lupus Awareness Month in Chester County.
4. **Fibromyalgia Awareness Day – May 12th** ~ Chairman Stuart read a proclamation proclaiming May 12th as Fibromyalgia Awareness Day in Chester County.
5. **1st Reading on the Chester County Planning Commission recommendation to approve:**
 - a. **Jonathan Starr’s request, Tax Map # 142-96, 25 acres located at 5068 Caulderwood Lane, Catawba-SC, rezone from RS1 (Single Family) to R2 (Rural Two).** ~ Motioned by Council Member Branham, 2nd by Council Member Guy to approve this 1st reading. **The council voted 6-0, to approve.**
 - b. **Mahendra Patel’s request, Tax Map# 124-78, 3.193 acres located at 3275 Edgeland Road, Richburg-SC, rezone from R2 (Rural Two) to RG1 (Multi-Family)** ~ Motioned by Council Member Guy, 2nd by Council Member Branham to approve this 1st reading. **The council voted 6-0, to approve.**

VII. New Business ~

1. **The approval of bids**

- a. **Approval of H1511.7 Federal Building Stabilization bid to C4 Builders in the amount of \$134,300.00. (2 attachments) ~ Motioned by Council Member Oliphant, 2nd by Council Member Holcombe to approve this bid. The council voted 6-0, to approve.**
- b. **Approval of H1511.11 Gov. Center Renovations to Lafaves Construction in the amount of \$225,000.00. (2 attachments) ~ Motioned by Council Member Jordan, 2nd by Council Member Guy to approve this bid. The council voted 6-0, to approve.**
- c. **Approval of RFP 1516-03 Lawn Maintenance to Southeastern Lawn Care in the amount of \$12,800.00 – 8-month contract. (3 attachments) ~ Motioned by Council Member Branham, 2nd by Council Member Holcombe to approve this bid. The council voted 6-0, to approve.**

2. **The Clerk to Council position – Councilman Archie Lucas ~Motioned by Council Member Lucas, 2nd by Council Member Branham to begin the process to hire a Clerk to Council. Council Member Lucas stated that they have been out of a Clerk to Council for 13 months and the attorney has advised the council that it was up to them to hire a Clerk. He accepted the position only for a little while and because no one else wanted it. Council Member Oliphant stated the he feels this position needs to be part-time because it's not enough duties for full-time. **The council voted 6-0, to approve.****

3. **The discussion on alcohol sales on Sunday within the unincorporated areas of Chester County ~ Council Member Holcombe and Chairman Stuart stated that it was brought to their attention that some citizens and store owners want to be able to buy and sale alcohol in the county on Sunday. Attorney Winters stated that she gave the council information back in March and no 1 acted upon it. There was a lengthy discussion and decided to be placed on the next agenda.**

4. **Cedar Grove Community – Roslyn Kennedy ***this was taken off the agenda at the beginning of the meeting because Ms. Kennedy was not present*****

VIII. Executive Session ~ Motioned by Council Member Guy, 2nd by Council Member Jordan to go into executive session. The council voted 5-0, to approve. Council Member Oliphant had stepped out,

1. To receive legal advice on real estate
2. To receive legal advice on Project 1614 - ***taken off at the beginning of the meeting***

- IX. Actions to be taken by council after executive session ~ Motioned by Council Member Holcombe, 2nd by Council Member Guy to return to regular session. **The council voted 6-0, to approve.****
- 1. Regarding real estate ~** Spring's has 17 acres of land that borders the Detention Center and the Baseball complex on Dawson Drive that they want to donate to the county. #069-00-Motioned by Council Member Oliphant, 2nd by Council Member Jordan contingent upon a phase I environmental, clean bill. **The county voted 6-0, to approve.**
 - 2. Regarding Project 1614 - ***taken off at the beginning of the meeting*****
- X. Council Comments ~ 1.** Flopyee Fish Festival this weekend in Great Falls, SC, **2.** County Schools graduating this weekend **3.** there is voting tomorrow for the County School Board at Large Seat.
- XI. Adjourn ~ Motioned by Council Member Lucas, 2nd by Council Member Guy to adjourn. **The council voted 6-0, to approve. Meeting adjourned at 8:21PM.****

K. Shane Stuart, Chairman &
County Supervisor

Council Member Archie Lucas, Interim
Clerk to Council

Minutes prepared by Tabatha Strother, Administrative Assistant

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 R. Carlisle Roddey Government Complex 24 hours prior to the meeting

