

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

March 7, 2023

The Chetopa City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall.

PRESIDING: Mayor Tammy Bushong.

PRESENT: Council Members/Bob Boyd, Linda Seaman, Justin Nading, Juanita Kepner and Ernie Wulf. Geraldine Castle was not present.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Toni A. Crumrine, Police Chief/City Supervisor/Scott Feagan, Attorney Shane Adamson (via Zoom), Cameron Snyder, Water Plant Supervisor Mike Tyler and Levi Lashbrook (at 7:30 p.m.).

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

It was requested to add visitor Tim “Chris” Burnham, Easter Egg Hunt Donation and Library roof discussion to the agenda.

Motion by Seaman, second by Boyd to approve the Agenda with the additions. Motion carried.

Boyd noted that the minutes had the incorrect date at the bottom and Clerk Crumrine stated that the incorrect date had been discovered and changed after copies had been made for the council packets but before the permanent copy was made.

Motion by Kepner, second by Wulf to approve the Minutes of the last regular meeting, noting the date change at the bottom. Motion carried.

Nading questioned the negative water fund balance on the treasurer’s report and Clerk Crumrine informed the council that there is a \$50,000.00 transfer check on the Warrant Register that will bring the water fund back positive once it is deposited.

Motion by Seaman, second by Kepner to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion carried.

Clerk Crumrine discussed the check written to KDHE in the amount of \$66,660.05 and explained it was a payment made on the sewer temporary funding loan.

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

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE # 3677 as follows:

Payroll Funds	\$ 34121.05
Other Funds	<u>255494.96</u>
Total of all Funds	\$289616.01

MAYOR, COUNCIL, EMPLOYEES & VISITORS

Cameron Snyder was present to discuss the change that they were doing at his property located at 130 Locust St. Instead of a mobile home, they have submitted a new building permit to move a 14' x 40' building to property at 130 Locust St. Building Inspector Justin Nading had reviewed the application and showed pictures of the building.

Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to approve the Snyder building permit. Motion carried.

Levi Lashbrook was not present but appeared at 7:30 p.m. An update on properties that letters had been sent was given. When Lashbrook arrived, he requested an extension to get his property cleaned up. Discussion followed.

Motion by Wulf, second by Kepner to give Lashbrook an extension until March 21, 2023 and to appear at the next council meeting to give an update on the cleanup progress. Motion carried.

Water Plant Supervisor Mike Tyler gave an update on the status of the parts order and repairs scheduled at the water plant and also discussed grant opportunities that could be checked into. It was reported that Amy Wilkinson is working on training for grant writing. Discussion followed.

Motion by Nading, second by Wulf to approve the purchase of a new gear box for the carbon motor to be used as a spare. Motion carried.

Mayor Bushong discussed the camp sites and fees and further discussion continued.

Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to increase the camping fees to \$20 for water and electric usage and \$10 for non-water and electric usage. Motion carried. Clerk Crumrine will have an ordinance to implement the fee increase and repeal Ordinance No. 919 for the next meeting.

Boyd asked that the new officer be added to the information sheet that Clerk Crumrine has given the council and Crumrine stated it would be updated when the officer starts on March 9th. Boyd also discussed grant opportunities, showed articles in the newspaper regarding KDOT working on sidewalks running through Chetopa and discussed the minutes and proposed a change. No action was taken from discussion.

Seaman discussed property and mayor also questioned what the process is if someone refuses to pick up a nuisance certified letter.

Nading discussed usage history on resident that seemed to be excessive for one month. Nading also reported that a former employee had stated that the city had maps of the electric lines on a disk. This will be researched to see if a disk can be located. Discussion followed.

Motion by Wulf, second by Kepner to average the billing usage for a year and use that average for October and issue a credit on the bill for that adjustment. Motion carried.

Wulf discussed field maintenance and repairs that is need at the Elmore Park ball field, the volleyball net needing repaired or replaced and the pipe barricades need to be put back together.

Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to spray, strip and condition the ball field at Elmore Park and repair fencing. Motion carried. Seaman voted no.

Mayor Bushong reported on the discussion that she had with Burnham on the closing of the alley by River Market. Burnham owns both sides of the alley and wishes to close the alley. Discussion followed.

Motion by Boyd, second by Wulf to table action on the petition to close the alley until the next meeting. Motion carried.

Clerk Crumrine discussed the library roof as the carpet on the East side of the interior is wet. It was discussed the repairs had been made to the roof in December 2021 and the contractor will be contacted regarding warranty. The audit has been completed by the audit firm and they will be finalizing the report. It was asked if the city will make a donation to this year's Easter Egg Hunt as in the past a \$50 donation has been made.

Motion by Nading, second by Kepner to donate \$50 towards the Easter Egg Hunt. Motion carried.

Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan had given an activity report to the council members, reported that Josh Russell will start with the city on March 9, 2023 and requested permission to purchase bicycles for the Easter Egg Hunt that will be paid out of the Special Law fund.

Motion by Nading, second by Wulf to approve the purchase of the bicycles by the police department. Motion carried.

Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan reported that Myles Adams had received his CDL license and asked about the wage increase that Adams should receive. Feagan also reported that Grissom has been scheduled to take the written test on March 21st. The bucket truck is getting worked on and should be back in service in a couple of weeks.

Motion by Nading, second by Seaman to give the \$0.35 per hour raise to Adams effective March 6, 2023 when he got the CDL license. Motion carried.

Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan informed the council that the First Responder unit is back in service and discussion was held on what would be done with the truck and where motor billing and lease purchase payments will be paid from.

Motion by Seaman, second by Boyd to relocate the truck to the water plant, pay for the motor out of the First Responder budget and pay future lease payments from the water plant department budget. Motion carried.

Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan presented information on the utility crimper that he discussed last meeting at a cost of \$2229.00.

Motion by Boyd, second by Wulf to approve the purchase of the utility crimper. Motion carried.

Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan reported that the park bathrooms will be open next week, had given the construction company doing sidewalks for KDOT permission to park their equipment on the city property North of the complex, discussed the fire rings made by the FFA and the generator pad will be poured on Friday, March 10, 2023. The 60 and 80 Kw

generators and the three transfer switches were paid for and all the ARRP funds have been used and the 40 Kw generator will be paid for out of the Water Depreciation & Maintenance Fund when received. The hiring of a seasonal mow man was discussed.

Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to advertise to hire someone for the 2023 mowing season at \$11 per hour. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS FOLLOWUP

The two RFP proposals and references were reviewed by the mayor and clerk and it was recommended that the city choose KB Archaeological Consulting.

Motion by Wulf, second by Boyd to enter into a contract with KB Archaeological Consulting to do the archaeological survey required by the Osage Nation PA. Motion carried.

Clerk Crumrine will send notification to the Osage Nation and RUD for their approval of the RFP decision.

Discussion was held on the other old business and it was noted that the GFL rate at the transfer station for the trash disposal is going to stay the same rate for now. The payoff of the low interest rate electric loan was discussed.

Motion by Boyd, second by Wulf to write letter to State to give notice that the city wishes to pay off the loan. Motion carried.

BURNT HOUSE IN WEST END OF TOWN

Progress is being made on the cleanup of the burnt structure. It was also discussed that property owners can't just put up a fence around a nuisance to alleviate the violation issue and other properties that letters need to be written were noted.

Motion by Seaman, second by Wulf to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Seal

Mayor

City Clerk