

CHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

R. Carlisle Roddey Government Complex

1476 J A Cochran Bypass, Chester, SC

Monday, June 15th, 2020 at 6:00 PM

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

- 1. Call to Order-**Chairman Stuart called the meeting to order, on the agenda he removed items 7.a., 8.a. and 7b. to the July 6th meeting.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation-** Pledge was recited in unison; Councilwoman Guy gave the invocation.
- 3. Approval of June 1st, 2020 Minutes.** Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.
- 4. Citizen Comments**

Diane Holcombe, 1687 Orrs Station Road, Chester stated she felt like everything was taking precedents over having a new animal shelter built. She knew it was taken off of the capital project sales tax because they did not have enough information, but she was willing to help with anything they needed to get the shelter built.

Paula Love, 1681 Pinckney Road, Chester stated she use to be volunteer at the animal shelter but now works there, they have been promised for years a new shelter would be built and stated animals deserve better.

Pete Stone, 761 Lancaster Hwy, Chester thanked Council for what they do, and enjoyed the community gathering Sheriff Dorsey and Mayor Stringfellow (City of Chester) put together. He recognized Ariane McCree's family. Mr. Stone stated he believed we can have a better world by working together to revise the system.

Christina King, 853 Old Mill Road, Richburg stated she coaches both soccer and softball at Rodman, it breaks her heart that Rodman and Great Falls parks are not treated in comparison to Chester. The priority should be the children of Chester County and not the location of the fields.

Melba Carter, 872 Yarborough Road, Chester stated veterans are being told by the driver who takes them to appointments they could not take them. She stated they are failing to do their job and taxpayers are paying this person for not doing the job. Chester County needs to put together a citizen's review board for everyone to work together.

Tabatha Strothers, 2449 N. Dawson Drive, Chester stated she was angry because she did not see anything on the agenda about Ariane McCree and asked what Councils plans were to bring justice. She also agreed the County needs a citizen review board.

Doris Macomson, 718 Jones Circle, Catawba stated she felt like everything was going backwards with the animal shelter and wondered why the shelter never receives anything. They have been promised a new one but has disappeared again.

Alan Clack, 1671 Great Falls Hwy, Blackstock asked Council if they would re-open the parks and fields, Governor McMaster's in May stated youth sports could return.

5. Public Hearing- Chairman Stuart opened the Public Hearing.

a. 3rd Reading of Ordinance 2019-5 To Levy And Impose A One Percent Sales And Use Tax, Subject To A Referendum In Chester County Pursuant To The CPST Act, South Carolina Code Annotated Section 4-10-300, Et Seq.; To Define The Specific Purposes And Designate The Projects For Which The Proceeds Of The Tax May Be Used; To Provide The Maximum Time For The Imposition And Collection Of The Tax; To Provide For A County-Wide Referendum And To Prescribe The Contents Of The Ballot Question In The Referendum; To Provide Conditions Precedent To The Imposition Of The Tax And Conditions Or Restrictions On The Use Of The Tax Revenue; To Establish The Priority In Which The Net Proceeds Of The Tax Are To Be Expended For The Purposes And Projects Stated; To Provide For The Conduct Of The Referendum By The Chester County Board Of Voter Registration And Elections; To Provide For The Payment Of The Tax; To Provide For The Issuance Of Bonds, In One Or More Series, Tax-Exempt Or Taxable, In An Amount Not To Exceed The Aggregate Of \$17,250,000; Authorizing The County Supervisor To Prescribe The Form And Details Of The Bonds; Providing For The Payment Of The Bonds And Pledge Of Revenues Related To The Bonds; Providing Otherwise For The Disposition Of The Proceeds Of The Bonds; Providing For Borrowing In Anticipation Of The Issuance Of The Bonds; Providing For The Disposition Of Property Related To The Bonds; And Other Related Matters. No one signed up to speak.

