

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
JANUARY 13, 2021**

**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 10:11am 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  
Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland  
William "Al" Jacobs (**Absent**)

On motion of Councilor West, seconded by Councilor Morgan, the minutes of the previous meeting 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.

**Ken Schuster, City Solicitor says this regular meeting for the City of Chester for January 13, 2021 was in fact published in the Delaware County Daily Times along with the Chester City Website and is being conducted in accordance with the relaxed Sunshine Laws based upon the COVID-19 Pandemic allowing for virtual meetings via platforms like this platform Zoom.**

The City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Resolutions.

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester intends to submit an application for funding under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the requirements of these programs is to inform the citizens of the City of Chester regarding the City's intended uses for the funds requested from HUD under the CDBG and HOME Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester has prepared a draft of the F.Y. 2021 CDBG and HOME Action Plan, which identifies the projects and program activities on which the Program Year 2021 CDBG and HOME funds are proposed to be spent.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES 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 and to advertise the availability of the draft F.Y. 2021 CDBG/HOME Action Plan in accordance with the appropriate federal regulations.

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**, the City desires to support new police officers with the adjustment of being a Chester Police Officer; and

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

That it does hereby authorize the Field Training Policy and Program which is designed to assist newly hired police officers with the transition into the performance of general law enforcement patrol duties of the City of Chester Police Department.

**FURTHER**, this policy 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.

**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 \$11,807.00 to Walter Twardowski, which represents the fire escrow refund for the repair of damages sustained to the property located at 1130 Highland Ave., 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, 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 the entities on the attached list, which represents a refund for the overpayment of 2020 Real Estate Taxes.

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 update the following individual's employment status from furloughed to a full-time work schedule, effective January 19, 2021, with all benefits applicable beginning February 1, 2021.

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Department</u>              |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Jamar Shaw  | Planning, Public Health & Code |

**FURTHER**, said recall is 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, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS VIA EMAIL**

**NONE**

**Ken Schuster, City Solicitor says public comments have been advertised to be submitted by email.**

**Councilor Morgan says throughout the pandemic we've been trying to assist our residents and our local businesses with grant funding, loans with monies that we received from the CARES ACT. Today I wanted to notify the homeowners of assistance that the City of Chester is going to be able to provide. The City of Chester is partnering with the Chester Community Improvement Project or known as CCIP to help homeowners in the City who have been impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic through actions such as layoffs, furloughs or reduced work hours. Qualified homeowners may apply for mortgage and/or utility assistance starting on February 1, 2021. The total mortgage assistance will be for a maximum of three months capped at \$4,000.00 per family...utility assistance will be for a maximum of three months capped at \$1,000.00 per family. Eligible utilities include water, sewer, electric, gas and stormwater. All payments on behalf of the homeowner, IF APPROVED, will be paid directly to the mortgage lender or utility provider. For more information in regards to the application and where you can apply and if you qualify you can visit the CCIP Website at [www.cciphousing.org](http://www.cciphousing.org) and you can also call CCIP at 610-876-8663. I will be putting this information on our Chester City Website [www.chestercity.com](http://www.chestercity.com) and again it will be on CCIP's website and this is for our homeowners within the City of Chester and reside in the City of Chester for mortgage and utility assistance for the application beginning on February 1.**

**Mayor Kirkland says Councilman is this program only geared towards homeowners.**

**Councilman Morgan yes Mayor it is. Earlier through the pandemic we offered assistance for our renters within the City of Chester and that was for monthly rent and also utilities as well. So we were able to obtain additional funding with the CARES ACT money and allocate a portion for our homeowners as well because we know they as well may have been furloughed, out of work or have less income coming in as well. This is simply just for the homeowners and utility assistance for them as well as long as they qualify and/or eligible.**

**Mayor Kirkland says thank Councilman. I hope that our Community, our Constituents, will take full advantage of this opportunity. This is a good program and a good partnership between the City and CCIP.**

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:24am.

Respectfully submitted,

**JANUARY 13, 2021**

Candice Thompson, City Clerk