

COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
January 12, 2022

**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 10:05 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  
William Morgan  
Portia West  
Stefan Roots  
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, Roots, 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. Kevin R. Faust, 1004 McDowell Ave, Chester, PA 19013;
2. Alicia Ross, 1029 Butler Street, Chester, PA 19013;
3. Tamira Robinson, 402 Yarnell Street, Chester, PA 19013; and

**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 McDowell Ave.; in the 1000 Block of Butler Street; and in the 400 Block of Yarnell 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, Roots, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester intends to submit an application for Fiscal Year 2022 funding under the U.S. Department of Housing and urban Development's (HUD's) 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 City's intended uses for the funds requested from HUD under the CDBG and HOME Programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Chester is required to prepared a draft of the Fiscal Year 2022 CDBG and HOME Action Plan, which identifies the projects and program activities on which the Program Year 2022 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 Action Plan preparation and public notification are met and to advertise the availability of the draft F.Y.2022 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, Roots, 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 December 30, 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, Roots, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

## Public Comment

Harry Crawford 3315 Carter Lane asked if comments that are brought before Council are responded to as to whether they are working on the items or not working on the items.

**Mayor Kirkland asked if he was referring to the list that he brought in the other day.**

Mr. Crawford asked about the police patrolling his area.

**Mayor Kirkland asked Commissioner Gretskey to respond.**

Commissioner Gretskey said, he does have policeman patrolling. They may be undercover details but they are patrolling the area.

Mr. Crawford asked about potholes being filled. He said, there have been holes on Township Line Road for 2 years.

**Mayor Kirkland said in the winter potholes are patched. The whole road will not be done. He referred to Mike Galante, City Engineer.**

Mike Galante said, he would go out and take a look but some of that road have been paved. Some of Township Line Road roadway is owned by PennDot. I will go out today and take a look.

**Councilwoman Portia West asked, are they still working on Township Line Road?**

Mike Galante said, there is some work that is going on there. Some striping is being done there.

Mr. Crawford asked, who is in charge of the traffic lights by Chester High School? The lights don't change unless you're coming out of the school parking lot. Who is the person who is in charge of the lights in Chester?

Mike Galante said, the traffic signal is on a loop. The idea is to keep traffic flowing. He said cars will back up on ninth Street, so he would have to look at it. He said, he would look into it. He said, I am looking into a striping plan to help with the parking of those residents who park on Barclay St.

Mr. Crawford said, he can go to Marcus Hook or Trainer on any given day and see officers patrolling those areas.

**Mayor Kirkland said, it's a lot easier to see officers in Marcus Hook and Trainer; they are a little bit smaller than Chester. Our police are on the street each and every day and every night. He said, I have come through your neighborhood myself in hopes that I would see yourself. He mentioned the law enforcement persons and county council persons who visited City Hall. He said, they were praising this police department for the serious**

**reduction in crime in our community. They said, this city could be a model for other cities. He said, the goal is zero. We have been bringing crime down greatly.**

**Mayor Kirkland asked if there were anymore comments.**

**Mayor Kirkland shouted out to Councilwoman Williams and her side kick. They have reached 1,000 residents in the city of Chester and help with rental and utilities assistance throughout the city. He said, they have done a great service to the citizens of Chester. He thanked them for a job well done.**

**Councilwoman Elizabeth Williams said, it has been an honor to serve the citizens of Chester. She said, I had a goal to serve at least 1000 residents. I met my goal. She said, the program is still open. She introduced Seiffideen Simpson and thanked him for his service to the community. She thanked him for coming to her and asking if they could help the residents with this program.**

**Seiffideen Simpson said, he was glad that everything worked out like he thought it would. He will seek out other programs to help our community. He said, funding is still available. This is something that he really wanted to do.**

**Mayor Kirkland thanked him for his hard work.**

**Councilman Stefan Roots asked, based on the average amount of money received, how many more people on average can be served?**

**Seiffideen Simpson said, 6,000-7,000 people throughout the county. 14,000 people have received assistance.**

**Fire Commissioner Rigby gave an update on Covid 19 cases in Chester. Asbury Church, 1712 Providence Ave. will be providing vaccine and testing in February. He said, smoke detectors are available to all residents. If anyone is in need of assistance putting them up, contact the fire department.**

**Councilman Stefan Roots asked, since it is getting cold outside, are we doing anything to provide assistance (providing warming stations) due to the cold weather?**

**Fire Commissioner Rigby said, we will when we are in a cold blue status. We will coordinate with the various shelters.**

**Councilman Stefan Roots asked, what is Cold Blue?**

**Fire Commissioner Rigby said, when temperatures reach a certain temperature and are sustained at that temperature for a period of time.**

**Mayor Kirkland said, be aware of pop-up tents. They are illegal, bogus and they are scammers still operating throughout Delaware County. If you see any please notify local law enforcement.**

**Councilwoman Portia West said, they are not free. They say they are, but they're not. They are not an authorized provider. You should never give anyone your personal information.**

**Councilwoman Portia West said, trash vendor JP Morgan have been doing a good job. There are areas in the rear of homes that are parking in the alleyways. Please make sure that your alleyways are clear. Please continue to re-cycle. Our collections are very good. We aren't getting as many calls as we were. She thanked the citizens of Chester for their cooperation.**

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Joan Neal, Acting City Clerk**