

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
AUGUST 24, 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 10:04am 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
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, Roots, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

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

The City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Resolutions.

RESOLUTION

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

1. Hameed Abdul Al-Martin, 703 West 6th Street, Chester, PA 19013
2. Eric Blizzard, 714 Wilson Street, Chester, PA 19013
3. Alice Taylor, 318 Engle 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 700 Block of W. 6th Street; in the 700 Block of Wilson Street; and in the 300 Block of Engle 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

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:

That it does hereby ratify the appointment of Stephanie Hall to the position of Administrative Assistant, Department of Accounts and Finance, with all benefits applicable thereto, effective August 6, 2022, for 37.5 hours per week, at the salary as provided in the Annual Appropriation Ordinance. Said individual has successfully completed the sixty (60) day probationary period.

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 hereby appoint Christopher Brooks, to the position of Laborer, Department of Public Works, with all benefits applicable thereto, effective September 1, 2022, for 40 hours per week, at the salary as provided in the Annual Appropriation Ordinance. Said individual has successfully completed the sixty (60) day probationary period.

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, Resolution 124-2022, was passed by Chester City Council on July 27, 2022; and

WHEREAS, it does hereby rescind said Resolution.

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

That it does hereby ratify the appointment of Anise Miller, to the position of Human Resources Generalist, Office of Human Resources, Department of Accounts and Finance, for 37.5 hours per week, with all benefits applicable thereto, effective July 16, 2022, at the salary as provided in the Annual Appropriation Ordinance.

FURTHER, said individual has successfully completed her ninety (90) day probationary period, effective August 16, 2022.

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, on March 24, 2021, Chester City Council approved the land development of a 105,052sq. ft. warehouse with office for FMM QZOB, LLC at 4th & Booth Street, Chester, PA 19013; and

WHEREAS, said plans were not recorded within 90 days of municipal approval.

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

That in accordance with the recommendation of the Chester City Planning Commission, dated March 10, 2021 and reviewed by the Delaware County Planning Commission on February 18, 2021, it does hereby grant final land development approval to FMM QZOB, LLC to construct a 105,052 sq. ft. warehouse with office space at 4th and Booth Streets, Chester, PA 19013, as shown on a plan prepared by Linn Architects, 1140 N. Providence Rd, Media, PA 19063, dated January 27, 2021.

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 in accordance with recommendations of the Chester City Planning Commission, dated June 8, 2022, and reviewed by the Delaware County Planning Commission on June 16, 2022, it does hereby grant final approval to Michael Gilhool, Sr./American Wood Design to reverse subdivide four (4) lots into one (1) lot at 218-222 Fulton Street and construct a 2,200 sq. ft. warehouse with office space as shown on a plan prepared by Catania Engineering Associates, 520 W. MacDade Blvd., Milmont Park, PA 19033, dated April 12, 2022.

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 hereby authorize the proper City official to enter into an agreement with Milligan & Company, LLC, to perform the audit of year ended December 31, 2020, financial statements and the relating notes to the financial statements and to meet the requirements of the Government Auditing Standards, in accordance with the proposal letter submitted to the City of Chester.

FURTHER, said engagement is contingent upon final 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, Roots, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

RESOLUTION

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:

That the contract for City of Chester Municipal Building Roof Replacement Option 2, be and is hereby awarded to S.J. Thomas, 140 Bartram Ave., Lansdowne, PA 19050, for which responses were received through Keystone Purchasing Network (KPN), in the amount of \$382,422.85, to be paid from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

FURTHER, the City has complied with all KPN bidding requirements.

FURTHER, that the Solicitor's Office shall review and approve the contract and the contractor shall furnish a Performance Bond in the full amount of their respective contract 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, Roots, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

RESOLUTION

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:

That it does hereby authorize the 2022 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Vehicle Fleet Purchase for the Department of Public works and the Chester Fire Department, through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Cooperative Purchasing Program (COSTARS), from Whitmoyer Ford, Inc., 1001 East Main Street, Mount Joy, PA 17552, for the following vehicles, in the stated amounts, which are to go to the listed departments, not to exceed \$300,000.00, said vehicles are to be paid from the designated ARPA funds:

<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Department</u>
Two (2) Ford 2022 F-550	\$200,350.00	Public Works
One (1) Ford 2022 Police Interceptor Utility AWD Base (K8A) (Fire Marshall Upfit)	\$50,680.21	Fire
One (1) Ford 2022 Police Interceptor Utility AWD Base (K8A) (Fire Command Upfit)	\$48,969.79	Fire

FURTHER, that the Solicitor's Office shall review and approve the contract and the above vendor shall furnish a Performance Bond in the full amount of the respective contract, 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, Roots, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

RESOLUTION

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHESTER DOES RESOLVE:

That it does hereby authorize the Vehicle Fleet Purchase for the Chester Police Department, through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Cooperative Purchasing Program (COSTARS), from Whitmoyer Ford, Inc., 1001 East Main Street, Mount Joy, PA 17552, for the following vehicles, in the stated amounts, not to exceed \$500,000.00.

