

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
JULY 8, 2020**

**MEETING OF THE  
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER**

A regular meeting of the Council of the City of Chester was held on the above date at 10:09am with Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland presiding. A prayer was said followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called and the following were present:

Elizabeth Williams  
William Morgan  
Portia West  
Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland  
William "Al" Jacobs (**absent**)

On motion of Councilor West, seconded by Councilor Morgan, the minutes of the previous meetings were approved as submitted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, West, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

Mayor Kirkland asked if anyone had emailed or called in any comments on Agenda items only.

**Ken Schuster, City Solicitor says this meeting was published in the Delaware County Daily Times as well as posted on the website in terms of the recommendations of the Office of Open Records on how to conduct remote meetings during the pandemic. The public is permitted to email the City by Aigner Cleveland, Press Secretary, who conducts that email. In addition we have provided a telephone number, 610-447-7700 ext. 7951, which permits the public to call in. He then reads an email from Nolan Fontaine (see attachment #1).**

**Mayor Kirkland says to the resident who has posed that series of questions I would ask that they would have a conversation with our Health Department. I don't know if you're talking about 2016, we don't know exactly if those numbers are correct or not. I do know that if they have a conversation with the members of our Health Department that they could answer all those questions pertaining to the lead, if that be the fact, and our water quality. I would direct him to Ms. Livia Smith in our Health Department so that the individual might be able to receive the answers that they are inquiring about.**

The City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Resolutions.

**RESOLUTION**

**THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:**

That it does hereby authorize the proper City official to prepare the specifications for the advertisement for the following bid:

Memorial Park Football Field Lighting Project

**FURTHER**, that it does hereby authorize the City Clerk to advertise for the aforementioned bid.

On motion of Councilor West, seconded by Councilor Morgan, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, West, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

**RESOLUTION**

**THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:**

That it does hereby adopt the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Chester and the William Penn Lodge #19 of the Fraternal Order of Police, which sets forth the terms and conditions for scheduling practices.

**FURTHER**, that it does hereby ratify the execution of the MOU by the proper City official for and on behalf of the City of Chester.

On motion of Councilor West, seconded by Councilor Morgan, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, West, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that City of Chester of Delaware County hereby requests a Blight Remediation Program grant of \$300,000.00, from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for Pulaski School Remediation Project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Chester does hereby designate Thaddeus Kirkland, Mayor and Nafis Nichols, Chief Financial Officer as the official(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the City of Chester and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

On motion of Councilor West, seconded by Councilor Morgan, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, West, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

**RESOLUTION**

**THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:**

That it does hereby ratify the recall of the following individuals on the attached list, with an update of their employment status from laid-off to a modified work schedule of no more than 19 hours per week, effective June 29, 2020.

**FURTHER**, said recalls are in accordance with the approval of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

On motion of Councilor West, seconded by Councilor Morgan, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, West, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

**RESOLUTION**

**THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:**

That it does approve and order payment of a series of bills and refunds as prepared by the Department of Accounts and Finance and as shown on Expenditure Approval Lists dated July 2, 2020, attached hereto and made a part hereof, subject to approval from the Department of Accounts and Finance.

On motion of Councilor West, seconded by Councilor Morgan, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, West, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

**Mayor Kirkland says I would like to acknowledge the presence of our Receiver Michael Doweary out of Harrisburg, PA. He will be working along with us as we work our way through this fiscal emergency. We would like to say to Mr. Doweary welcome to the City of Chester and he is part of the team and we appreciate him and his presence and those who will be working along with him here in our City. The last meeting, Ms. Johnson had inquired about what some of the other industries and authorities here in the City and how they contributed to our Budget here in the City and I wanted to respond to her inquiry... Harrah's Casino in the year 2019 contributed 10.6 million dollars; Philadelphia Union**

Soccer Stadium contribute \$150,000.00 annually; The Stormwater Authority contributed \$176,000.00 during the 2019 year; Widener University provided us with \$250,000.00 towards our annual budget; Chester Housing Authority 2019 total was \$68,000.00; Covanta our Trash to Steam facility provided us with 5.1 million dollars towards our annual budget and Chester Community Charter School, \$100,000.00 per year. These are just a few of them...groups, organizations and authorities here in the City that contribute, that not only house themselves here in our Community but they contribute to our annual budget and we are greatly appreciative of that.

Councilman Morgan says (see attachment #2).

Mayor Kirkland says hats off to our Health Department. Two weeks ago we conducted testing for the virus here at City Hall's Parking Lot. Three hundred and nineteen persons were tested. Out of those 319 persons, five tested positive. That's an amazing job. That means the persons of Chester have been taking care of themselves. There will be some further testing in our Community. Those dates will be given to you at that time. I do want to recognize some folks. I want to thank Councilman Jacobs in his absence for the work that his department did in helping us provide those testing. I want to thank Rosetta Carter for heading it up, Ms. Livia Smith, Dr. Hannum and our Health Board here in the City of Chester, for their tremendous work. Also, a number of Fraternities and Sororities, Black Doctors, nurses and some students from Neumann College, Members of Delaware County Council were here on that day. We want to thank Chester Housing Authority for their generous contribution of \$10,000.00. We also want to thank Dr. Lee and Dr. Wang from Silvercare for their generous contribution of \$10,000.00. The Moore Brothers for their generous contribution of \$1,000.00. Hunts Funeral Home for their generous donation of \$1,000.00. So, folks have been committed to making sure that each and every resident in this City has the opportunity to be tested. Local 413, were they set the model testing and we could not have done it without them. So we appreciate all those individuals and groups that helped out with this testing endeavor and we look forward to doing it again in the near future. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Once again please, please, please wear your mask. Also, thank you to the Chester County Health Department.

Councilwoman Williams says we still need your help with the Census. We still have time to call it in and give the numbers of who is in your household because we are really, really behind and I need us to catch up. So I am asking you again to please do your Census. Thank you very much.

**NO PUBLIC COMMENTS VIA EMAIL OR PHONE**

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:27am.

Respectfully submitted,

JULY 8, 2020

Candice Thompson, City Clerk