

COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
OCTOBER 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 10:00am 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 meeting were approved as submitted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, West, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

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

**V. J. Kapoor, Chief of Staff to Receiver Michael Doweary for the City of Chester says I would like to address the Resolution regarding CWA. What I would like to do is provide the Receiver's position regarding the monetization of the CWA. The City is facing a severe pension fund crisis particularly the Police Pension Fund. It has at least four months of benefits left in the plan to pay the pensions for the current retirees and the future retirements. This is such a severe crisis that the only way to look at this is two ways. One is to address the unaffordable benefits and that is before Council today but the other thing to do is look at placing a significantly amount of money in to those pension plans and the only way to do that is through monetization. But I want to be very clear about this the Receiver put out a statement on September 23 regarding his position on this. (See attachment #1) That is the position that the Receiver had on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and continues to be the position of the Receiver. What is before this Council today is a Resolution asking for permission for the Receiver to allow City Council to enter into an Asset Purchase Agreement with AQUA. The Receiver has not provided that authorization. In fact, has told the City that the Receiver is keeping all options on the table. But City Council has the right to ask the Receiver and to give their position as to what the Receiver's wants to do. That's what's before City Council today. It is not to sell the system. If Council approves this Resolution that (inaudible). The Receiver still needs to provide authorization to do so. There was a Press Release (see attachment #2) and the underlined statement) and says that is absolutely and completely false (the underlined statement). I sent an email (see attachment #3). We want to make clear what the Receiver's position is and though the Receiver and as well as myself will be more than happy to answer any questions at any time about the Receiver's position regarding monetization of the water system.**

**Mayor Kirkland says thank you Mr. Kapoor for that clarification and also send a thank you to the Receiver for the work he is doing pertaining to this issue.**

**David Kronheim, 1100 Block of Culhane Street says this is about Aqua's performance. On the Better Business Bureau site, they have 154 complaints. The most recent ones are from July. I looked at a couple of rating sites...googled Aqua complaints and one had 1.28 stars out of five. Their business is terrible. Some of the complaints was they don't clean up the streets after their work and people were replacing their tires multiple times. They charge the water meters about 10x what it should have been. My water bill will increase. Other communities had their water bill go up three or four times. If it is sold Aqua PA will have a monopoly of resource and there will be no one able to guarantee that they will act in the best interest of Chester Residents. Do not sell the public asset to private companies (inaudible) CWA.**

**Patricia Zirin, 1100 Block of Culhane Street says (see attachment #4)**

Don Hawkins, 812 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street says I think it's (inaudible). I think it's misguided to think of selling the Chester Water Authority a public resource to whatever they call themselves, Aqua America. It makes no business sense (#1) because once we divest ourselves of any capital asset, we no longer can benefit from any gain any increase in the value of that asset. We have to hope and when we put a roof on it, we increase its value. However, if we sell that same home and the buyers put a new fence, new windows, new hvac system the increase value of that home no longer attributes to us because we no longer own it. So, where the City itself and not even the surrounding communities which are affected by the Chester Water Authority this decision, you're about to make benefits in the short run only the City of Chester for its finances. In the long run we actually become poorer because like the School Board we're not vesting ourselves of all our capital assets. This makes no business sense. It's not fair to us. It's not fair to our future generations. It's not fair to our neighboring communities. So, I ask you to carefully and seriously reconsider the decision your about to make. Please do not sell the Chester Water Authority.

Mayor Kirkland says just to be clear Mr. Hawkins, I think Mr. Kapoor spoke it eloquently and truthfully that this is not a Council Meeting about selling CWA.

The City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Resolutions.

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the following individual has requested a handicapped parking zone:

1. Yvonne Goldsborough, 110 W. 22nd Street, Chester, PA 19013
2. Betty Harris, 517 Reaney Street, Chester, PA 19013
3. Quinton Brown, 45 E. 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Chester, PA 19013

**WHEREAS**, after a thorough investigation by the Department of Public Works, it has been determined 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 100 Block of W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street; in the 500 Block of Reaney Street; and in the Unit Block of E. 24<sup>th</sup> Street, in the City of Chester.

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 appoint Anntrene Wilson to the position of Recycling, Trash, & Streets Coordinator, Department of Public Works, for 37.5 hours per week, no benefits, effective October 12, 2021, with a thirty (30) day probationary period, at the salary range as provided in the Annual Appropriation Ordinance.

