

# UNAPPROVED MINUTES

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

May 5, 2020

The Chetopa City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

PRESIDING: Mayor Tammy Bushong

PRESENT: Council Members/Gary W. Bryant, Juanita Kepner, Geraldine Castle, Betsy Koontz, Carthen Nash and Linda Seaman.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Toni A. Crumrine, Police Chief Scott Feagan, Darren Prince and Debbie Kabrey. (Kabrey sat outside for meeting to be in compliance with the 10 person limit.)

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

It was requested to add a vacation request for Paul Trinkle to the agenda.

Motion by Nash, second by Koontz to approve the agenda with the addition. Motion carried.

Motion by Bryant, second by Koontz to approve the Minutes from the last regular meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Nash, second by Kepner to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

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

### **APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE # 3607** as follows:

Payroll Funds	\$25232.55
Other Funds	<u>23154.06</u>
Total of all funds	\$48386.61

### **MAYOR, COUNCIL, EMPLOYEES & VISITORS**

**Debbie Kabrey** was called in to be the first visitor and Darren Prince stepped outside. Kabrey asked permission to block off Walnut Street between 8<sup>th</sup> St. and 9<sup>th</sup> St. on May 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 2:00 p.m. so that cars could drive by and see the residents, as there have been no visitors allowed in the nursing facility because of the COVID-19.

Motion by Koontz, second by Kepner to approve the closing of Walnut Street for the nursing home drive by. Motion carried. Kabrey left and Prince re-entered the council room.

**Darren Prince with KMEA** was present to discuss the electric rate options that he had compiled from information that he had received from Utility Bookkeeper/Treasurer Debbie Darnell and City Clerk Toni A. Crumrine, Packets were given to the council to follow along and discussion followed.

Motion by Nash, second by Bryant to go with the rate option #1 as presented by KMEA. Motion carried. (This option does away with the Range Rate and will result in approximately

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a15% rate reduction and will set up a capital improvement fund to fund future improvements and repairs). (Prince left).

**Mayor Bushong** reported that she had saw the library had reopened and stated that it was not in compliance with the Phase 1 openings set out by Governor Kelley.

**Castle** noted that the grass is getting tall on several properties and Police Chief Feagan has talked to Debbie Darnell and letters will start to be sent out.

**Koontz** had wondered where the dividend payable for the KMU Safety Group Program was deposited and was told by the clerk before the meeting that the funds were deposited into General Operating.

**Police Chief Feagan** had received an estimate to make repairs to the shock/strut assembly on the 2014 Ford Police Truck in the amount of \$1577.83.

Motion by Kepner, second by Bryant to get the police truck fixed. Motion carried.

**Mayor Bushong** had visited with City Supervisor Midgett and he reported that the seasonal mow man Nicholas Dimos was doing a good job. Action on hiring a city helper will be put on hold for the time being.

**Clerk Crumrine** discussed the pool opening and that she has contacted LCC and they stated the CORE facility at Labette Health had not contacted them about offering facilities to certify lifeguards and she had call the CORE facility and has not heard back from them. Oswego and Parsons are waiting on an answer about how to certify lifeguards before they make a decision to open. This will be put on the agenda for an update at the next meeting.

**Castle** inquired when the bathroom facilities at Veterans and Elmore Parks would be unlocked. Discussion followed.

Motion by Nash, second by Kepner to open the bathrooms immediately at Veterans and Elmore Parks. Motion carried. Bryant voted no.

**Police Chief Feagan** informed the council that he purchased two camera systems for approximately \$1000 and they will be in operation the first of next week. (Koontz left at 7:54 p.m. during the park camera discussion).

**Mayor Bushong** asked about fencing off the park area around where the bank is eroding at Veterans Park and this will be discussed with City Supervisor Midgett in the morning.

**City Clerk Crumrine** updated the council on the repairs needed on the first responder truck that was recently purchased. Attorney Adamson was going to deal with the Warranty Company about covering the repairs but if it went to trial it could be a while. Police Chief Feagan who is also the First Responder President informed the council that repairs and tires are needed on the old unit if the new truck is not put into service soon to replace it.

Motion by Bryant, second by Kepner to go ahead with the repairs on the First Responder Unit truck. Motion carried.

Other outstanding old business follow up was as follows: No further action on the purchase of the water tower relief valve; loud exhaust noise can be pursued in the Standard Traffic Ordinance; letter has been sent on the vehicles in the yard; owner gave permission for the city to pick up the mound of dirt; the goats are kept in compartmentalized areas on the property

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and Council Member Bryant will write up a policy on what expenses are charged to residents and what is paid by the city.

## **BUILDING PERMITS**

Published on the Facebook Chetopa Residents and on the Chetopa website; Michael and Marla Jones to move a prebuilt 8' x 16' storage building to property at 830 Maple and Joel Riddle to build a 10' x 20' addition and a 16' gazebo at 122 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St., both in the City of Chetopa with no protest being lodged against either. Building Inspector Bryant had not received the Jones building permit application but had no issue with the Riddle building permit.

Motion by Nash, second by Kepner to approve the Riddle building permit and approve the Jones building permit pending Building Inspector Bryant's approval. Motion carried.

## **AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER**

Clerk Crumrine presented the audit engagement letter from Jarred, Gilmore & Phillips to perform the 2019 audit. Crumrine will contact them as she did not see the assistance in the preparation of the 2021 in the engagement letter.

Motion by Nash, second by Kepner to allow the mayor to sign the engagement letter. Motion carried.

**Marla Jones** had messaged during the Facebook Live presentation that the storage building will be put behind the house and Bryant will contact them about the specifics.

## **VACATION REQUEST**

Paul Trinkle has requested five (5) days' vacation in June.

Motion by Bryant, second by Kepner to approve the vacation request for Trinkle. Motion carried.

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

Seal

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Mayor

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City Clerk