

CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

R. Carlisle Roddey Government Complex

1476 J A Cochran Bypass, Chester, SC

Monday, January 6th, 2020

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Shane Stuart, Vice Chairman Joe Branham, Councilman Pete Wilson, Councilman Alex Oliphant, Councilwoman Mary Guy, Councilman Brad Jordan, Councilman Mike Vaughn, County Attorney Joanie Winters and Clerk to Council Karen Lee.

1. **Call to Order-** Meeting called to order by Chairman Stuart.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation-** Pledge was recited in unison; Councilwoman Guy gave the invocation.
3. **Approval of Minutes-**Approval of December 2nd, 2019 Council Minutes
Councilwoman Guy motioned to approve, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 6-0 to approve.
4. **Citizen Comments**

Sherry Ammons, 1195 Stringfellow Road, Chester stated in September of 2019 Animal Control came out and took seven of her horses because they had gotten out of the fence, she has four of them back. She wanted to find out how she could get the remaining three back, since no one from Animal Control would tell her where her horses were at.

Tonya Ehlinger, 968 Shallowbrook Drive, Chester stated Mrs. Ammons was her sister and the horses were therapeutic for the whole family and felt like Animal Control handled this unprofessionally.
5. **Public Hearing-Chairman Stuart opened the Public Hearing**
 - a. **3rd Reading of Ordinance 2019-17** To Amend Chester County Ordinance No: 2019-6 The 2019-2020 Chester County Budget Ordinance, In Certain Limited Particulars Only. No one signed up to speak.
 - b. **3rd Reading of Ordinance 2019-11** An Ordinance To Provide For An Election In Chester County, South Carolina To Determine The Wishes Of The Qualified Electors Of The County With Reference To Whether The County Should Adopt The Council-Administrator Form Of Government With Six (6) Council Members Elected From Single Member Districts And A Council Member Elected At Large Or Whether The County Should Keep Its Present Form Of County Government (County-Supervisor With Six (6) Council Members); The Referendum To Be Called In Accord With Section 4-9-10, S.C. Code Of Laws 1976 As Amended.

Butch Cameron stated he was in support of the change of government to council-administrator.
6. **Ordinances/Resolutions/Proclamations**
 - a. **3rd Reading of Ordinance 2019-17** To Amend Chester County Ordinance No: 2019-6 The 2019-2020 Chester County Budget Ordinance, In Certain Limited Particulars Only. *Economic Development Salary*
Councilman Oliphant motioned to approve, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 5-1 to approve.
Councilman Wilson opposed.

- b. **3rd Reading of Ordinance 2019-11** An Ordinance To Provide For An Election In Chester County, South Carolina To Determine The Wishes Of The Qualified Electors Of The County With Reference To Whether The County Should Adopt The Council-Administrator Form Of Government With Six (6) Council Members Elected From Single Member Districts And A Council Member Elected At Large Or Whether The County Should Keep Its Present Form Of County Government (County-Supervisor With Six (6) Council Members); The Referendum To Be Called In Accord With Section 4-9-10, S.C. Code Of Laws 1976 As Amended.
Vice Chairman Branham motioned to approve, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- c. **2nd Reading of Ordinance 2019-18** An Ordinance to Amend Chester County Ordinance No: 2019-6 The 2019-2020 Chester County Budget Ordinance, In Certain Limited Particulars Only. *FICA*
Vice Chairman Branham motioned to amend the budget in the amount of \$30,080.57, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- d. **2nd Reading of Ordinance 2019-19** An Ordinance To Amend Chester County Ordinance No. 2019-6 The 2019-2020 Chester County Budget Ordinance, In Certain Limited Particulars Only. *RAISE*
Councilwoman Guy motioned to approve, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- e. **2nd Reading of Ordinance 2019-13** An Ordinance Amending Section 2-732, et seq. of the Chester County Code of Ordinances to provide the Richburg Fire Protection District with the Authority to Provide Ambulance and Related Emergency Medical Services in the District's Limits; and other related matters. Councilman Jordan motioned to approve, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- f. **1st Reading of Ordinance 2020-1** An Ordinance to Renew the Chester Communications /dba/ as Truvista Franchise. Chairman Stuart motioned to approve, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- g. **1st Reading of Ordinance 2020-2** An Ordinance to Authorize the County Of Chester, By Chester County Council, To Sell the Real Estate Described on Attached Exhibit "A" Which Is Incorporated Herein By Reference to Mr. F.G. Delleney, Jr. Upon Such Terms and Conditions As Described In The Agreement Of Sale That Is Exhibit B. Vice Chairman Branham motioned to approve, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- h. **Resolution 2020-1** To Adopt the Gateway Strategic Plan.
Vice Chairman Branham motioned to approve, second by Councilman Vaughn. Councilman Wilson stated the plan is called the 2019 Chester County Economic Strategic Plan and not the Gateway Strategic Plan. County Attorney Winters stated Council could vote on the Resolution with the name change to 2020 Chester County Economic Development Strategic Plan. Councilman Wilson stated there are good and bad parts to the plan but had concerns. Councilman Vaughn withdrew his second, Vice Chairman Branham withdrew his motion. Vice Chairman Branham motioned to approve Chester County Economic Development Strategic Plan, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 5-1 to approve. Councilman Wilson opposed.
- i. **Resolution 2020-2** Consenting to the Removal of Certain Tax Map Numbers from York-Chester Industrial Park. Councilwoman Guy motioned to approve, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- j. **Resolution 2020-3** To Amend the Chester County Sheriff's Office Organizational Chart by adding a Public Relations Specialist. Vice Chairman Branham motioned to approve, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 6-0 to approve.