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 ratify the appoint of John Parker to the position of Laborer, Department of Public Works, for 40 hours per week, no benefits, effective October 4, 2021, with a thirty (30) day probationary period, at the salary as provided in the Annual Appropriation Ordinance.

On motion of Councilor West, **Councilwoman West says both of these individuals have worked for the City previously for a period of years. So therefore, they met the pre-employment requirements and I feel that 30 days is ample time for a probationary period.**

Seconded by Councilor Morgan, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, West, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the property located at West 7<sup>th</sup> and Grace Streets, also known as the former Pulaski Middle School is a blighted structure; and

**WHEREAS**, Delaware County established a Demolition Fund pursuant to an Act of November 4, 2016, to provide resources for the demolition of blighted properties located within Delaware County; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has determined there is a need for the demolition and abatement of the aforementioned property.

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

That it does hereby ratify the submission of an application by the proper City official to the Delaware County Demolition Program, Blighted Property Demolition Fund to obtain funds for the demolition of the Former Pulaski Middle School, located at West 7<sup>th</sup> and Grace Streets.

**FURTHER**, it does hereby authorize the proper City official to enter into Demolition Fund Agreement, DF-21-60D with Delaware County Council, Office of Housing and Community Development for the demolition of the blighted structure located at West 7<sup>th</sup> and Grace Streets, also known as the former Pulaski Middle School located within the City of Chester.

**EVEN FURTHER**, it does hereby authorize the proper City officials to execute all necessary documents on behalf of the City of Chester.

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

**Mayor Kirkland says this is going to be a great asset to the Community. We appreciate the County and their support for demolishing the old Pulaski School. If things go as planned, we plan to put a Recreational Center along with housing in that area which will increase the housing value of those homes that are already there.**

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 ratify entering into Demolition Fund Agreement, DF-21-60C with Delaware County Council, Office of Housing and Community Development for the demolition of the following blighted structures located within the City of Chester:

<u>Property Address</u>	<u>Folio Number</u>
313 E. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street	49-04-00361-00
315 E. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street	49-04-00362-00
517 E. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street	49-05-00388-00
518 E. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street	49-05-00366-00

520 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street

49-05-00367-00

522 E.10<sup>th</sup> Street

49-05-00368-00

**FURTHER**, that it does hereby authorize the proper City official to execute all documents necessary for the completion of this project for and on behalf of the City.

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 Stormwater Authority of the City of Chester is proposing to construct Management Piping, Inlets and Manholes within the City of Chester at the following locations:

- Sproul Street from Chester Creek to E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street
- E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street from Sproul Street to Wood Street
- Water Street from W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street to Chester Creek

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

1. Applicant reconstructs the ADA Ramps at the following locations and provides full engineered design plans for:
  - Southeast and Southwest corners of Water Street
  - All corners on E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Sproul Street
  - If the applicant disturbs a corner during construction, the corner shall be upgraded
2. The Stormwater Authority shall take full responsibility for the maintenance and repair of all proposed improvements.
3. Applicant provides traffic control for continuous operation of the roadways and coordinates installation with the Public Works Supervisor and the Engineer.
4. Applicant provides a Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.
5. Applicant provides a copy of the NPDES Permit
6. Applicant obtains and provides verification that all easements have been obtained from private property owners for the construction of proposed improvements.
7. Applicant obtains any and all require PADEP Permits.
8. There is work completed on Private Property. The applicant will need to provide evidence of written approval to conduct work on private property.

**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 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**

**WHEREAS**, Eugene Pinder, II, an adult individual and Sole Proprietor, doing business as Velar Properties wishes to purchase and redevelop certain real property owned by the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Chester as set forth in the list attached hereto as Exhibit A, in the City of Chester, Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The Buyer intends to use the property for the development of twenty-six (26) residential townhome units for sale in the area between E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street and E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street from Potter Street to North Street; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Chester approved the Redevelopment Authority entering into a Redevelopment Agreement conditioned upon approval of the Agreement by Chester City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the subject properties listed on Exhibit A are located in a redevelopment area in the City of Chester and as such, the sale, lease or transfer of such property is subject to approval by Chester City Council under the Urban Redevelopment Law, at 35 P.S. Section 1709(k).

