

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

THE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY CITY OF CHETOPA, KANSAS

December 1, 2020

The Chetopa City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall.

PRESIDING: Mayor Tammy Bushong.

PRESENT: Council Members/Gary Bryant (at 7:04 p.m.), Geraldine Castle, Ernie Wulf, Ashley Brown and Linda Seaman. Juanita Kepner was not present.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Toni A. Crumrine, Police Chief Scott Feagan, Attorney Shane Adamson, City Supervisor Bryant Midgett, Water Plant Supervisor Mike Tyler, Lee Bushong and Corie Brown.

Mayor Bushong led the council and visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting in prayer.

A vacation request for Tim Grover was requested to be added to the agenda.

Motion by Castle, second by Wulf to approve the agenda with the addition. Motion carried.

Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to approve the Minutes of the last regular meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Brown, second by Castle to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Motion by Castle, second by Seaman to approve the Warrant Register. Motion carried.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #3621 as follows:

Payroll Funds	\$25692.15
Other Funds	<u>31647.30</u>
Total of all funds	\$57339.45

CONDEMNATION HEARING-420 N. 3RD ST-NEEL

Mayor Bushong opened up the condemnation public hearing for the property at 420 N. 3rd Street belonging to Sharen Neel. Neel was not present and Police Chief Feagan reported that the floor had caved in on him when they were searching for someone. These condemnation proceedings had been started originally in January but further action was tabled until the COVID-19 restrictions were lifted and then discussed again in October to set up another public hearing. Discussion continued on the condition of the house.

Motion by Castle, second by Wulf to proceed with the condemnation and have the demotion started by January 4, 2021 and completed in thirty (30) days. Motion carried.

The condemnation hearing was closed.

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MAYOR, COUNCIL, EMPLOYEES & VISITORS

Mayor Bushong discussed building on Maple that the back of the building is being torn out and Police Chief Feagan will look at tomorrow. Saw that Zach Lawellin had removed a culvert and City Supervisor Midgett reported that there was not a culvert there and Lawellin has made an area to wash his equipment. Bushong had seen a building being moved in by Michael Walker and questioned whether a building permit had been obtained as the property is not in their name. Clerk Crumrine responded that a building permit had been applied for and would be on the next meeting's agenda and that the owner had emailed Debbie Darnell giving them permission to move the building in.

Castle discussed the condition of the lights on the community building and asked for a donation from the city to purchase new lights and decorations for the park.

Motion by Bryant, second by Brown to give the Chetopa Chamber of Commerce \$300 for Christmas lights and decorations. Motion carried.

Castle asked if the city would sponsor a business decorating contest like last year as several business owners had asked if this would be done again.

Motion by Bryant, second by Wulf to have the Business Christmas decorating contests with same criteria as last year. Motion carried.

Castle questioned the alley that was discussed last meeting that had items blocking the alley. Police Chief Feagan showed aerial photos and it was pointed out that there were chicken coops in the alley and he will have letter sent to owners to move them.

Wulf discussed items that needed addressed at the city library. There is a small tree growing up in the power lines that needs removed, keys to the back door had been lost and it needed to be rekeyed and asked if there was a sneeze guard available to set between the two computers that were available for the public to use. These concerns will be addressed.

Seaman had been asked by Kathy Pease if the city would give her an extension and it was reported that Pease had been previously told she would need to come to the meeting to ask. A council float is being made for the Christmas Parade and it was asked how many would be riding the float and a count was made. Mayor Bushong voiced her concerns with the parade due to the covid-19 pandemic. There is a sweet gumball tree in Veterans Park that is a safety issue with the pods that are dropped and it was asked if the tree could be removed and replaced with a more appropriate tree from donations left for a memorial to Dennis Gerrity. Discussion followed.

Motion by Wulf, second by Brown to have city crews remove the sweet gumball tree and replace it with a new tree in memory of Dennis Gerrity. Motion carried.

Clerk Crumrine reminded the council that employee evaluations needed to be turned in and that there would be a ZOOM meeting on December 3, 2020 regarding the request from the Osage Tribal Committee for a survey to be done prior to the sewer project being started.

Police Chief Feagan informed the council that they had on their table a year to date police activity report that had been requested at the last meeting.

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City Supervisor Midgett reported that KDOT had told him that they are getting bids to remove the brush buildup on the bridge piers but it probably wouldn't be started until next year.

Water Plant Supervisor Tyler informed the council that the chlorine burn had been started to disinfect the water lines and there would be a greater chlorine smell and taste for a while.

Clerk Crumrine reported that the EMC Insurance Company has scheduled an inspection of the city buildings starting at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 3rd.

FOLLOW UP ON OLD BUSINESS

It was reported that all the funding received from SPARKS had been spent and the clerk is in the process of compiling the reporting to Labette County. The 2020 budget amendment had been completed and the budget hearing is scheduled for the December 15, 2020 council meeting. There were several new people interested in serving on the library board, but the board still recommended Virginia Davis to fill the vacancy. Council Member Wulf asked that a new written recommendation be done for the next council meeting. Further action on the library board appointment was tabled. An ordinance to set new fees for excavation of sewer mains was presented.

Motion by Wulf, second by Castle to adopt Ordinance 941. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 941/AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 15-403(c) OF THE CITY CODE OF CHETOPA, KANSAS RELATING TO EXCAVATION OF SEWER MAIN.

Police Chief Feagan reported that they are still working on the junk vehicles but most have complied with the ordinance requirements.

VACTION REQUESTS

Police Officer Corey Brown requested three (3) days' vacation in December.

Motion by Castle, second by Seaman to approve the vacation request for Brown. Motion carried.

Water Plant Operator Tim Grover requested seven (7) days' vacation in December.

Motion by Seaman, second by Brown to approve the vacation request for Grover. Motion carried.

Motion by Seaman, second by Bryant to adjourn. Motion carried.

Seal

Mayor

City Clerk