

**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 10:08am 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  
William "Al" Jacobs  
Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland  
Portia West (**Absent**)

On motion of Councilor Jacobs, seconded by Councilor Morgan, the minutes of the previous meetings were approved as submitted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, 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. There are no Emails or calls at this time.**

The City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Resolutions.

**RESOLUTION**

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

The Stormwater Authority of the City of Chester is proposing to construct the following stormwater infrastructures within the City of Chester, at the locations provided on the attached list:

1. Stormwater Management Piping
2. Stormwater Inlets and Manholes
3. New Stormwater Outfall at Chester Creek
4. Stormwater Tree Pits
5. Stormwater Porous Panels

**FURTHER**, the Stormwater Authority of the City of Chester shall comply with all of the following conditions outlined by the City Engineer and said conditions must be performed in a manner that is satisfactory to City Council.

1. Applicant shall reconstruct the ADA Ramps at the locations specified on the attached sheet and provide full engineered design plans.
2. Applicant shall provide detailed design plans, signed and sealed by a licensed engineer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for any proposed Tree Pits or Porous Panels.

3. Stormwater Authority shall take full responsibility for the maintenance and repair of all proposed improvements.
4. If Applicant disturbs any corner during construction, the corner shall be upgraded.
5. Applicant shall provide traffic control for continuous operation of the roadways and coordinate installation with the Public Works Supervisor and the Engineer.
6. Applicant shall provide a Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.
7. Applicant shall provide a copy of the NPDES Permit.
8. Applicant shall obtain and provide verification that all easements have been obtained from private property owners for the construction of proposed improvements.

**FURTHER**, the Stormwater Authority of the City of Chester shall obtain all necessary road opening, sidewalk and curb permits from the City of Chester Streets Department.

**EVEN FURTHER**, the City does authorize a waiver of the half mill and overlay requirement for this project.

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

**RESOLUTION**

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

That the following contract be and is hereby awarded to the following contractor, for which bids were received on September 9, 2020, for the City of Chester, in the stated amount:

<u>Contracts</u>	<u>Bidders</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Barry Bridge Park Dock Upgrades	Mid Atlantic Marine 13 W. Susquehanna Drive Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087	\$49,000.00
Highland Avenue (SR352) And Township Line Road Traffic Signal Upgrades	Charles A. Higgins & Sons, Inc. P.O. Box 647 Media PA 19063	\$108,094.00
Memorial Park Football Field Lighting Project	KC Electric 308 E. 20 <sup>th</sup> Street Chester PA 19013	\$60,000.00

**FURTHER**, that all other bids be and they are hereby rejected; all certified checks and/or bid bonds accompanying said bids shall be returned to the unsuccessful bidders.

**FURTHER**, that the successful bidder shall enter a contract and furnish a Performance Bond in the full amount of the respective contract in accordance with the specifications and to the satisfaction of City Council.

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

**Mayor Kirkland says we want the general public to know that these are State funds that we received by way of help from our State Senator Killion and our State Representative Brian Kirkland. We appreciate the support given by both.**

The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

## **RESOLUTION**

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

That it does hereby authorize the proper City official to prepare specifications for the disposal of out-of-service (scrap) vehicles, as provided on the attached list, in accordance with the Third Class City Code.

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

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

## **RESOLUTION**

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

That it does hereby accept the terms and conditions regarding Article X, entitled Educational Benefits and Article XII, entitled Court Time, of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Chester and the Fraternal Order of Police, William Penn Lodge #19.

**FURTHER**, that it does hereby authorize the proper City official to execute said agreements for and on behalf of the City of Chester.

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

## **RESOLUTION**

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

That it does hereby ratify the appointment of Steven Gretskey to the position of Police Commissioner, Chester Police Department, Department of Public Affairs, effective October 5, 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 Morgan, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester is interested in developing a multiuse trail on Norris Street to connect the existing Riverwalk along the Delaware River to Route 291 for the benefit of its residents, local employees and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the Norris Street connector will be part of the East Coast Greenway multiuse trail that, when completed, will span nearly 3,000 miles between Canada and Key West linking all major cities along the Eastern seaboard; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester is seeking \$60,000 in Coastal Zone Management funding to design the section along the unit and 100 blocks of Norris Street; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania Environmental Council has pledged \$10,000 in-kind services and the City will be applying for matching funds from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

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

That it does hereby authorize Thaddeus Kirkland, Mayor of the City of Chester, and/or his designee to execute all documents and agreements between the City of Chester and the Department of Environmental Protection Coastal Zone Management Program to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

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

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), Public Law 116-136, was signed by President Trump on March 27, 2020, to respond to the growing effects of the coronavirus public health crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester has received notification of an additional special allocation of Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds in the amount of \$285,451.00 to be used to prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester desires to amend the F.Y. 2020 Action Plan to include projects that will address the immediate needs of the Chester community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester has amended its Citizen Participation Plan to allow for a reduced public comment period and the use of virtual public hearings when necessary for public health reasons in order to expedite and facilitate the use of funds.

