

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MAY 12, 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 10:08 AM 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  
Portia West  
William "Al" Jacobs  
Thaddeus Kirkland

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

Mayor Kirkland asked if anyone in the audience had any comments on Agenda items only.

The Acting City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Resolutions.

**RESOLUTION**

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

1. Philomena Fowlkes, 3540 Elsinore Place, Chester PA 19013;
2. Brian D. Cooper, 226 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Chester PA 19013;
3. Loretta Robinson, 2108 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Chester, PA 19013;
4. Karen Hull, 2309 Madison Street, Chester, PA 19013; and
5. Tina Louise Coleman, 1318 Terrill Street, 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 3500 Block of Elsinore Place; 200 Block of West 5<sup>th</sup> Street; 2100 Block of West 6<sup>th</sup> Street; 2300 Block of Madison Street; and 1300 Block of Terrill Street, in the City of Chester.

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

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, Federal Regulations require a written agreement between the City of Chester and the Chester Economic Development Authority regarding the rights and responsibilities of the parties in the execution of the Community Development Block Grant Program and other related programs; and

**WHEREAS**, a Cooperation Agreement by and between the City of Chester and the Chester Economic Development Authority for the period July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, has been prepared and is attached hereto, which sets forth the responsibilities and obligations of the parties in accordance with Federal Regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, this matter has been reviewed and considered.

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

1. That the Cooperation Agreement by and between the City of Chester and the Chester Economic Development Authority attached hereto is hereby approved.
2. That Appendix I to the Cooperation Agreement, attached and made a part of such Agreement, reflects the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the CDBG-CV Program, and HOME Program Projects previously approved by City Council.
3. That the Mayor and/or his designee is hereby authorized to execute the Agreement and to take such steps as may be necessary to implement the intent of this Resolution.
4. That this Cooperation Agreement supersedes any and all Cooperation Agreements previously approved.

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

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Chester desires to sell the herein mentioned properties to Budcarson Holdings, LLC for redevelopment under the Urban Redevelopment Law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Chester has requested that the City of Chester consent to the sale of the Property.

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

That it does hereby authorize and consent to the sale of the following real properties from the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Chester to Budcarson Holdings, LLC for redevelopment:

1. 1201 West Second Street
2. 1203 West Second Street
3. 1225 West Second Street
4. 1227 West Second Street
5. 1229 West Second Street
6. 1231 West Second Street

**FURTHER**, that the appropriate designated officers are hereby authorized to execute and deliver such agreements, deeds, transfer tax affidavits or other documents as may be necessary or appropriate to consummate the sale of the properties on the terms and conditions as set by Chester City Council.

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

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the City issued Request for Proposals from qualified providers, seeking Bond Counsel and Financial Advisory services for the refunding of the 2017 Bonds, Series A & Series B; and

**WHEREAS**, proposals were received and the City has thoroughly reviewed and consider said proposals.

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

That it does hereby authorize the proper City officials to execute an agreement with each of the following firms, to provide the designated services in conjunction with the refinancing of the City's 2017 Bonds, Series A & Series B, currently outstanding in the aggregate amount of \$16,060,000.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Firm</u>
Financial Advisory Bond Counsel	Sustainable Capital Advisors Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, PC

**FURTHER**, both firms recognize that the City is operating under the authority of Act 47 and Michael Doweary as the court-appointed Receiver.

**EVEN FURTHER**, said agreements are contingent upon final approval of the City Solicitor.

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

**RESOLUTION**

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

That it does hereby authorize the proper City officials to enter into a twenty-five (25) year Riparian Planting Habitat Restoration Agreement with Chester-Ridley- Crum Creek (CRC) Watersheds Association and/or its Partners to undertake riparian tree planting activities on land owned by the City of Chester, known as Sun Village Park.

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

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

**RESOLUTION**

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

That the following contracts be and they are hereby awarded to the following contractors, for which bids were received on April 28, 2021, for the City of Chester, in the stated amounts:

<u>Contracts</u>	<u>Bidders</u>	<u>Amount of Bid</u>
Memorial Park Football Field Lighting Project	Lenni Electric Corporation 1020 Andrew Drive West Chester, PA 19380	\$87, 155.61
Delaware County Demolition Program – 2021 Chester City Demolition Contract #1	BRB Contractors 204 Airport Road Pottstown, PA 19464	\$195, 700.00

**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 Solicitor's Office shall prepare contracts and the successful bidders shall furnish a Performance Bond in the full amount of their respective contracts in accordance with the specifications and to the satisfaction of City Council.