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

That it does hereby approve the Redevelopment Agreement with Eugene Pinder, II, Sole Proprietor, doing business as Velar Properties for the development of twenty-six (26) for sale residential townhome units in the area between E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street and E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street from Potter Street to North Street, as listed on the attached marked as Exhibit "A".

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**

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution dated June 22, 1995, the City Council of the City of Chester authorized the dissolution of the Chester Redevelopment Authority; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester desires to return the properties to productive use.

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

That it does hereby authorize the transfer of the following parcels to the new Redevelopment Authority of the City of Chester for redevelopment purposes:

1217 Edwards Street  
1220 Edwards Street  
11<sup>th</sup> Street & Central Avenue

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 the City of Chester, Delaware County, desires to submit a Keystone Communities Program Grant Application for \$200,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for Chester City Camera Initiative – Phase 2.

**FURTHER**, that the applicant does hereby designate Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland and Councilman William Morgan, Director of Finance as the officials to execute all documents and agreements between the City of Chester and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

I, Candice Newsome, duly qualified City Clerk of the City of Chester, Delaware County, PA, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by a majority vote at the City of Chester at a regular meeting held October 13, 2021, and said Resolution has been recorded in the Minutes of the City of Chester and remains in effect as of this date.

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 to the proper City official to execute an agreement between the City of Chester and CCSA Foundation, for the temporary installation of modular units at 1200 Highland Avenue for a period of time not to exceed three (3) years.

**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

**WHEREAS**, the Chester Redevelopment Authority (CRA) has approved the submission of an application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for a Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 for the Union Square Area Improvement Project, Chester, PA; and

**WHEREAS**, CRA submitted a rescope request on behalf of Rivertown Developers, L.P., to the Pennsylvania Office of the Budget to include the Tenant Fit Out of Turbine Hall at the Wharf at Rivertown, 2501 Seaport Drive, Chester, PA, to be used as an event/assembly facility/meeting and conference venue; and

**WHEREAS**, the Office of the Budget has approved such rescope request; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the Special Conditions of the RACP Grant Agreement is the submission of an executed Cooperation Agreement in which the City approves the Project and which obligates the City to reimburse the Commonwealth for any RACP grant reimbursements that may later be determined to have been ineligible expenses for the Project; and

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

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

1. That the Cooperation Agreement by and between the City of Chester and the Sub-Grantee is hereby approved.
2. That the Mayor and/or his designee is hereby authorized to execute the Cooperation Agreement and to take such steps as may be necessary to implement the intent 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, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

## RESOLUTION

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

That it does hereby authorize promotional testing to be given by the Civil Service Board to all eligible candidates in the Bureau of Fire, Department of Public Safety, for the following positions:

Battalion Chief  
Captain

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 approve the Commercial Lease Agreement between the City of Chester and Silvercare Real Estate, LLC, for the use of 400 +/- square feet of existing space at 2600 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, for the operation of a Police Substation.

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

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

**Mayor Kirkland says this will allow us (our Police Department) to have a substation on the West End of town. We want to thank Dr. Lee and Dr. Wang of Silvercare for providing us with this space free of charge.**

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 award the contract for the 2021 Chester City Demolition Contract #2, for the City of Chester, for which bids were received on September 22, 2021, to A.J. Jurich, Inc., at the lowest responsible bid price of One Hundred Forty-five Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-five Dollars (\$145,365.00).

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

**FURTHER**, that the Solicitor's Office shall prepare a contract and the successful bidder shall furnish a Performance Bond in the full amount of the contract, in accordance with the specifications, and to the satisfaction of City Council.

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 authorize the proper City official to prepare specifications for the advertisement for bids the Equipment Rental Contract for 2021/2022 for the City of Chester.

