

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
NOVEMBER 25, 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 10:16am with Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland presiding. A prayer was said followed by the Pledge of Allegiance (**No pledge today; Zoom Meeting**). 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.

The City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Resolutions.

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 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; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chester has met the requirements for the public comment period and public hearing.

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

That it does hereby approve an amendment to the F.Y. 2020 Action Plan to include the following:

Chester Community Improvement Project – Administration of a Mortgage and Utility Assistance Program for low/moderate income eligible Chester homeowners who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic through actions such as lay-offs, furloughs, or reduced work hours. Mortgage assistance will be for a maximum of three (3) months capped at \$4,000 per

family. Utility assistance will be for a maximum of three (3) months capped at \$1,000 per family. Budgeted amount is \$260,000.00.

Administration and Planning – Management, oversight, monitoring and coordination of Program. Budgeted amount is \$25,451.00.

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 authorize the proper City official to prepare specifications for the advertisement for the sale of the following fire vehicles:

1. 1990 Pierce Lance – VIN # 000466; and
2. 1989 Pierce Dash – VIN # 040385

FURTHER, that it does hereby authorize the advertisement 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

WHEREAS, the Chester Police Department directs members action through the establishment of policy, procedure, and rule, as found within the Department Directives; and

WHEREAS, directives provide members with information to act decisively, consistently, and legally; and

WHEREAS, from time-to-time policies and directives need to be revised.

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

That it does hereby authorize the revision of Department Directive 35 and Directive 39 to direct activities of Department members to ensure their actions are consistent and support the vision, mission and core values of the City and the Department.

FURTHER, all other Department Directives will remain in effect until such time as they are revised or rescinded.

EVEN FURTHER, these policies shall 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, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

CITY OF CHESTER
(Delaware County, Pennsylvania)
NOTE RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF TAX AND REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTES, SERIES 2021; AUTHORIZING DESIGNATED OFFICERS TO APPROVE THE FORM OF AND EXECUTE AND DELIVER THE NOTES; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE FILING OF PROCEEDINGS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT AND SECURITY OF THE NOTES; PROVIDING FOR A PAYING AGENT AND SINKING FUND; MAKING CERTAIN FEDERAL INCOME TAX COVENANTS IN RESPECT OF THE NOTES;

AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE NOTES; APPOINTING BOND COUNSEL; AUTHORIZING FURTHER ACTIONS AND RATIFYING PRIOR ACTIONS; AND REPEALING INCONSISTENT RESOLUTIONS.

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 List dated November 6, 2020 and November 20, 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, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

The City Clerk proceeded with the opening of bids.

EQUIPMENT/VEHICLE RENTAL

NONE

TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE

Signal Service, Inc.
1020 Andrew Drive
West Chester PA 19380

Bid Bond	10%
Bid Amount	\$3600.00

PUBLIC COMMENTS VIA EMAIL OR PHONE

Pamela G. Danner, 3418 Carter Lane (See attachment #1)

Councilwoman West says I did respond but not directly to Ms. Danner. I had asked that the email be forwarded to the Parking Department...Mr. Erwin Lanier attention so that they could evaluate the situation. Mayor I had sent you a copy of my response. When it is about parking on the street and we need permit parking then Mr. Lanier will go out and assess the situation.

Mayor Kirkland says we need to look at our Ordinance. There is a limit, if I'm correct, of the number of cars per household in the area. That area is very tight. We might want to revisit...I think we should revisit that to see what that number is if there is a limit on vehicles per household. Mr. Solicitor, can we visit that and look at our books and see what that is?

Ken Schuster, City Solicitor says I've noted that.

Marlene Watson, 326 W. 19th Street (See attachment #2)

Ken Schuster, City Solicitor says this matter is in litigation.

Mayor Kirkland says we are in Court right now. We cannot further comment on it. We will keep constituents up-to-date on further concerns concerning this whole parking issue as we move through the courts.

Adrienne Webster, 2407 Chestnut Street **(See attachment #3)**

Mayor Kirkland says the property in question, I know Mrs. Smith from the Health Department went over and viewed it. Some other Departments have seen this property. It's next to the young ladies' property. It's falling down and it's possibly pulling her property down as well. So, Mr. Galante we will find out what is our best path forward to see if we can be of some assistance. I know we have to get money for demolition and there are some legal avenues that we have to travel in order to demolish properties that are privately owned. Mr. Galante do you have any response or are you aware of that property itself?

Mike Galante, City Engineer says I did perform a site visit at the property today. Looked at the condition of the property and it's definitely a property that we should put on for application to the County for the County Demolition Fund which I plan on working on a Resolution for the next Council Meeting.

Mayor Kirkland says we are hoping that the resident who sent the letter in...we're working on it. We're going through the proper procedures. We are doing everything expeditiously as possible to bring down that blighted building. A couple of blighted buildings in the City that we are trying to work on. We appreciate your patience. We will continue to move forward with Mr. Galante's Office and others.

Sally Williams, 303 East 19th Street **(See attachment #4)**

Ken Schuster, City Solicitor says this matter is in litigation. With respect to the Parking Garage proposed by Widener that matter was litigated before our Zoning Hearing Board. It was appealed by the Applicant, Widener University, to the Court of Common Pleas. The City opposed it. The Zoning Hearing Board opposed it. Unfortunately, the Judge in the Court of Common Pleas ruled against the City and the Zoning Hearing Board.

Mayor Kirkland says Mrs. Williams has been very passionate about this. I appreciate her passion and concern about her Community. I promised you Ms. Williams that I would connect you with Mr. Rykard who has been working with our legal staff here and others and he should be reaching out to you. I will connect with him again today. Hopefully, he will get a chance to reach out to you before the Thanksgiving Holiday which is upon us tomorrow.

Councilwoman West says there is no Recycle Trash being picked up today because of the holiday. It should be on the schedule that we put out. The Trash Vendor is closed tomorrow and then the Friday's trash will be picked up on Friday.

Mayor Kirkland says on behalf of myself and Council, along with our Solicitor, City Clerk, Engineer and all of our Staff here at City Hall, we want to say Happy Thanksgiving to each and every one of you. Please stay safe and take care of yourselves...Social Distance. Just make sure you do the right things as we move forward through this pandemic. Just like everything else if we do what we need to do to take care of ourselves we'll take care of others. We will get through this.

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:38am.

Respectfully submitted,

NOVEMBER 25, 2020

Candice Thompson, City Clerk