

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

August 15, 2023

The Chetopa City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 7:10 p.m. when a quorum was present, at City Hall.

PRESIDING: Mayor Tammy Bushong.

PRESENT: Council Members/Bob Boyd, Linda Seaman, Justin Nading and Geraldine Castle (at 7:10 p.m.). Juanita Kepner and Ernie Wulf were not present.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Toni A. Crumrine, Police Chief/City Supervisor Scott Feagan, Attorney Shane Adamson, Assistant City Clerk Amy Wilkinson, Library Board Member Bonnie Mazingo, David and Brenda Miller and Luke and Savannah Wethey.

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 delete the paving bids from the agenda.

Motion by Castle, second by Seaman to approve the Agenda with the deletion. Motion carried.

Boyd questioned the wording in the contract that new officers are to sign and it was discussed that the purpose of the contract is that if an employee resigns within the two year period, that employee needs to reimburse the city the training expenses, but if the city terminates the employee, it's not fair to expect that person to reimburse the expenses, because it wasn't the employees decision to resign. Mayor Bushong requested that an individual's name be removed during a discussion in the minutes.

Motion by Castle, second by Boyd to approve the Minutes of the last regular meeting with the changes discussed. Motion carried.

Motion Seaman, second by Nading to approve the Municipal Court Report. Motion carried.

Boyd questioned the negative balance in the Park Fund and why the large disbursement balance in July. This will be researched.

Motion by Boyd, second by Seaman to approve the Treasurer's Reports. Motion carried.

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

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE # 3688** as follows:

Payroll Funds	\$ 23194.34
Other Funds	<u>173209.48</u>
Total of all Funds	\$196403.82

**MAYOR, COUNCIL, EMPLOYEE & VISITORS**

**Luke Wethey** was present to request permission to have their annual Brush Arbor event at the East River Park, that is scheduled for September 13-17, 2023 plus additional time to put up the brush arbor.

Motion by Nading, second by Castle to allow the House of Prayer to hold their Brush Arbor in the East River Park. Motion carried.

**David and Brenda Miller** addressed the council on helping with a water leak that ran their water portion of the bill up almost \$700. Discussion followed and a copy of the billing history was presented to the council.

Motion by Castle, second by Nading to allow the water usage portion of the bill to be calculated at the city's cost and allow the bill to be paid over a six (6) month period. Motion carried.

**Library Board Member Bonnie Mozingo** discussed the list of repairs that are needed at the library. This will be looked at and try to find funding to fix noted building repairs

**Mayor Bushong** informed the council of the general public transportation for Labette County that will be provided by SEK-CAP at no cost, that individuals can use anywhere in the county to go to doctor's appointments, shopping and community events. Bushong reported that an Amazon Business account has been set up, informed the council that Emergency Manager Charlie Morse asked permission to set up in Chetopa to be available to talk to residents about the floodplain and discussed the food trucks that will be coming to town and that some are in disagreement of the location that the trucks will be setting up for business.

**Boyd** questioned if the River Market was still in business.

**Seaman** discussed the use of the sidewalk by a business **Kickn "A" Boot & Saddle** on Maple St.

**Nading** reported that the flags on the memorial are getting worn.

**Clerk Crumrine** discussed the sewer smell that is still present even after vents were installed, recommended that a surplus sale be put together to get rid of equipment no longer needed and reported on a conversation with Jeri Sanders on a dead tree by their residence. Feagan reported that it did need to come down. Feagan was also instructed to put together a list of surplus items.

Motion by Nading, second by Seaman to take bids to cut the tree down. Motion carried.

Motion by Nading, second by Seaman to take sealed bids for the Ford police truck with the right to refuse any and all bids. Motion carried.

**Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan** reported that Carly Eichler is doing a fantastic job, gave an update on the water plant generators and that Colton Ingram and Don Wagner will get together to do a startup and was recommended to enter into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel.

An update was given on the New Holland loader and discussed options presented by S&H on repairs, reported that Erie hasn't gotten in the parts for the Ford Tractor and that Myles Adams will be meeting with Jason Solomon with the Kansas Rural Water Association on being the city's sewer operator in training.

Motion by Boyd, second by Nading to have a new axle put in for the loader.

Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS FOLLOWUP**

Ordinance No. 974 regarding the annual increase for sanitation rates, was presented for approval.

Motion by Seaman, second by Nading to adopt Ordinance No.974. Motion carried.

### **ORDINANCE NO. 974/AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER XV, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 15-520 RELATING TO THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE COLLECTION OF REFUSE FOR THE CITY.**

The lease purchase for the 2023 Ford police truck was presented for approval for the mayor, clerk and city treasurer to execute.

Motion by Seaman, second by Nading to approve the truck lease purchase agreement.

Motion carried.

### **RESIGNATION/APPOINTMENT FOR CLEANING POSITION**

A letter of resignation was read from Teresa Hallam, who was appointed to the cleaning position and Mayor Bushong appointed Pauline Brecheisen to the cleaning position as the clerk had already asked if Brecheisen was still interested in the position.

Motion by Castle, second by Seaman to confirm the appointment. Motion carried.

### **BUILDING PERMIT**

Posted on the Chetopa Residents Facebook page and the city website, with no protest, Catherine Dahl to build a 14' x 14' screened in porch at 627 Walnut St., in the City of Chetopa.

Motion by Seaman, second by Castle to approve the building permit. Motion carried.

Nading as building inspector abstained.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Seaman, second by Castle to enter into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with mayor, council, clerk, police chief/city supervisor and assistant city clerk present for a period of ten (10) minutes with the session ending at 9:19 p.m. Motion carried.

Entered: 9:09 p.m.

Returned: 9:19 p.m.

Mayor Bushong called the meeting back to order and the following action was taken.

Motion by Nading, second by Seaman to promote Myles Adams to Assistant City Supervisor with a \$.50/hour increase in wage. Motion carried.

Assistant City Clerk Wilkinson asked when the city council would be advertising for applicants for the utility bookkeeper/city treasurer position as Darnell has stated her intentions to retire in January.

Motion by Seaman, second by Boyd to start advertising for applications for city utility bookkeeper/city treasurer. Motion carried.

Motion by Seaman, second by Nading to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Seal

---

Mayor

---

City Clerk