b. 3rd Reading of Ordinance 2020-16 Chester County Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget to Establish Operating And Capital Budgets For The Operation Of The County Government Of Chester County, South Carolina For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2020; To Provide For The Levy Of Taxes For Chester County For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2020; To Provide For The Expenditure Of Tax Revenues And Other County Funds; To Provide For Other County Purposes; To Authorize The County To Borrow Money In Anticipation Of Taxes And To Provide For The Repayment Of Sums Borrowed By The County Governing Body; To Provide For The Payment Of Tort Claims And Worker's Compensation Claims Against Chester County; To Provide For Certain Fiscal And Other Matters Relating To County Government. No one signed up to speak. Chairman Stuart closed the Public Hearing.

6. Ordinances/Resolutions/Proclamations

a. 3rd Reading of Ordinance 2019-5 To Levy And Impose A One Percent Sales And Use Tax, Subject To A Referendum In Chester County Pursuant To The CPST Act, South Carolina Code Annotated Section 4-10-300, Et Seq.; To Define The Specific Purposes And Designate The Projects For Which The Proceeds Of The Tax May Be Used; To Provide The Maximum Time For The Imposition And Collection Of The Tax; To Provide For A County-Wide Referendum And To Prescribe The Contents Of The Ballot Question In The Referendum; To Provide Conditions Precedent To The Imposition Of The Tax And Conditions Or Restrictions On The Use Of The Tax Revenue; To Establish The Priority In Which The Net Proceeds Of The Tax Are To Be Expended For The Purposes And Projects Stated; To Provide For The Conduct Of The Referendum By The Chester County Board Of Voter Registration And Elections; To Provide For The Payment Of The Tax; To Provide For The Issuance Of Bonds, In One Or More Series, Tax-Exempt Or Taxable, In An Amount Not To Exceed The Aggregate Of \$17,250,000; Authorizing The County Supervisor To Prescribe The Form And Details Of The Bonds; Providing For The Payment Of The Bonds And Pledge Of Revenues Related To The Bonds; Providing

Otherwise For The Disposition Of The Proceeds Of The Bonds; Providing For Borrowing In Anticipation Of The Issuance Of The Bonds; Providing For The Disposition Of Property Related To The Bonds; And Other Related Matters. Councilman Vaughn motioned to approve, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve.

b. 3rd Reading of Ordinance 2020-16 Chester County Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget to Establish Operating And Capital Budgets For The Operation Of The County Government Of Chester County, South Carolina For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2020; To Provide For The Levy Of Taxes For Chester County For The Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2020; To Provide For The Expenditure Of Tax Revenues And Other County Funds; To Provide For Other County Purposes; To Authorize The County To Borrow Money In Anticipation Of Taxes And To Provide For The Repayment Of Sums Borrowed By The County Governing Body; To Provide For The Payment Of Tort Claims And Worker's Compensation Claims Against Chester County; To Provide For Certain Fiscal And Other Matters Relating To County Government. Councilman Jordan motioned to postpone 3rd reading to June 18th, 2020 in order to have another budget workshop meeting, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.

c. Resolution 2020-12 To Approve Chester County 2020-2021 Departmental Organizational Charts. Chairman Stuart motioned to postpone to June 18th, 2020, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve.

d. 2nd Reading 2020-17 An Ordinance To Amend An Agreement For The Development Of A Joint Industrial And Business Park Of Chester And York Counties So As To Enlarge The Park To Include A Portion Of Those Certain Pieces, Parcels, Or Tracts Of Land, With All Improvements Thereon, Situate Lying Or Being In The County Of Chester, State Of South Carolina, Bearing Tax Map Number: 165-00-00-002 And Other Real Property. Vice Chairman Branham motioned to approve, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to approve.

f. 1st Reading of 2020-19 An Ordinance to Amend the Fort Lawn Fire Protection District Section 5 Administration of the Districts. Attorney Winters stated the ordinance reads Council appoints all the members, where the rules of procedure read Council appoints three and Fort Lawn appoints two. It was decided to leave the total of members at five, three appointed by County Council at four-year terms and two appointed by the Town of Fort Lawn at two-year terms. Attorney Winters stated she would present a revised ordinance at the next regular called meeting. Councilman Oliphant motioned to approve, second by Councilman Wilson. Vote 6-0 to approve.

g. Proclamation for Juneteenth Day.