<u>Vehicles</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nine (9) Ford 2022 Police Interceptor Utility AWD Base (K8A) (KML Emergency Upfit for Patrol)	\$432,240.75
One (1) Ford 2022 Police Interceptor Utility AWD Base (K8A) (Police Command Unit)	\$47,792.77
K9 Vehicle Upfit	\$19,966.48

FURTHER, that the Solicitor's Office shall review and approve the contract and the above vendor shall furnish a Performance Bond in the full amount of the respective contract, 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, 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 August 12, 2022 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: Roots.

The City Clerk proceeded with the reading of the Ordinance.

BILL #5, 2022
ORD. __, 2022

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, REPEALING PART SEVENTEEN BUILDING AND HOUSING, TITLE FOUR, ENTITLED, "CITY OF CHESTER WATERSHED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE", OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CHESTER, 1978, AS SUPPLEMENTED AND AMENDED, BY ADOPTING A NEW COUNTY-WIDE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE, ENTITLED, "CHESTER CITY AMENDED

AND RESTATED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE”, AS DEVELOPED BY DELAWARE COUNTY FOR COUNTY-WIDE COMPLIANCE WITH THE 2022 PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (PADEP) MODEL STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE, AS REQUIRED BY THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) FOR SMALL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS (MS4s), AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT THEREWITH.

On motion of Councilor West, seconded by Councilor Morgan, Bill No. 5, 2022 was passed on its First Reading. The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, West, Roots, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0

City Controller’s Office, 2023 Minimum Municipal Obligation (see attachment #1)

Ayanna King, COVID-19 Support Specialist, gives a COVID-19 Update (see attachment #2)

Presentation – Ms. Lorraine Lavender-Sams

Scoop USA Media Community Service Award goes to Ms. Rosetta Carter

Mayor Kirkland recognizes Judge Dawn Vann and introduces the new Chief Operating Officer, Leonard Lightner.

Public Comment

Carla Beaver says Councilwoman West was already notified about the lighting on 9th & Butler. Since the water ice place closed there is no lighting in that parking lot at night and we only have two lights. Another thing is there is a whole bunch of trash inside the parking lot at 9th & Butler (behind the bus stop) and it’s been there for about two months now.

Councilwoman West says my staff and I will go by there and do an assessment at night and then I’ll get back to you.

Diane Nowell says I’m here in reference to 713 E. 25th Street. The corner of Providence and E. 25th Street. For over two years we’ve been complaining about the dumping on the corner. The Cops come and say that there is nothing that they can do other than to take a report because City Council has to handle it. I’m telling the people that they can’t dump there and I’m being told that they pay the owner to dump there. What is Council going to do about it?

Councilwoman West says I’ve turned this over to L&I.

Commissioner Gretsky says I’ve worked with the Engineer, Mike Galante, and Mr. Deek has been very difficult for us. We do have a plan in place. We are working with our Solicitor’s Office.

Mike Galante says he’s been working out there 3 o’clock in the morning. I did contact the owner and he’s going to come in for a meeting with L&I and the Commissioner for them to say you need to clean this place up and you have to stop what’s going on out there.

Gary Collins, Code Official says we have shut him down. We took him to Court and he doesn’t show up. I am going to work with Mike Galante and the Police Chief to try and get him to remove the stuff off his yard. There is a lot of difficulty in dealing with Mr. Deek. We have discussed jail time.

Mayor Kirkland says you have our Commissioner, L& I, the Engineer and all of Council are working on it. It has to be (

Elijah Ishmail says here are pictures of examples of a Bench to be placed where she (his Daughter, Naima Ishmael) was laying next to when they found her. I would like to replace that old bench (it's chipped up) with a new one (Memorial Bench) with a Bronze Plaque with the wording "In Memory of Naima Ishmail".