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

That it does hereby authorize the Chester Economic Development Authority (CEDA) to take the appropriate steps to ensure that the requirements for public notification are met in order to amend the F.Y. 2020 Action Plan.

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

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester advertised for Request for Proposals (RFP) for Fire Services Assessment and Location and Schedule Study, for which the original proposals were received on January 15, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Wolf declared a fiscal emergency on April 13, 2020, which interrupted the selection process; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the Receiver requested a review by an independent financial advisory firm, of the seven (7) proposals submitted, which narrowed the selection down to three (3) bidders; and

**WHEREAS**, of those three (3) bidders an amended RFP was submitted with responses due on July 30, 2020.

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

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Office of the Receiver, that it does hereby award the contract for Fire Services Assessment and Location and Schedule Study to McGarth Consulting Group, Inc., PO Box 190, Wonder Lake, IL 60097, as the most qualified bidder, for an amount not to exceed, \$36,575.00

**FURTHER**, that all other proposals be and they are hereby rejected.

**FURTHER**, that the successful bidder shall enter a contract in accordance with the specifications and to the satisfaction of City Council.

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

## **RESOLUTION**

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

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

1. Concrete and Aggregate
2. Bituminous Materials and Crushed Stone
3. Equipment/Vehicle Rental
4. Bulk Waste Loading Station
5. Tree Trimming, Tree Removal and Weed Control
6. Furnishing Sodium Chloride (Rock Salt)
7. Disposal of Rubbish, Trash, Garbage and Recyclables
8. Management Services for Memorial Park Swimming Pool
9. Vehicle Maintenance

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

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

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution dated July 14, 2010, the City Council of the City of Chester authorized the dissolution of the inactive Chester Resource Recovery Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, upon the dissolution of the Chester Resource Recovery Authority, control of all real property passed to the City of Chester; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester desires to return such real property to productive use.

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

That it does hereby authorize the transfer of the parcels identified on the attached "Exhibit A" to the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Chester for redevelopment purposes.

On motion of Councilor Jacobs, seconded by Councilor Morgan, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, 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 28, and October 9, 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 Morgan, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

Presentation/Proclamation – Billy “White Shoes” Johnson

Promotion Swearing – In

Deputy Police Commissioner Steven Gretsky to Police Commissioner

\*Darren Laws, on Behalf of himself and Chester Mission Foundation, presented a plaque to Police Commissioner Gretsky

**NO PUBLIC COMMENTS VIA EMAIL OR PHONE**

Livia Smith, Director of Public/Community Health Education says I don't have the exact stats for the COVID testing but I want to say that the City of Chester had provided the community for 4 weeks of COVID testing. The unofficial numbers, were around 1500 people were tested for the COVID. We had a very small population of people who were tested positive. But out of that group one of the high points were which is those individuals ages under 30 were tested very high, which means they're not doing what they're supposed to do as far as a protective mask that is also a good protector for the environment. So, I will have the official numbers from United Healthcare who was the provider of this initiative and I want to thank those who participated in it and I hope that everybody here has been tested for COVID. As soon as the actual numbers and demographics breakdown comes out from that organization I will provide it to the City of Chester.

Mayor Kirkland says on behalf of the Members of Council and myself we want to thank United Healthcare for providing excellent support and help in providing the testing at City Hall for so many Chester Residents, and it wasn't just Chester Residents, because there were persons outside of this community who had an opportunity to be tested. We also want to remind FOLKS that the DROP BOX FOR VOTING IS DOWNSTAIRS. VOTER REGISTRATION IS TAKING PLACE DOWNSTAIRS. Take advantage of what's available here at City Hall at this time.

Councilman Morgan says I just want to remind everybody that if you are a renter here in the City of Chester, the City of Chester has a Rental and Utility Assistance Program ran through the Community Action Agency. Please reach out to them. The number is 610-874-8451. You have to reach out to them first to schedule an appointment to speak with their representatives. So remember rental and utility assistance up to \$3,000 for rental assistance and up to \$1,000 for utility assistance. As of today you heard that Mayor and Council approved for the FY 2020 Action Plan for additional CARES Act money that we received for CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) and we have some other plans to do within the community potentially looking at homeowners in the City of Chester to assist them through this financial hardship and the pandemic that they're going through. Just again, take advantage of those opportunities and/or resources that are put forth.

Mayor Kirkland says Mayor and Council are going into a brief Executive Meeting.

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47am.

Respectfully submitted,

OCTOBER 14, 2020

Candice Thompson, City Clerk