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

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester received payments for Use and Occupancy permits from the individuals named on the attached list; and

**WHEREAS**, 72 PA C.S.A. §5566(b) provides for the refund of monies paid to a political subdivision that does not have a statutory right to said monies, within three (3) years of payment thereof:

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

That it does hereby authorize for the Department of Accounts and Finance to refund the stated amounts to the individuals on the attached list.

On motion of Councilor West, seconded by Councilor Jacobs, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, 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 April 30, 2021 and May 7, 2021, 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 Jacobs, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, West, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

### **Presentation/Citation –Chester High Clippers Football Team**

Mayor Kirkland recognized:

Dr. Carol D. Birks, Superintendent of Chester Upland School District; and  
Ronald Simonson, Head of Security for Chester Upland School District  
Coaches for the football team: Dennis Shaw, James Howard, Daryl Muse and Anthony Moss

Mayor Kirkland reads and presents citation 2021 United X (Ten) League Champions to Chester Clippers Football Team (see attachment #1).

Coach LaDontay Bell (named Coach of the Year by [Pennsylvanianews.com](http://Pennsylvanianews.com)) accepts the citation and thanks Mayor Kirkland and City Council for the acknowledgment

State Rep. Brian Kirkland presents the Chester Clippers with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania House of representative Athletic Citation (see attachment #2).

Mayor Kirkland spoke about Coach Bell's character, his ability and his faith in God and presented Coach Bell with the Chester Makes Chester Award

Coach Bell acknowledged his coaching staff, which is comprised of several volunteers, and thanked them for their dedication and time. Coach Bell also acknowledged the players and recognized the players who will be attending college next year.

Dr. Birks thanked Mayor Kirkland and City Council for their gracious acknowledgment. Dr. Birks expressed how very proud we are of the team's accomplishment and thanked the coaches and players for their demonstration of leadership, service and sacrifice.

Councilman Morgan arrived at 10:27 AM

Mayor Kirkland announced to celebrate them and their accomplishment, the Chester High "Clippers" Football team and coaches will participate in a parade through the City on Saturday, May 15, 2021, beginning at noon.

Mayor Kirkland introduces Rev. Sean Tripline, Asst. Music Director of the Chester Children's Chorus.

Rev. Tripline acknowledged the accomplishments of the Football Team.

Rev. Tripline gave a brief history about Chester Children's Chorus and its Founder, John Alston and announced that Chester Children's Chorus will be holding Zoom auditions for their no cost, 6-week summer camp learning program, on Swarthmore College campus for students in grades 3 through 12. The camp will offer reading and math tutors; swimming and piano lessons; classes in arts; field trips; and science programs. For contact information (see attachment # 3).

Mayor Kirkland stated Mayor and City Council will donate \$1000 to the Chester Children's Chorus.

### **Public Comments via email**

Nolan Fontaine, 509 Florence Drive – asked who would he need to contact to purchase a CRA property (see attachment #4).

City Solicitor, Ken Schuster, advised the Chester Economic Development Authority (CEDA) would be the proper entity to contact.

Mayor Kirkland agreed and asked that the contact information for Lisa Gaffney be provided.

Mayor Kirkland recognized Police Commissioner Gretskey and Fire Commissioner Rigby were in attendance and stated both Commissioners help with our school district & community.

Mayor Kirkland discussed the dangers of spreading misinformation on Facebook Live and how detrimental spreading false information can be to someone's reputation. He chose not to mention the person's name but specifically addressed two posts: (1) regarding an incident involving a young man, and as it was stated on Facebook Live, with the Chester Police but it was actually Chester COUNTY Police and (2) comments about no work being done on the Edmont Avenue Bridge over I-95 and encouraged anyone with questions regarding the status of the project to contact City Hall so they can be updated properly and respectfully. Mayor Kirkland encourages anyone who wishes to share information via Facebook to do some research prior to posting and share accurate information.

Councilwoman West asked when there will be female football players.

Mayor Kirkland responded when there is a female coach.

Councilman Morgan addressed inquiries regarding his absence at today's meeting and he advised everyone that he was getting his 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccination. He also thanked the Football Team because watching them practice and play is a source of peace and therapy for him and encouraged the players & coaches to continue to do what they do.

Mayor Kirkland acknowledged the Chester High cheerleaders.

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

**MAY 12, 2021**

Joan Neal, Acting City Clerk