Mayor Kirkland says to my understanding that is a City's bench and being since it belongs to the City, a couple of things can happen. #1 we can either instruct our workers rather than you having to go out and buy a whole brand-new bench and we would have to find a place to put it, we or along with the Family could spruce that bench up and make it look nice again.

Mr. Ishmail says we did the research for the bench and the bronze plaque and we will pay for everything. We can have it delivered here to City Hall, if you'll would want to, the workers could put it down there if they want to. Either which way the Mayor and Council would like to do it.

Mayor Kirkland says I am totally fine with that and I believe Council is as well. I was just trying to save you some money. If you want to put a brand-new bench down there.

Ken Schuster says make a motion, discuss and then you'll can vote on it. (New Bench with Bronze Plaque on it down the waterfront for Mr. Ishmail's Daughter, Naima Ishmail) subject to the City's approval.

Mayor Kirkland calls for a vote for Mr. Ishmail to put a Bench with a Bronze Plaque down the Waterfront to Memorialize his Daughter, Naima Ishmail, subject to the City's approval.

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

Councilman Roots says when you say City Approval, would have to be whoever is responsible for the trail, that part of the City is a part of. I think they would have to be involved as well because that's part of their design.

Councilman Morgan says it's a City trail. We would have to see if the bench was grant funded.

The following vote was taken: Yeas: Williams, Morgan, West, Roots, Mayor Kirkland. Nays: 0.

Livia Smith says when the Controller read the Minimum Municipal Obligation and the amounts she stated, for layman's purposes, what does that actually mean.

Councilman Morgan says on an annual basis the City of Chester has an MMO, Minimum Municipal Obligation, that we have to pay towards the pension plans here in the City of Chester (Non-Uniform, Fire and Police Pension Plans). The Controller provides the Mayor and Council and the public with the number provided to the City of Chester by the actuary what the City should budget for 2023 as our Minimum Obligation for Pension Plans for Fire, Police and Non-Uniformed.

Ms. Smith says so that's the amount of money that is needed in order for them to continue to get whatever payments that they are receiving (inaudible) that's a yearly amount that's needed for them to get paid on a regular basis.

Councilman Morgan says yes, that the City has to pay.

Ms. Smith says Councilman Roots is there something on the Expenditure List that you didn't like.

Councilman Roots says more so the process. We would get them at Deliberative and have the opportunity to ask questions and that didn't happen this week.

Councilman Morgan says Councilman Roots is correct. We recently had a resignation in the Accounts Payable Department. So right now, we have a temporary employee and they weren't fully aware of the process or knew how to extract those reports in a timely manner. The reports did get provided Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning but that information was not dispersed out prior to the meeting.

Ms. Smith says in the Sunday paper it said that the City is proposing to do a Waterfront Revitalization. I want to say **KUDOS!!** to the City for moving forward to make sure that eventually our Waterfront will be as beautiful as Wilmington!!

Councilman Morgan says the City has been working on the Waterfront Master Plan since 2018/2019. The Master Plan is on our website. We're about to start a road re-pavement on Reaney Street and we did Engle Street within the last year. We will continue to do small projects down there and hopefully it would lead to a larger project that will allow all the Residents to benefit (inaudible) and what we're going to put down at the Waterfront.

Councilwoman West says as we go through these planning sessions and we're talking to everyone that's at the table, Councilman Morgan and I were in a meeting about the Reaney Street Project and our full focus was what type of impact will it have on you as they make these changes down on 291. Eventually there will be a community meeting.

Councilman Morgan says when we started the planning of the Waterfront 2018/2019, we had five or six meetings with the Community. The Community was involved in the process for the (inaudible) Waterfront Master Plan.

Councilman Roots says when we talk about the construction on Reaney Street, one of the purposes is to brighten up the entrances from 291 down to the Waterfront. It's going to have a bourbon street kind of look and the purpose is that every street that goes from 291 down to the Waterfront will have a similar treatment. So, look for a really robust, engaging, inviting design on all those streets from 291 down to the Waterfront.

Councilwoman West says and a safety component is in that as well to help people get from one side of 291 to the other side.

Mayor Kirkland says this has been in the works for quite some time. We have been diligently working on our Waterfront to make it more inviting to our entire Community.

Harry Crawford says (inaudible) the parks, we don't have anything that is really nice on the Delaware. Essington has lights, gazebos, and just open areas to (inaudible) actually to Marcus Hook. For us can you tell me where people feel safe to actually go with their family. Was Murphy Ford given the option to actually make that an actual junkyard parking lot? Or were they given the option to build something there? There are potholes on 15th & Township Line Road that have been promised to be fixed. People are coming up Carter Lane in the wrong direction. We asked for Police Officers to at least ride down our area even if it was twice a day. It doesn't even happen once a week. On 291 is there a way to put a better sign for people to know how to get on 95. There is a little sign that is hard to see.