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

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**

**WHEREAS**, in or about 1939, the City of Chester (the "City") organized the Chester Municipal Authority under the Municipality Authorities Act (the "MAA"), which entity is now known as the Chester Water Authority (the "Authority"); and

**WHEREAS**, litigation is ongoing regarding to the City's interest in the water system currently run by the Chester Water Authority (the "System") and the City has determined that it is in the City's best interest to sell the System conditioned upon a resolution of the legal dispute over the rights of the City under the Municipality Authorities Act (the "Litigation"); and

**WHEREAS**, in furtherance of the City's desire to sell the System, the City issued a request for proposals on June 12, 2019 to sell the system but, due to the Litigation and out of an abundance of caution, all six proposals received were returned to the offerors without having been opened, other than to identify the person to whom they should be returned; and

**WHEREAS**, the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas on February 3, 2020, entered an order that permitted the City's issuance of a request for proposals (the "RFP") and allowed the City to undertake a bid process to sell the System (the "Assets Sale"), provided that, after such process, the consummation of any agreement to sell the System or other transaction, if any, is conditioned upon a resolution of the Litigation that affirms the City's right to take back the System assets and to sell the System; and

**WHEREAS**, the City issued a second request for proposals on February 12, 2020, to solicit bids from interested companies and entities to purchase the System; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the February 12, 2020 RFP, the City received three (3) responses and, after the opportunity to review the bids submitted, the City has determined that Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. ("Aqua") has submitted a bid that is in the best interest of the City and offers the greatest value to the City, as determined by the Mayor and City Council in consultation with the City's financial advisor; and

**WHEREAS**, in July, 1995 the City was placed into Act 47 status; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 13, 2020, Governor Wolf declared a fiscal emergency for the City; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 22, 2020, Michael Doweary was named Receiver for the City; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 20, 2020, the Receiver filed an Initial Recovery Plan which was approved by Commonwealth Court on October 19, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 7, 2021, the Receiver filed and Amended Recovery Plan with the Commonwealth Court ("the Amended Plan"), which was approved by the Commonwealth Court on June 7, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, in the Amended Plan the Receiver:

- 1) Directed the City to continue the Litigation to establish its right to take back the System assets and sell the assets;
- 2) Authorized the City to continue with the RFP process (in compliance with any Court Order);
- 3) Authorized the City to continue to consult with its counsel and financial advisor regarding the best approach to monetizing the water system

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2021 the en banc Commonwealth Court issued an Order and Opinion confirming that the City has the unilateral right to take back the assets of the Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 23, 2021 the Receiver issued a public statement in part specifically declaring that the City "must monetize the water system"; and

**WHEREAS**, because the City has determined that it is in the best interests of the City to sell the System to Aqua on the terms set forth in Aqua's bid, upon approval by the Receiver the City intends to execute and deliver an Asset Purchase Agreement (the "APA"), the consummation of which is contingent upon the resolution of the Litigation on terms that affirm the City's rights asserted under the MAA; and

**WHEREAS**, under the APA, the City will transfer to Aqua the assets of the System through the execution and delivery of all necessary and required bills of sale, instruments of assignment, consents to transfer, deeds, and other agreements, documents, and instruments of conveyance; and

**WHEREAS**, the City will pass on all System and billing information, and any rights of the City in connection therewith, to Aqua and cooperate with Aqua as is required for the continued operation of the System.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the City Council of the City of Chester resolves as follows:

1. It is the intent of the City Council of the City of Chester to promptly enter into an APA with Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc., upon receipt of the Receiver's approval to do so; and

2. The City Council of the City of Chester requests the Receiver to expeditiously provide his approval for City Council to do so.

#### **Effective Date**

This Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately.

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 24, 2021 and October 8, 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 Morgan, the above Resolution was adopted. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, West, Jacobs, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

#### **Presentation – Fire Commissioner Rigby**

**Firefighter Acknowledgement for two (2) water rescues (see attachment #5)**

#### **Proclamation – White Cane Day (see attachment #6)**

#### **Rosetta Carter gives a COVID-19 Update (see attachment #7)**

#### **Commissioner Gretskey says (see attachment #8)**

#### **Mayor Kirkland recognizes Derrick Billops, Director of the of the Boys & Girls Club.**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Anita Littleton, 330 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street says I'm looking for clarity of use and regulations of these public meetings. I watched three Chester Residents get turned away from this Meeting because it was stated to us that it had reached a capacity of 25 people. I would like to get a clear determination of what is capacity? Is that 25 Chester Residents? Twenty-five in total tally? It would be nice for Council to consider the size of venue you allow. Even if there is an overflow room. You have to be able to allow people to express their concerns. That's what the City Council Meeting is all about. I am here today to address the selling of the Chester Water Authority issue.

