

## MINUTES

### MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL RECOVERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF CHESTER January 26, 2021 1:00 p.m.

#### Streamed Via Zoom

**Present:** Michael T. Doweary, Receiver  
Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland  
Kelly Diaz, County of Delaware, Office of the Controller, Sr. Accountant  
Kim Bracey, DCED, Executive Director for the Governor's Center for Local Government Services  
Vijay Kapoor, Chief of Staff to the Receiver  
Cody Deal, Recording Secretary  
William Jacobs, City Councilman

The Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee meeting began at 1:02 p.m. The meeting was streamed VIA ZOOM on the Chester City's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/cityofchester/>.

#### Opening Statement

Receiver Doweary provided instruction on the purpose of the Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee and that it is acting under the Municipal Financial Recovery Act, Act of 1987, P.L. 246, No. 47; also known as Act 47. The responsibilities outlined under Chapter 7, Receivership in Municipalities, Section 711, Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee, are as follows:

#### **Section 711. Municipal financial recovery advisory committee.**

(a) Establishment.--A municipal financial recovery advisory committee is established to meet and consult with the receiver in carrying out the duties under this chapter. The sole function of the advisory committee shall be to provide recommendations and feedback to the receiver on the implementation of the recovery plan. ((a) amended Oct. 31, 2014, P.L.2983, No.199)

(b) Composition.--The advisory committee established under subsection (a) shall be comprised of the following:

- (1) The chief executive officer, if any, of the distressed municipality or a designee.
- (2) The president of the governing body of the distressed municipality or a designee.
- (3) One member appointed by the county commissioners of the county where the distressed municipality is located.
- (4) One member appointed by the Governor.

((b) amended Oct. 31, 2014, P.L.2983, No.199)

(c) Compensation.--Members of the advisory committee shall receive no compensation for their services.

(d) Meetings.--The advisory committee shall meet with the receiver at least twice per month to discuss the recovery plan. Meetings of the advisory committee shall be in accordance with 65 Pa.C.S. Ch. 7 (relating to open meetings).

(e) Duty to consult.--The receiver shall consult with the advisory committee prior to exercising any of the powers under section 706(a)(1), (2), (3), (5), (6), (7) and (9).

(f) Termination.--The advisory committee shall terminate in conjunction with the expiration of the receivership as provided for under section 710.

(711 added Oct. 20, 2011, P.L.318, No.79)

## **Minutes of January 12, 2021**

First order of business was to approve the minutes from the January 12 Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Meeting Minutes.

The Receiver asked for a motion to accept the minutes of January 12.

It was moved by Mayor Kirkland and seconded by Director Bracey that:

**“The January 12, 2021 minutes of the Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee be accepted as written.”**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **Reports – Vijay Kapoor**

Mr. Kapoor reported on the status of the Recovery Plan. Continued implementation of the newly established budget will be ongoing in 2021. We are also currently developing a multiyear projection for the city with their finance team to provide more assistance moving forward. Our operational team is working with the City’s administration on helping to develop and deliver the services the residents of Chester deserve. Mr. Kapoor detailed his upcoming focus is the collective bargaining agreements with both the Teamsters, Police, and Fire unions. The next item discussed was the request made on behalf of the Receiver’s team for an extension filed for an amended recovery plan to be submitted on April 7<sup>th</sup>, which was granted by the judge.

## **Public Comments**

The Receiver noted 38 public comments were received since the previous MFRAC Meeting on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. All 38 comments pertaining to the sale of the Chester Water Authority. Receipt of comments was acknowledged, and although it is not a matter the Receiver’s team is involved in at this point, it is currently in the court process where it is expected to be for some time.

## **Member Comments**

Mr. Kapoor stated the update on the status of the Recovery is due on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

There being no further business to discuss, the Receiver adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

The next Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. streamed via the City’s Facebook page and ZOOM.

Approved this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February 2021.

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Michael T. Doweary  
Receiver for the City of Chester

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Secretary – Cody Deal