Mayor Kirkland says is it safe for our families to go down the Waterfront...yes! I have personally and have turned on the police lights (I'm not supposed to) so that folks would know that I'm coming through.

Commissioner Gretskey says I know you said before you see more Officers in Marcus Hook and Trainer. Apparently, I'm 25% down in the Police Department. We're in the hiring process. I do have an area check out for your street.

Mayor Kirkland says the Engineer can talk about signage. He's been working with PennDot.

Mike Galante, City Engineer says the call the Councilors West and Morgan was on yesterday was about (1) (inaudible) down Reaney Street the streetscape is scheduled to start this week. (2) (291) The East Coast Greenway Project which goes from Highland to Norris is under design (medians, more turning control movement, traffic signals and beautification). (3) The current safety on 291 which includes the striping, signage, etc. with PennDot to work on those improvements. At the section on 15th Street with the bad potholes is owned by PennDot. They are scheduled to pave that but I haven't got an update from PennDot in a while. I will follow up with them again and find out when they will be out there.

Gary Williams says I'm a Business Owner Overtown. I'm a Real Estate Broker for Berkshire Hathaway. I'll be opening the first Hathaway Real Estate Office in an urban neighborhood. It's a trash can next to the building that I have at 632 Avenue of the States. The trash can is open. I am asking if it can be a closed (like the ones they have at Wawa or Walmart) or I can by one. I asked the Streets Department to either improve it or let me do something with it. The lights are flickering on the Avenue of the States at night. There are poles on 7th Street and I would like to cover them. I already purchased the reflective covers. There is about seven of them. Hopefully it would stop people from driving up on the cement. I thank you and you're actually invited to the Grand Opening in September.

Mayor Kirkland says thank you for investing here in the City of Chester. We appreciate your willingness to work along with us and be a part of the Chester Community. The trash container is usually provided as a courtesy by the City. Usually, Businesses

have to have their own way of disposing of the trash. We can move that. A number of Businesses downtown have their own trash services or dumpster. You can work with our Engineer in regards to the lights and the poles.

Pastor Theresa Murphy says I will be a Chester Resident soon. I come from Southwest Philadelphia and we have a non-profit that specializes in ministry to young adults. (Inaudible) 6th & Highland. We do give away and things of that nature. We will be having a coat drive some time in November. I am also the Assistant Property Manager at Hillside Manor Apartments. I would like to ask about speed bumps along Ward Street and Curran Street.

Mayor Kirkland says welcome. In regards to speed bumps...everything has a cost. We always work with our City Engineer, Law Enforcement Personnel and Fire (inaudible) because of the equipment that has to go in and out of there. But we will definitely look in to that.

Commissioner Gretskey says Chester Bidy League has kicked off/sponsored/partnered with the District Attorney Office, Sun Village Park will be this weekend, Saturday, 9a-1p and on Sunday, 9a-4p. There is a bookbag give away, a game truck, a moon bounce, free haircuts for students, hot dogs, pretzels, water ice and it's open to everyone until they run out. Councilman Morgan, I salute you on your event last week.

Linda Johnson says between 10th & 12th on Pine Lane it's a one-way street going down and the cars and motorcycles fly down that street and we probably need Watch Children signs/speed bumps. Can we get a ramp over 291 to go to Ethel Waters Park? The light down Ethel Waters Park where the DJ is set up is out. The port-a-potties down there are filthy. Is there any way we can get a committee or a group of people for all the empty lots in Chester that are growing up really high and alleys behind people houses that needs to be weed wacked?

Mayor Kirkland says we will look into those issues. As far as the bridge across Ethel Waters that's something that once again...we're trying to make it as safe as possible for our Residents to be able to go to one side to the other.

Amin Abdul Salim says I hear a lot of good ideas. Some ideas you haven't got yet. We want to keep our good path. It's graceful.

Mr. Jonathan says I'm having issues with the Parking Authority. Specifically, the residential parking program. I didn't get anything explaining it.

Mayor Kirkland says have you spoken with Mr. Lanier who is probably in his office today. I recommend that you speak with Mr. Lanier today and they do have hearings.

Mayor Kirkland says that know that the work of our Law Enforcement Personnel has been along with the State Troopers (inaudible) that violent crime has been reduced significantly. One day we hope that it will be at zero!!

