

COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
AUGUST 26, 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 Deputy Mayor William Morgan presiding. A prayer was said followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called and the following were present:

Elizabeth Williams  
William "Al" Jacobs  
Deputy Mayor William Morgan  
Portia West (**absent**)  
Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland (**Arrived at 10:25a**)

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

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

**Ken Schuster, City Solicitor says I have one email from Jayci Mollichella who does live in Trainer however it's a request for permission to put together an event in the City.**

**Deputy Mayor Morgan then reads some of the email (see attached). Right now I know of a lot of things that goes on with cats and dogs and animals lies within the Public Safety Department with Councilman Jacobs and the Health Department. We understand that there is a huge burden going on within our City dealing with stray dogs and stray cats running around throughout the City of Chester. If we can partner with the Chester Incident Blog into coming up with a project to potentially help some of these stray cats throughout the City, I am sure we are able and willing to sit down and discuss what options are available to make sure we can come up with a positive plan to see the project through. My office is open and my phone lines are open and I know Councilman Jacobs phone line is open as well for the Chester Incident Blog to reach out to us and have a sit down and discuss the potential options to get this completed. So please reach out to Chester City Hall.**

**Councilman Jacobs says even when had (inaudible) we basically dealt with stray dogs. All over the County there is no sort of solution for cats. So I'm glad to hear that would be (inaudible) individual and see what we can come up with to address the problem we have here in the City for cats.**

The City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Resolutions.

**RESOLUTION**

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

That it does hereby promote Matthew Steward to the position of Acting Sergeant, Chester Police Department, Department of Public Affairs, effective August 30, 2020, with a ninety (90) day probationary period, at the salary range as provided in the Annual Appropriation Ordinance.

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

## **RESOLUTION**

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

That it does hereby promote Firefighter Paul Curry, to the position of Acting Captain in the Bureau of Fire, Department of Public Safety, effective September 1, 2020, for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days, at the salary range as provided in the Annual Appropriation Ordinance.

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

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester Bureau of Fire, Department of Public Safety, has determined there is a need for the acquisition of one (1) Seagrave Marauder HydroForce fire truck; and

**WHEREAS**, Seagrave Fire Apparatus, LLC has agreed to furnish said apparatus and equipment.

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

That it does hereby authorize entering into a Contract with Seagrave Fire Apparatus, LLC for the acquisition of one (1) Seagrave Marauder HydroForce fire truck, to be funded by allocated Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

**FURTHER**, it does hereby ratify the execution of the Contract and any related documents, necessary to complete the transaction, by the Chief Financial Officer, for an on behalf of the City of Chester.

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

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Fair Housing Amendment Act of 1988 and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania require that individuals with disabilities be provided reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing identified Reasonable Accommodation as it applies to Zoning and Land Use provisions as one of the elements impacting persons with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to formalize a Reasonable Accommodation Policy in Zoning and Land Use that provides individuals with disabilities or developers of housing for people with disabilities, flexibility in the application of land use, zoning and building regulations, policies, practices and procedures, or even the waiving of certain requirements, when it is necessary to eliminate barriers to housing opportunities.

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

That it does hereby approve the Reasonable Accommodation Policy in Zoning and Land Use and a copy of such Policy is to be filed with this Resolution.

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

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with 24 CFR Part 91.105 of the regulations governing Consolidated Submissions to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for Community Planning and Development Programs, the City of Chester adopted a Citizen Participation Plan, last amended May 13, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's desires to amend the Citizen Participation Plan by adding Section IV, Declaration of Emergency to reflect the process to be followed when a Declaration of an Emergency has been ordered by the President of the United States or the Governor of Pennsylvania; and

**WHEREAS**, a Notice of Availability of the proposed Amended Citizen Participation Plan was duly advertised in a newspaper of general circulation, and the draft Amended Citizen Participation Plan was made available for review and comment from August 10, 2020 to August 25, 2020, at Chester City Hall as well as on the City's website at [www.chestercity.com](http://www.chestercity.com) and on Chester Economic Development Authority's Website at [www.ceda.cc](http://www.ceda.cc).

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

That it does hereby approve the Amended Citizen Participation Plan and a copy of such Plan is to be filed with this Resolution.

On motion of Councilor Jacobs, seconded by Councilor Williams, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Jacobs, Deputy Mayor Morgan. 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 sum of \$19,060.00 to Gregory Tucker, which represents escrow refund for the repair of damages sustained to the property located at 2128 West 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Chester, PA 19013.

On motion of Councilor Jacobs, seconded by Councilor Williams, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Jacobs, Deputy Mayor Morgan. 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 List dated August 17, 2020, attached hereto and made a part hereof, subject to approval from the Department of Accounts and Finance.

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

The City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Ordinances.

