

**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 10:10am 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.

Ken Schuster, City Solicitor says based upon the relaxed Sunshine Laws this meeting is held via Facebook Live Stream. Public comments are permitted by email in advance of the meeting and in addition by telephone call during the meeting at 610-447-7700 ext. 7951.

Mayor Kirkland says I do want to acknowledge that we did receive a couple of letters that were addressed to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Governor Wolf. We do not read or acknowledge those letters here in our Council Meeting/Council Chambers. That has to be directed to the Governor himself. Secondly, there was a comment coming from someone outside the City limits, not a City Resident. You have to be a City Resident in order for us to acknowledge those comments.

Ken Schuster, City Solicitor says correct your Honor.

The City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Resolutions.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the following individuals have requested a handicapped parking zone:

1. Deneen E. Hutchins, 1326 Parker Street, Chester, PA 19013
2. Curtis Johnson, 1917 West 7th Street, Chester, PA 19013
3. Rashon Hinson, 636 E. 9th Street, Chester, PA 19013
4. Larry Knox, 317 Lloyd Street, Chester, PA 19013
5. Angela D. Foster, 1124 Vauclain Street, Chester, PA 19013
6. Stephanie Edwards, 220 Pennell Street, Chester, PA 19013
7. Geraldine R. Saunders, 431 Bickley Place, Chester, PA 19013

WHEREAS, after a thorough investigation by the Department of Streets and Public Improvements, it has been determined that the aforementioned individuals have met all of the required criteria and have a need for said handicapped parking zone.

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

That it does hereby authorize the proper City officials to install a handicapped parking zone in the 1300 Block of Parker Street, in the 1900 Block of West 7th Street, in the 600 Block of E. 9th Street, in the 300 Block of Lloyd Street, 1100 Block of Vauclain Street, in the 200 Block of Pennell Street, and in the 400 Block of Bickley Place and in the City of Chester.

On motion of Councilor West, seconded by Councilor Morgan, the above Resolution was adopted.

Councilwoman West says those two addresses that were deleted on Carla's Lane and Aaron's Way, they're streets that are located within the Public Housing Development and the City handles the handicap parking on City Streets.

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 accept the Letter of Adjustment for Agreement 066396B Lloyd Street Bridge over Amtrak – MPMS 57773, for the redistribution of costs in Exhibit “AAA” with no change to the total Project costs.

FURTHER, the proper City official is hereby authorized to execute the necessary documents for and on behalf of the City of Chester.

FURTHER, said Agreement is contingent upon final review and approval of the City Solicitor.

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, which represent a refund for the overpayment of 2019/2020 Real Estate Taxes, as follows;

<u>Name</u>	<u>Property Address</u>	<u>Refund Amount</u>
City of Chester	1121 Potter Street Chester PA 19013	\$144.23
Edward Nelson	1121 Potter Street Chester PA 19013	\$309.71

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 List dated September 14, 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.

Presentations

2021 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) – Edith Blackwell, City Controller

Fire Pension Plan	\$1,141,994
Non-Uniform Pension Plan	\$1,082,728
Police Pension Plan	\$8,533,497

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS VIA EMAIL OR PHONE

RECOGNITION – POLICE COMMISSIONER OTIS BLAIR (RETIRED)

Remarks by: Retired City of Chester Chief of Police, James Nolan
Delaware County District Attorney Jack Stollsteimer
US Marshal Eric Gartner
City of Chester Deputy Commissioner S. Gretskey (presented him with a plaque)
City of Chester Major K. Blackwell, (Read a poem about Retirement)
Mayor Kirkland along with Council presented him with the Key to the City of Chester
Councilman Jacobs

Mayor Kirkland acknowledges the Honorable Judge Wilden Davis and Fire Commissioner Rigby.

Councilman Jacobs says the tents outside is for COVID testing. It's real convenient. We all got it and it's not that painful. As of September 21, they tested 605 people in the City of Chester. We've had 26 positive. I think the last testing date is October 2. I just want to encourage everybody, people who are here and people in the City of Chester you know how important it is please get tested.

Livia Smith, Director of Public/Community Health Education says we will be testing this Saturday from 9-4.

Councilman Morgan says the 2020 Census...I believe that this is the last week to sign yourself and your family up. Everyone counts. It is very very important. Councilwoman Williams and Councilwoman West have been out full force as well as all of us. We will be out this weekend in more neighborhoods making sure that we're knocking on doors trying to get everyone to sign up or to get all of their family and relatives accounted for. This is the last week to do the 2020 Census. Please don't forget to fill it out.

Public Comment

Ratsami Johnson, 206 E. 22nd Street says I've been living in Chester for 15 years and I have been having this problem for 15 years. The house next door has been abandoned for 15 years. I have problem with the high grass. It has become a jungle. I now have a sink hole in the back of my alley that is getting closer and closer to my home. I've been here before and it feels like I'm getting nowhere with this. The sink hole is getting bigger and I have pictures. I have water coming into my home because

somebody went in there and cut the pipe and now I have a rodent problem because it's a jungle back there. I keep coming here but I feel as though my voice is not being heard. What do I need to do for something to be done with 204 E. 22nd Street?

Mayor Kirkland says who did you speak with.

Ms. Johnson says I spoke with Mr. Mike like three weeks ago. He put my name down and he said he was going to go out and check the property and that didn't happen because nothing has been done. Today, I spoke with Michael Draughn and he put my name and number down again. So he said he was going to go and inspect the sink hole. I keep calling and I get no answer and no call back. So I left the issue and concerns with the lady up front. This is a 15 year problem. How long do you allow people to leave their property abandoned and not take care of their property/

Councilman Jacobs says somebody will be out today.

Councilwoman West says Mr. Rodney Robertson who is the Public Works Director, will look at the sink hole.

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:54am.

Respectfully submitted,

SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

Candice Thompson, City Clerk