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilwoman Williams says Congratulations to Ms. Carter, she's a hard-working person and a beautiful woman!! I thank Scoop for honoring her. (see attachments #3, #4 and #5)

Councilwoman Roots says the amenities at the Waterfront...trust that in time we're going to see (inaudible) with recreational Waterfront. There is some conversation about a beach being put in right at the Waterfront near the Norris Street Lot. There is a company that will soon announce a really major investment that they're putting in on the Waterfront area that is going to attract a lot of people (Two to Three years to be constructed). But our Waterfront is going to be popping in the next three to five years!! Berkshire Hathaway does not show up in communities like Chester. They are luxury type home realtors. So, I'm really anxious to see what the situation is with Berkshire Hathaway here in Chester. sunvillageparkplayground.squarespace.com is a website that has been put together so that we can follow the work that's being done and to volunteer to help.

Councilwoman West says I want to continue to encourage our Residents to Recycle. There is an annual report that my office turns in every year and based on our tonnage it makes us eligible for funding on our Recycle efforts. **PLEASE DO NOT MIX YOUR REGULAR TRASH WITH RECYCLING!!** I know that there has been concerns that were I've been told that maybe some of our vendor might combine trash. But I watch that and I haven't seen that going on. I will continue to partner with the vendor to

make that we are not co-mingling and that we're continuing our Recycling efforts. My staff and I, the Public Works Department, we are on our second notice to our Constituency who handicap parking. **If you have gotten that second letter to come in and renew and your renewal fee is \$25.00. If you ignored the first notice and the second notice and you've not been renewed since 2016/2017 and after that second notice if we don't here from you then your sign will be taken down. We are bringing our files up to date.**

Councilman Morgan says I also want to acknowledge Ms. Rosetta Carter who has always done a great amount of work in the Health Department for the City of Chester. Thank you for the Scoop for acknowledging her acts of service that she does for the City of Chester and the Residents. We are wrapping up our 2019 Audit. We just had a draft provided from our CPA Firm. Today you may have heard a Resolution to approve Milligan & Company, the CPA Firm, to engage in the 2020 Audit. We're trying to move along. We are behind on our Financial Audits. Hopefully, we can be able to get the 2020 Audit wrapped up by the end of this year and stay right on focus to 2021 as well. The American Rescue Plan, today you heard two Resolutions for the City Hall Roof Replacement and the Vehicle Fleet purchase for Public Works and Fire Department. We intend to use quite a bit of money from the American Rescue Plan for internal government operation purposes. We had a meeting in July with the Public where we heard a good amount of feedback from the public. We took down all those questions, comments and concerns. We will be bringing that back to the Community in October. So be on the lookout for that next updated flyer and invitation to come out. We had a back-to-school bookbag event in the First Ward over the weekend and we gave out about 125 bookbags. We will be having a bigger and better one coming up this Friday, August 26th, from 2p-5p at Chester High School, Eyre Park. Continue to look out for job postings for employment opportunities here in the City of Chester, www.chestercity.com.

Mayor Kirkland says we will be going into an Executive Session immediately after this Council Meeting. **On September 21, there will be a Delcora public meeting to discuss the Tunnel Project and we need the public's input! It will be here at City Hall beginning at 6p.** The Food Truck Festival, this Friday!! Come on out!! We're trying to see if we are going to extend that into September. The Memorial Park Project...we are looking at a much larger project to deal with when it comes to losing loved ones. We've been working with the Stormwater Authority about creation of ponds, benches and other things that will be done there that I think that the Community will be able to be well pleased with. It's a way of remembering our Loved Ones in a very positive and calm way. I don't get out that much at night and it's unfortunate that Ms. Beaver only has two lights, I think it might be dark because there are a number of trees in that area, we have to see how we can rectify that. I rode around last night down 7th Street, 9th Street...I just rode down a couple of number of streets and I was in awe because how bright our City is!! I never seen the City this bright and it's because of the lighting program and the camera program. If you get a chance, I encourage you...ride down the City and see for yourself how bright this City is today compared to past time. I want to thank each and every one who provided condolences of the transition of my brother. On behalf of myself and my family, it's greatly appreciated...difficult time and the healing process is still taking place but it could not happen without the prayers and support of others! So, thank you so very much!!

****Public Comment addresses are in the City Clerk's Office**

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:56am.

Respectfully submitted,

AUGUST 24, 2022

Candice Newsome, City Clerk