**BILL NO. 4  
ORD. \_\_, 2020**

**AN ORDINANCE  
FIRST READING**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CHESTER,  
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA,  
CREATING NEW ARTICLE 924, ENTITLED**

**“STREET CLEANING” TO ESTABLISH NO  
PARKING STREET CLEANING ZONES  
THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF CHESTER, AND  
REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF  
ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT THEREWITH.**

On motion of Councilor Jacobs, seconded by Councilor Williams, Bill No. 4, 2020 was passed on its First Reading. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Jacobs, Deputy Mayor Morgan. Nays: 0.

Mayor Kirkland comes in.

**Swearing-In Promotions**

Matthew Steward – Sergeant – Police Department  
Paul Curry – Captain - Fire Department

Deputy Mayor Morgan says I just want to thank Captain Curry and Sergeant Steward for the work they have done in the City of Chester and the work they will continue to do for both their perspective departments.

**NO PUBLIC COMMENTS VIA EMAIL OR PHONE**

Deputy Mayor Morgan says Mayor and Council, once this pandemic came upon us we wanted to see if there were any areas to be able to help the constituents and/ or businesses within the City of Chester. We received some CARES ACT monies. The City of Chester with our Community Development Block Grant funding, received monies from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development through the CARES ACT were we allocated money to local small businesses and to the residents within the City of Chester. Just last month we had 19 local businesses apply for the small business grant in the City of Chester which we allocated \$50,000.00 to. We're still in the process of deciding who of those 19 businesses will receive funding. So I'm very thankful that we are going to be able to help some of those businesses out that may have had some financial hardship throughout the times were struggling to keep their lights on or struggling with business coming into their facility because they were down a few months with COVID-19. One of things that we also mentioned was rental assistance for the constituents within the City of Chester. We received a lot of phone calls over the last few months of when we were going to open this grant up and THE TIME IS NOW. On September 1, will be the first day that the City of Chester partnered with CEDA (Chester Economic Development Authority), and CAADC (Community Action Agency) we will offer rental assistance program for the City of Chester residents. You can apply and get up to \$3,000.00 for rental assistance and up to \$1,000.00 for utility assistance. We will be posting this information on the City of Chester's website and also CEDA's website. You will be able to get the applications... the requirements per household. So that's something that we are really really gracious and honored to be able to provide to the residents of the City of Chester. You must call and set up an interview with Community Action Agency and all that information will be on our website. We thank you all for really sticking with the City of Chester as we tried to get the ground work together with the application and all the agencies that are going to be assisting with this. But make sure you take advantage, if you are in need, make sure you take advantage of this opportunity for your household.

Councilman Jacobs says that beginning September 9, there will be COVID testing here at City Hall three times a week...Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. It will be for (4) four weeks. We had testing here before and that went well. We know how important testing is. The City had been distributing food every Tuesday about 600 boxes of vegetables and fruit and gallons of milk. I want to give credit to Councilwoman Williams, and her second hand man and the Mayor

Kirkland and Duane Lee who spear head that's and works, works, works in 90° weather and folks don't even have to get out.

Livia Smith, Director of Public/Community Health Education says what's different about this one is that they are going to test people from ages 2 and up. Testing will be from 9a-4p.

Deputy Mayor Morgan says the Census count...again everybody counts. The entire week of September 9, Chester census will be counting the census' starting at 12p and there will be a caravan around the City of Chester taking the census. This will be with Mayor and Council, Chester City Fire Trucks and Chester City Police Department will be driving through the City of Chester for the Census. Currently throughout the City of Chester we have trash dumpsters placed throughout the areas within the City of Chester. These dumpsters are for CHESTER RESIDENTS ONLY! We understand that some residents may have bulk or waste throughout their house, throughout the pandemic and most certainly because of the lot of floods we've been enduring over the past few weeks. So again these dumpsters that are placed throughout the City of Chester are for CHESTER RESIDENTS ONLY! They are not for those rental properties that these CONTRACTORS are cleaning out. We ask that they GET THEIR OWN DUMPSTER WHICH IS REQUIRED. We want to make sure that our residents, that need to clean out their households, take advantage of what our partners with the City of Chester and the partnering waste facilities and waste (inaudible) facilities has done for us. IF THE DUMPSTER IS FULL PLEASE DO NOT PUT THE TRASH OR THE BULK NEXT TO OR BESIDE THE DUMPSTER! That would be very appreciative.

Mayor Kirkland says also with the bulk trash...we are asking residents be the eyes and ears of the Community because we have the dumpsters there for your convenience but we cannot police them at the same time. So if you see someone putting something in there, contractors and other folks from out of the area, you don't have to approach them but simply get their license plate number and let us know so that we can make sure that (inaudible) the property used by the residents in that area. There will be a shredding program here this Saturday from 9a-12. We're asking that you bring those important papers that you discard to City Hall so that they may be discarded properly. It is a free shredding event hosted by Mount Pleasant Baptist Church.

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40am.

Respectfully submitted,

AUGUST 26, 2020

Candice Thompson, City Clerk