

MINUTES

MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL RECOVERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF CHESTER December 14, 2021 1:00 p.m.

**Chester City Hall
Council Chambers
1 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor
Chester, PA 19013
And VIA ZOOM**

Present: Michael T. Doweary, Receiver
Kelly Diaz, County of Delaware, Office of the Controller, Sr. Accountant
Vijay Kapoor, Chief of Staff to the Receiver
Cody Deal, Executive Assistant
Mayor Thaddeus Kirkland
Councilman William Jacobs
Jabari Jones, FoxChase Advisors
Dr. Tim McGrath, McGrath Consulting
Gregg Cleveland, McGrath Consulting

Absent: Kim Bracey, DCED, Executive Director for the Governor's Center for Local Government Services

The Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee meeting began at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was streamed on the Chester City's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/cityofchester/>.

Minutes of November 23 MFRAC Meeting

The Receiver asked if there were any changes or addendums to the November 23rd Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee meeting minutes.

Hearing none, the Receiver asked for a motion to accept the minutes of November 23rd.

It was moved by Mayor Kirkland and seconded by Councilman Jacobs that:

"The minutes of the November 23 Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee Meetings be accepted as written."

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Comments

The receiver noted the 2 unique public comments received, with 11 in total, indicating that all pertain to the ongoing CWA litigation. The Receiver opened the floor for any comments which there were none.

Recovery Plan Update

The Receiver passed the floor to Mr. Kapoor for an update on the Receiver's recovery plan.

Mr. Kapoor began his update with a budget discussion as we come to the end of the year. The Receiver's team and the City are both collaboratively reconciling a uniform budget to be adopted by close of the year.

He also mentioned that labor negotiations are still ongoing, and the Judge overseeing Receivership, Judge Crompton, will be ending his term at the beginning of the new year. The new Judge is yet to be determined.

There were no questions for Mr. Kapoor.

Receiver Update

The Receiver opened his update with a reminder and thank you to the many volunteers responding to the pandemic. He mentioned the many links available on our website for info on this ongoing effort. He also gave a pat on the back to the residents and business owners in Chester for helping the city to move in the right direction regarding the pandemic.

He noted that the next and final meeting of 2021 will be held on December 28th with advertisement for the meeting dates of 2022 forthcoming.

He also thanked the attendees for last night's community engagement session, mentioning that the hope is to hold these more regularly and possibly in person in 2022. He mentioned the week of January 17 for the next engagement session with a specific date and time forthcoming.

Lastly, he referenced the receivership website, chesterreceivership.com, for all information and resources regarding Receivership.

He opened the floor for any questions, which there were none.

Presentation RE: Fire Study

The Receiver gave the floor to Jabari Jones for an introduction of today's presenters – Dr. Tim McGrath and Gregg Cleveland of McGrath Consulting to provide a presentation on their recently completed study of the Chester City Fire Department and how it can possibly become more efficient and effective.

The presentation as well as the follow up questions/discussion from the committee can be found on the receivership website, www.chesterreceivership.com

Member Comments

The Receiver opened the floor for any questions or comments on the fire study, to which there were various responses regarding consolidation of the department, staffing, and contracting fire response work. Detailed questions and answers can be found on the receivership website in the

presentation. In closing, the Receiver thanked McGrath consulting as well as the State for assistance in sponsoring this study.

There being no further business to discuss, the Receiver adjourned the meeting at 1:51 p.m.

The next Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 28th at 1:00 p.m. at Chester City Hall, City Council Chambers, 1 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor, Chester, PA 19013, and streamed VIA ZOOM through the City's Facebook page.

Approved this 28th Day of December 2021.

Michael T. Doweary
Receiver for the City of Chester

Secretary – Cody Deal