Councilman Oliphant motioned to accept the proclamation for Juneteenth Day, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.

7. Old Business

a. To Review and Consider A Proposal for the Gateway IPRB. - Interim Economic Developer Jeff Burgess moved to the July 6th, 2020 agenda.

b. Memorandum of Understanding Chester Fire District- Attorney Winters moved to the July 6th, 2020 agenda

c. Update on Amending the Enabling Act for First Responders Using Radio Systems. Attorney Winters and E911 Director Doug McMurray.

911 Director McMurray stated this would be an advisory committee to Council, any recommendations would be presented to Council. Councilman Wilson motioned to approve by title only, second by

Councilman Jordan. Vote 6-0 to approve. Attorney Winters stated she would have an ordinance ready for the next meeting.

d. Update Pertaining to Opioid Litigation-Attorney Winters

Council asked Attorney Winters to provide what counties in South Carolina was not on the list and what the liability. Attorney Winters stated she would get the information requested.

e. Discuss Policy Instructions of how 911 dispatches out call's to Animal Care & Enforcement. -Councilman Wilson.

Jenna Laws, Supervisor of Animal Care and Enforcement stated she was made aware it was the Highway Patrol's responsibility to handle calls regarding livestock being out, which would help with less overtime for the department.

8. New Business

a. Budget Request for Small Business Development Retention and Expansion Program. Chairman Stuart moved to the July 6th, 2020 agenda

b. Special Request from the City of Chester regarding July 4th. Chairman Stuart Councilwoman Guy motioned to approve partially funding \$3400 dollars for the fireworks and to contact other municipalities and townships and to also ensure proper protocol is followed, second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to approve.

9. Boards and Commissions

a. Resignations of Fort Lawn Fire Protection District Commission. Chairman Stuart Councilman Jordan stated for the record he had recused himself regarding legal issues involving the fire department and the board at previous meetings, he wanted to be sure he did not have to recuse himself regard of accepting the resignations. Attorney Winters stated no he would not, Chairman Stuart motioned to accept the resignations by consent agenda of Gwen Lazenby, Ellen McFadden and James Lipscomb, Tracey Roddey and Rick Brown second by Councilman Oliphant. Vote 6-0 to accept the resignations.

b. Appointments to the Fort Lawn Fire Protection District Commission.

After much discussion it was decided to put this on the next agenda so Council could sort out issues before appointing new members. Councilman Oliphant stated now there is no board and the fire chief has no one to answer to until appointments are completed someone needs to be in charge and suggested the fire chief answer to the fire coordinator. Chairman Stuart agreed stating the fire coordinator Barkley Ramsey would be the point of contact to oversee the fire chief and other employees at that point of time.

10. Executive Session

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

a. Receive Legal Advice Regarding Former County Magistrate Judge. -Attorney Winters

11. Council Actions Following Executive Session

Councilman Wilson motioned to go back to Regular Session, second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to approve.

a. Action Taken on Legal Advice Concerning Former County Magistrate Judge.

Vice Chairman Branham motioned due to the missteps done in the appointments with some of the magistrates there, Mrs. Barbara Cameron was looking for Cobra pay, two weeks in back pay and to reinstate the lapse in her time to make it continual to her original employment date, the money value was \$ 4874.17, second by Councilman Vaughn. Vote 6-0 to approve.

12. **Council Comments-** None

13. **Adjourn-**Councilman Oliphant motioned to adjourn second by Councilwoman Guy. Vote 6-0 to adjourn.

K. Shane Stuart, County Supervisor & Chairman

Karen Lee, Clerk to Council

Time 9:10 PM

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.

