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Letter: Chester receiver picking fights instead of fixing city

By DAILY TIMES
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Editor:

Chester residents deserve leadership focused on real results, not more legal fights.

The recent controversy over a city appointee to the Chester Water Authority (CWA) board has been framed as if the authority is refusing to allow someone to serve. That is simply not true. The public record tells a very different story.

The real issue is not who was appointed, but the dilemma that appointment creates for CWA's board. The individual is a senior city employee working inside an administration that is actively engaged in litigation against the authority and has been pushing to monetize it.

At the same time, city actions have suggested that board members should act in the city's interests. That creates a clear and unavoidable conflict. Members of the authority's board have a legal obligation to act in the best interests of the authority and its ratepayers. Those responsibilities cannot be reconciled with directives to prioritize the city's interests.

This situation did not happen by accident. It reflects a pattern of actions by the city's receiver that has led to repeated legal disputes instead of meaningful progress for Chester.

Every day, the Chester Water Authority delivers safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water to the people we serve. We remain focused on that responsibility.

It is fair to ask the receiver to show what he and his team have actually delivered for the city. What Act 47 goals have been achieved? What real problems have been solved?

Noel Brandon,Chair, Chester Water Authority