

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

September 6, 2022

The Chetopa City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall.

PRESIDING: Mayor Tammy Bushong.

PRESENT: Council Members/Linda Seaman, Juanita Kepner, Geraldine Castle and Ernie Wulf. Bob Boyd and Pam Campbell were not present.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Toni A. Crumrine, Police Chief/Interim City Supervisor Scott Feagan, Attorney Shane Adamson via Zoom, Angela Forquer, Tiffany Harris, Delinda Lance, Dale Miller and Shane Lamb (at 7:10 p.m.).

It was asked to delete visitor Rebecca Sanders and add Angela Forquer and Delinda Lance as visitors and a special assessment ordinance to the agenda.

Motion by Castle, second by Wulf to approve the agenda with the additions and deletion. Motion carried.

A correction on Page 3 of the August 16, 2022 minutes was noted to change the word will to willing.

Motion by Kepner, second by Castle to approve the Minutes of the last regular meeting with the correction. Motion carried.

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

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

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #3665** as follows:

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Payroll Funds      | \$ 29618.17     |
| Other Funds        | <u>85445.85</u> |
| Total of all funds | \$115064.02     |

**2023 BUDGET HEARING**

Mayor Bushong opened the 2023 Budget Hearing and there was no one present to discuss the budget. Resolution 2022-2 was presented for approval that approved the tax levy exceeding the revenue neutral rate calculated by the county clerk.

Motion by Castle, second by Wulf to adopt Resolution No. 2022-2. Motion carried.

The Roll Call Vote form was passed around for recording the resolution vote. Council Members: Kepner, Castle, Wulf and Seaman signed the form and signified that they all voted yes to the Resolution adoption.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-2/A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CHETOPA, KANSAS TO LEVY A PROPERTY TAX RATE EXCEEDING THE REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE.**

The 2023 city budget was presented for adoption.

Motion by Wulf, second by Kepner to adopt the 2023 city budget as presented. Motion carried. Council Members: Kepner, Castle, Wulf and Seaman and Mayor Bushong signed the budget.

Mayor Bushong closed the budget hearing.

**MAYOR, COUNCIL, EMPLOYEES & VISITORS**

**Dale Miller** was present to thank the city council and Police Chief Feagan for listening to the dog concerns that were discussed at the last meeting and the council and police department's efforts to resolve the dog issue in his neighborhood.

**Angela Forquer, Chetopa Librarian** was present to ask for the city's endorsement and promise to approve a \$5000 match for a grant that she is intends to write to make repairs to the city library building and replacing windows. Discussion followed.

Motion by Castle, second by Wulf to approve writing an endorsement letter and approve the \$5000 match contingent on the library board approving a matching \$5000 towards the grant. Motion carried.

**Delinda Lance** discussed the charging of late fees to utility payments and stated that they do not get their checks until the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month which is resulting in them paying late fees. Discussion followed and no exception was made on the date that late fees are charged. Lance also asked if the council would consider putting a fence around the playground equipment in Veterans Park because of the close proximity to the highway. No action was taken on this request at this time.

**Shane Lamb** informed the council of their purchasing of the old nursing home and their intent to convert the building into 19 apartments. It was requested to send him the Minimum Housing Standards Ordinance to make sure that the improvements were in in compliance with the ordinance.

**Ordinance No. 961** levying special assessments to two properties for mowing that was done in July, as the billing letters had just been returned as non-deliverable.

Motion by Castle, second by Wulf to adopt Ordinance No. 961. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. 961/AN ORDINANCE MAKING AND LEVYING A SPECIAL TAX UPON ALL LOTS AND PARCELS OF GROUND IN THE CITY OF CHETOPA, KANSAS LIABLE FOR THE COST AND EXPENSE OF MOWING IN SAID CITY DURING THE MONTH OF JULY 2022.**

**Mayor Bushong** questioned the billing of the fraction of hours as she thought that there was a minimum of one hour to be billed. It was requested to look at ordinance to see if it was an hour minimum. Bushong asked how many letters have been sent on junk vehicles and Police Chief/Interim City Supervisor Feagan will have an answer next meeting.

**Seaman** discussed her daughter's water bill, as it seemed extremely high and asked they could get a new meter. Before meter will be changed, Feagan will check to see if it was misread last month.

**Mayor Bushong** discussed a prior discussion with a resident on them living in a trailer as temporary housing and it has been over a year and no building has been started.

Motion by Wulf, second by Castle to send letter to family inquiring on what plans they have on lots. Motion carried.

**Mayor Bushong** also asked Feagan to address residents with no running water or sewer.

**Police Chief/Interim City Supervisor Feagan** reported that maintenance has been completed on all city building air conditioning units; that four tires for the skid steer (\$258 per tire) had been ordered and updated the council on the work that ICR has completed. Feagan also discussed the request from Ty Curry to use the city bucket truck to fly a large flag during the football games. Discussion followed.

Motion by Wulf, second by Kepner to not allow the use of the bucket truck to display the flag at football games. Motion carried.

**Police Chief Feagan** asked the council to consider payment of 14 days 6 hours of vacation that he hasn't been able to take by his anniversary date of 9/20/22.

Motion by Castle, second by Seaman to pay Feagan for 14 days and 6 hours of unused vacation. Motion carried.

**Mayor Bushong** discussed the purchase of city t-shirts for city crews and asked the clerk to send the city emblem to her, reported that she had spoken with Dave Denny to get concrete cleaned and sealed at the memorial in Veterans Park and informed the council that the door locks at the community building had been rekeyed due to suspecting someone was in the building without having rented it and that work that had been suggested by Debbie Yost at a prior meeting will be done during the winter months.

#### **FOLLOWUP ON OLD BUSINESS**

Clerk Crumrine reported that a Zoom meeting will be held Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. with representatives from Rural Development to address the Osage Nation PA and asked that someone be present with her and Mayor Bushong will attend. Discussion was held on the Nepotism section of the personnel policy manual and it was asked to delete that section from the manual.

Motion by Castle, second by Wulf to remove the nepotism section in the personnel policy manual. Motion carried.

There were questions regarding the solar meter installed at the Billingsly residence and the council requested that Utility Bookkeeper Debbie Darnell attend the next council meeting to answer the questions that the council has; a copy of the email from Chad Copher was given to the governing body updating them on the status of repairs to the lift stations. The cleaning, office worker positions and library board vacancy were discussed and the following appointments were made:

Mayor Bushong appointed Nichole Adams to the cleaning position.

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

Mayor Bushong appointed Amy Wilkinson to the office worker position.

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

A resignation letter from Amy Carter had been given to the clerk and the library board had recommended Tiffany Harris to be appointed to fill this vacancy.

Mayor Bushong appointed Tiffany Harris to the library board.

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

**GAAP WAIVER RESOLUTION**

Resolution No. 2022-3 was presented to waive the requirement of financial statements being prepared with Generally Accepted Accounting Principals

Motion by Castle, second by Wulf to approve the GAAP Waiver Resolution 2022-3. Motion carried.

**VETERANS PARK USAGE BY BACKROOM FELLOWSHIP**

Mayor Bushong requested the council's approve for the Backroom Fellowship to use Veterans Park on September 25<sup>th</sup> to serve a meal to the Police Department, Fire Department and First Responders.

Motion by Castle, second by Kepner to allow the use of the park by the Backroom Fellowship. Motion carried.

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

Seal

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Mayor

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City Clerk