

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JUNE 24, 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
William "Al" Jacobs
Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland

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, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

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

Mayor Kirkland says I have a letter from a resident from Folsom, Mr. Richard Bell and Mrs. Lisa Kennedy Bell, a very lengthy letter but it was very uplifting and they're willing to provide an opportunity for communities in the Delaware County area coming together and working together as we deal with healing within all of our communities. I will be reaching out to Mr. and Mrs. Bell as soon as possible to see how we can be supportive of one another.

The City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Resolutions.

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 full time work schedule, with the stated effective dates.

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, Jacobs, 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 20 hours per week, effective June 22, 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, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

RESOLUTION

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:

That it does hereby ratify the transfer of Gary Collins from the position of Commercial Inspector, Licenses and Inspections, Department of Public Safety, to the position of Building Code Official, Licenses and Inspections, Department of Public Safety, with a thirty (30) day probationary period, with all benefits applicable thereto, effective June 22, 2020, at the salary range as provided in the Annual Appropriation Ordinance.

FURTHER, that it does hereby update his employment status from modified to full-time work schedule.

EVEN FURTHER, said transfer and change in work schedule has been accepted by 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, Jacobs, 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 International Association of Firefighters Local 1400, which set forth the terms and conditions for scheduling practices.

FURTHER, that it does hereby authorize the proper City official to execute said MOU 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, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Chester desires to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), in the municipal workplace; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chester has determined that in order to resume normal or phased business operations, the City will need to implement updated strategies and recommendations to safeguard the City's employees and elected officials.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:

That it does hereby adopt the attached COVID-19 Response Policy which consists of a combination of controls to help decrease the spread of COVID-19 and lower the impact in the workplace.

FURTHER, this policy will take effect immediately upon the passage of this Resolution.

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.

RESOLUTION

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:

That it does hereby authorize Tandem Real Estate Holdings to adopt the 7th Street Basketball Courts for the purpose of maintenance and beautification.

FURTHER, both parties agree to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding outlining each parties' responsibilities with regards to this project.

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.

RESOLUTION

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:

That it does hereby authorize the Department of Accounts and Finance to refund the stated amounts to Corelogic Centralized, PO Box 9202, Coppell, TX, 75019, which represents a refund for the overpayment of 2019 Real Estate Taxes, for the following properties:

<u>Refund Amount</u>	<u>Property Address</u>
\$806.06	144 E. Parkway Ave., Chester, PA 19013
\$82.62	913 Lincoln Terrace, Chester, PA 19013

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.

RESOLUTION

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:

That it does hereby authorize the Department of Accounts and Finance to refund the stated sums, to the listed individuals on the attached sheet, which represents reimbursement for the cancelation of events in the Community Room due to COVID-19 disaster declaration.

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.

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 June 19, 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 our Health Department will be testing this Saturday at City Hall from 10a-4p. It is open to the public. It's free testing. We're hoping that the community and residents will take full advantage of the opportunity to get tested.

Councilwoman West says do we have the logistics for the people. Will they be able to pull up in their cars? Will it be in the parking lot?

Councilman Jacobs says they will be able to pull up in their car. It will be similar to what took place at Local 413. They have a plan, Commissioner and Darrell Jones, for the way that they will pull up and even for the walk-ups. We are asking that you come with your insurance card. If you don't have insurance, don't let that be a deterrence, that cost will be taken up by the County.

Councilwoman West says do you need an appointment.

Councilman Jacobs says no.

Mayor Kirkland says I would like to acknowledge those persons/organizations that have helped us to raise the funds so that we could provide this testing for our citizens: Silvercare, Chester Housing Authority, Hunt Funeral Home and the Moore Brothers, all have donated financially so that we might be able to provide testing to our citizens. Thank you for all your help and donations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS VIA EMAIL OR PHONE

Margaret Johnson, 927 Booth Street says the recycling hasn't been being picked up. I have to call every week for them to pick it up. Will they be picking up today? Will we have recycling on Wednesdays?

Councilwoman West says I do apologize for the inconvenience. I know we have been experiencing some difficulty with the recycling pick-up all over the City. I have been in touch with the Supervisor and found out that our vendor has been having a significant problem with staffing and people calling out with regards to the COVID situation. We're working with the vendor. I will contact the Supervisor for J.P. Mascaro and make sure that they come to your area today.

Ms. Johnson says thank you. I see that Delcora has been purchased already and in reference to the Water Company and Aqua, could you give an update as to what's going on there and to the movement of the purchase of the Chester Water Authority. I'm praying that it has not been purchased.

Mayor Kirkland says we are currently in a bidding process. We have not and will not move on any proposed sale without input of the Community and others. Chester Water Authority was invited into that process and they chose not to participate in the bidding process. But if I can ask you a question Ms. Johnson and maybe you can help me with my thinking. I ask a lot of folks this same question; what benefit does the City of Chester receive from the Chester Water Authority?

Ms. Johnson says I can't answer that because I'm not aware of that. But I do know people that have Aqua and they spoke about how their rates went up so much and that was a concern of mine of the rate increase. As far as any benefit, I know that the Water Company of course would provide water. I don't know about any of the organizations that are here in our City. I don't see anything coming out of the City saying what we get from this place or that place. I need to do my own investigation. But I don't remember seeing what we get from the Casino or Soccer Team.

Mayor Kirkland says we would be more than glad to provide you with that. Just so you know, the Chester Water Authority is also preparing to increase the rates by 10% immediately in their proposal.

Ken Schuster, City Solicitor says in addition if you would like to find out information the City has posted all Bids on the website. chesterwaterproposal.com...you can see exactly who bid on this and exactly what they bid.

Ms. Johnson says I will and thank you so much for the information.

Mayor Kirkland says the sale of Delcora is something that is taken up in the Courts at this time and that would be a County Council question and a Delcora question. The City has no jurisdiction or no input in that matter.

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:32am.

Respectfully submitted,

JUNE 24, 2020

Candice Thompson, City Clerk