Mayor Kirkland says we are still going through...Ms. Carter just read off the COVID numbers that are in our City...number of persons who have been vaccinated and percentages of number of persons who have not been. Unfortunately, there is a large population of youth who have not been vaccinated in this Community. So, our goal is to protect each and every citizen. This is why we have our Council Meetings on Facebook live and we will continue to do that. We'll continue to take questions. The capacity that we have put in place months ago was 25 persons. Prior to you being up here there were approximately 25 if not a little more person and we tried to space them out. We will continue in that capacity. We have been very upfront. We've been very transparent in that number. Our goal is not to spread the COVID virus but to tame it down as effectively as we can and if that means we have to limit the number of our persons here at our Council Meetings...we'll do so to protect the citizens of Chester.

Harry Crawford, 3315 Carter Lane says **(see attachment #9)**.

Commissioner Gretskey says I will give you my number and I will speak to my Patrol Captain to get more Police presence in your area.

Mayor Kirkland says I'm committed to coming through there myself with the Police Officers. Unfortunately, you said some cars have been hit...the problem we have today in the City, because of the number of cars that have been hit throughout the City, we have some persons who are just not going to abide by the laws, who are racing up and down the streets and could care less about other persons property. That is a difficult task that we have but it's something that we have to deal with. We're trying our best with our limited resources. Catalytic convertors are a huge...that's what these thieves are looking for. We just received funding so that we might be able to begin to pave our highways/roadways/streets because of bad weather and potholes. We're also putting brand new LED lighting throughout the Community to brighten up our Community as well. We know that this is an inconvenience but we're asking for a little bit more patience as we move forward with these processes as we receive these fundings so that we can beautify our Community.

Councilwoman West says I believe (Mike Galante) the holes on the Highland Avenue Bridge that leads to the on ramp to 95 South is that a PennDOT effort there.

Mike Galante, City Engineer says that's a PennDOT Road.

Councilwoman West says we will contact PennDOT about that. The staff and I will come up there to look at the situation.

Marlowe Freeman says I'm here on behalf of (inaudible) there mother Brownelle Lee, I'm here about their benefits regarding the pension...

Councilman Morgan begins to speak about an email that was sent but said they would meet after the meeting because it's a personal matter.

David Kronheim, 1100 Block of Culhane Street says Mascaro is still picking up the trash and recycles together. I'd like to see you do something about it. Your Agenda says Public Comment. It doesn't say Resident's only. I would like the Solicitor to research this (inaudible) to limit our free speech in that way. I don't believe it. Delaware County and their meetings, they looked at their Constitution and found out that they had to give us five minutes rather than three minutes. I would like for you to do the same. In regards to the beating of (inaudible) on 9/17, my understanding is that at least one of these three Officers who beat him while he was handcuffed is still on active duty. I want him removed from active duty. That's the (inaudible) wishes of the family. Earlier this week I left a voicemail for the Police Commissioner and I haven't heard on that. I would like City Council to use their influence to make that happen. In regards to due diligence, it seems pretty clear the Receiver's Office said today they approve of monetizing but not selling the CWA to a private entity. Therefore, it sounds like your due diligence is to find out any other ways there can be monetize not selling it. I would expect you guys to go and do that rather than trying to sell it.

Patricia Zirin, 1100 Block of Culhane says **(she finishes the attached letter (attachment #4))**.

Councilwoman West says in regards with the trash collection over the past week and a half we have been working with a new Supervisor for J.P. Mascaro. This gentlemen, Mr. James Sadler, has been doing a wonderful job in terms of making sure that Monday's trash is picked up on Monday, Tuesday's trash is picked up on Tuesday, so forth and so one. The Recycling days are on Wednesday. I am asking members of the Community to continue to recycle. Do not co-mingle because in a lot of cases we find that some of the trash is co-mingled. My office will be putting out some information in terms of education on how, when and where to put your regular trash out and then your recycle. We are telling them that we require that the Chester Residents are treated the same as every where else. We need our trash collected and correctly. I want to thank the Community too for calling in to my office to let me know when things are not right. I depend on you too! So, thank you very much for your support!!

Mayor Kirkland says as we said in the very beginning when this Chester Water issue came about so time ago that this Mayor and Council would adhere to the ruling of the Courts. We said that at the beginning and we continue to say that today that we would adhere to the ruling of the Courts concerning this issue. We will do what we believe is in the best interest of each and every citizen of the City of Chester.

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:38am.

Respectfully submitted,

OCTOBER 13, 2021

Candice Newsome, City Clerk