- k. **Resolution 2020-4** To Amend the Chester County Sheriff's Office Organizational Chart by combining the Patrol Division & Investigation Division into one Division Titled Enforcement.
Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve.

7. Old Business

a. **Presentation Concerning the Census Count- Earl Moore**

Mr. Moore stated the County had received funds to use in the Census department to further promote the census. He had received \$7500 dollars so far. Councilman Oliphant suggested Chairman Stuart get recommendations and present it at the next meeting.

b. **Discussion Concerning Update of Monies for Rodman Ball Park.**

Chairman Stuart the last one cents sales tax Rodman had four projects with one completed, the other three underfunded. Councilman Jordan asked if money left over from those projects be reallocated. Attorney Winters stated no, it needs to be specific to the project, she suggested not being so specific and increase the construction costs by 20% if the one cent sales tax passes this year and the money allocated the construction cost would have increased. The deadline to use the existing funds is April 30, 2021.

c. **Discussion Regarding Unlawful Signs-Councilman Vaughn.**

Councilman Vaughn stated unlawful signs were being placed around the County again and would like to have an alternative plan to see what the options were to eliminate the signs. Planning Director Levister stated it was a lot of man hours for his department and stated most of the signs now were from industries promoting jobs. It was suggested to have the local paper do a write up, add information to the County Facebook and website. Attorney Winters suggested announcing it at the next CDA (Chester Downtown Association) about putting out the illegal signs, she stated we do encourage all the industries to hire local but it's becoming a problem with the signs.

d. **Discussion Concerning Banners on Commerce Drive.**

Chairman Stuart stated from the proposed draft for the banners on Commerce Drive the right to display company banners must be located along Commerce Drive and the new roadway proposed between Commerce Drive and Edgeland Rd.

8. New Business

a. **Request a Change in Allocation of Funds to Purchase Radios for Sheriff Deputies. -Sheriff Dorsey**

Sheriff Dorsey stated he wanted to use money he has in the vehicle lease line \$23,274.67 and the Narcotics Fund \$3,372.28 to purchase walkie talkie radios. Councilman Oliphant motioned to approve \$ 26,646.95 dollars, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.

b. **Request a Change in Allocation of Funds and Request Additional Funds to Purchase vehicles for Sheriff Deputies. -Sheriff Dorsey**

Sheriff Dorsey stated they continue to struggle with the vehicle inventory, the older models have high mileage and poor quality to assist in calls. There are a lot with wear and tear currently and asked if he could come back when he had all the information to provide Council.

c. **Update Council on the Overall Operations of the Sheriff's Office. -Sheriff Dorsey**

Sheriff Dorsey stated in May when he became interim Sherriff there were 31 job vacancies, currently it is down to nineteen. Up to six SRO's in the school district, has conducted four active shooter training sessions. Adding more road deputies per shift and has had great success in the past few months in solving crimes. Currently he and his staff were working on a strategic plan with the help of Catawba Regional of Governments. He stated the moral is up and employees were staying and asked for Council's continued support.

9. **Executive Session-Councilman Jordan motioned to go to Executive Session, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote to 6-0 to approve.**

- a. Receive Legal Advice Regarding the Gateway Expansion.
- b. Discuss Economic Development Project 1964.

10. **Council Actions Following Executive Session-Councilman Jordan motioned to go back to Regular Session, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 6-0 to approve.**

- a. Action Taken Regarding Legal Advice for the Gateway Expansion. Taken as information only.
- b. Action Taken Regarding Economic Development Project 1964. Taken as information only.

11. **Council Comments**

Chairman Stuart stated the boiler for the court house was ordered in October, but the manufacture had an issue getting it her and. It was projected to be installed in the next few days.

Vice Chairman Branham stated he concerns about how fireworks were being used within the County and asked to include it on the next agenda.

12. **Adjourn-Councilwoman Guy motioned to adjourn, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 6-0 to adjourn.**

Time: 8:50 pm

K. Shane Stuart, County Supervisor & Chairman

Karen Lee, Clerk to Council

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the Chester News & Reporter, The Herald in Rock Hill, SC, WSOC-TV, Channel 9 Eyewitness News, the Mfg. Housing Institute of SC, WRHI Radio Station, C&N2 News, WCNC News and Capitol Consultants were notified and a notice was posted on the bulletin board at the Chester County Government Building 24 hours prior to the meeting