

MINUTES

**MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL RECOVERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE CITY OF CHESTER
December 22, 2020
1:00 p.m.**

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

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

Absent: William Jacobs, City Councilman

The Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee meeting began at 1:04 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 December 8, 2020

First order of business was to approve the minutes from the December 8th Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Meeting Minutes.

The Receiver asked for a motion to accept the minutes of December 8th.

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

“The December 8, 2020 minutes of the Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee be accepted as written.”

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reports – Vijay Kapoor

Mr. Kapoor detailed how the budget was still being approved and that it was hopeful to be finalized by the following week.

The second item mentioned by Mr. Kapoor was the upcoming items relating to the work of the Receiver including the Teamsters collective bargaining agreement, but that the main focus has been on the budget of the City of Chester and its approval. Receiver Status Updates can be found on our website, chesterreceivership.com.

Committee Comments

Director Bracey stated her desire to feel more involved, or if there was any other assistance she could provide, aside from the required meetings every 2nd and 4th Tuesday. It was explained by Mr. Kapoor that these meetings are mandatory under Act 47 but more involvement can be discussed as well.

Public Comments

The Receiver noted 25 public comments were received since the previous MFRAC Meeting on November 24th. 24 pertained to the monetization of the Chester Water Authority, which is not a primary focus of this Receivership as it is likely to remain in litigation for quite some time. One

comment pertained to responding to the COVID pandemic and the city's response, as well as the salaries for elected officials.

Member Comments

Mayor Kirkland wished all in attendance and viewing the recording a Merry Christmas.

There being no further business to discuss, the Receiver adjourned the meeting at 1:14 p.m.

The next Municipal Financial Recovery Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 12, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. streamed via the City's Facebook page and ZOOM.

Approved this 12th day of January 2021.

Michael T. Doweary
Receiver for the City of Chester

Secretary – Cody Deal