

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

September 17, 2024

The Chetopa City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall.

PRESIDING: Mayor Ryan Darnell.

PRESENT: Council Members/Bob Boyd, Brenda Dominguez, Linda Seaman, and Justin Nading. Maria Billingsly 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, Utility Bookkeeper/City Treasurer Krystal Adams, Water Plant Supervisor Michael Tyler, Court Clerk Patty Wilkinson, Bonnie Mozingo, Jessica Morgan, Tim Smith, Tyson McGreer, Waylon and Alisha Johnson.

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

It was requested that the library board discussion, the tree discussion at 315 S. 4th Street, and an executive session for non-elected personnel be added while removing the building permit ordinance and food truck policy ordinance from the agenda.

Motion by Nading, second by Boyd to approve the agenda with additions and deletions. Motion carried.

Motion by Boyd, second by Seaman to approve the minutes of the last regular meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Nading, second by Seaman to approve the court report. Motion carried.

Motion by Boyd, second by Dominguez to approve the treasurer reports. Motion carried.

Boyd pointed out the water and electric funds are starting to look better as the rate increase has helped. Discussion was held over whether the BG Consulting invoices can be paid out of KWO grant funds.

Motion by Seaman, second by Dominguez to approve the warrant register. Motion carried. Boyd highlighted the monthly premium amounts for Blue Cross Blue Shield and expressed interest in exploring more affordable alternatives during next month's renewal.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE # 3714 as follows:

Payroll Funds	\$ 44,310.29
Other Funds	<u>\$ 113,935.82</u>
Total of all Funds	\$ 158,246.11

MAYOR, COUNCIL, EMPLOYEE & VISITORS

Tim Smith provided an update regarding the progress on his 201 N. 11th Street property stating the building should be demolished soon.

Waylon and Alisha Johnson updated the council about their plans for their trailer at 110 S. 13th Street. Nading noted that there had been no improvement to the exterior since the building permit expired. Alisha mentioned they would be cleaning up the outside and installing new skirting around the bottom. Boyd recommended they get the utilities connected, as the sewer project will start soon and the sewer tap would need to be verified as connected.

Motion by Boyd, second by Seaman to re-address the building permit once the owners have connected the utilities with a deadline of the end of October. Motion carried.

Justin Ventle was not present to discuss his water issue at 511 Delaware Street. M.Adams checked the status of the water meter and it didn't show any issues. K.Adams will check and see when the water meter has been changed out in the past. This issue is tabled as Ventle should attend the meeting to continue the discussion.

Tyson McGreer from KMEA discuss solar opportunities with the governing body. After extensive discussion, it was agreed to put this solar project under pending business for future consideration.

Bonnie Mozingo and **Jessica Morgan** representing the library board, discussed the Art Fair scheduled for Sunday afternoon, October 20th, organized by the library. They requested to close the road south of the bank entryway to the alley to accommodate art vendors.

Motion by Nading, second by Dominguez to approve the temporary road closure for the art fair. Motion carried. The city will supply the road barricades for the library's use.

Water Plant Supervisor Tyler informed the council that the water treatment plant submitted the Lead and Copper Survey to the EPA on September 6. Tyler commended employee Karin Trimble for handling most of the survey work. Maguire is scheduled to conduct internal painting and exterior touchups on the water tower during the first week of October. Tyler emphasized the importance of notifying the community about the upcoming free chlorine treatment (similar to a chlorine burn) and the need to conserve water while the water tower is drained. Tyler also reported that the north filter flow actuator had failed and requested approval to order a new filter flow actuator from Bray.

Motion by Boyd, second by Nading to allow Tyler to purchase a new actuator with a \$2,000.00 limit. Motion carried.

Mayor Darnell mentioned that he needed to retake the pictures of the trees at the cemetery.

Boyd inquired with Adams about the report on past-due utility bills. Boyd also mentioned that the bridge on 4th Street requires inspection due to numerous potholes that need attention.

Seaman thanked the city crew for hauling off the grass pile around the USD 505 vehicle parking building.

Nading brought up the volunteer sign-up sheet for the citywide cleanup scheduled for October 12th. Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan noted that, according to the law, permission from property owners is required for any cleanup on private property or it could be trespassing. Boyd agreed that volunteers should not access private property without consent. This discussion

will be revisited at the next council meeting on October 1st. Mayor Darnell mentioned that he has talked with Mr. Nave at the school and he plans to ask his FFA students to assist with the cleanup.

Clerk Crumrine noted that the riverbanks look unkempt. She pointed out that the city is responsible for removing the brush from the riprap and suggested we focus on mowing along the river.

Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan reported that Alexis Scofield is doing great at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center. On the city side, Feagan reported several issues at the lift station on Willow Street, where the #3 pump keeps failing. He is currently awaiting bids for repairs and pricing for a new pump. Waste H2O Solutions has been called to help assess the problems. Regarding the riverbanks, Feagan suggested contacting the County to see if Micah Ekhoﬀ could be hired to use the side mower and then the city can apply Baron weed spray. The council agreed to have Feagan talk with Ekhoﬀ. Feagan requested that gloves be purchased for the First Responders using their funds. Feagan also asked permission to buy new electric meters.

Motion by Nading, second by Seaman to allow Feagan to purchase 20 new electric meters for \$1235.34. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL REVISION

Mayor Darnell stated he would turn in the policy revisions to Clerk Crumrine to be approved for the next council meeting.

PROPERTY MOWING UPDATE

Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan stated four properties were mowed today for a total of six properties completed. Mayor Darnell commented that next year these properties need to be mowed a lot earlier in the year.

CONDEMNATION BIDS FOR 414 MAPLE STREET

Clerk Crumrine reported at this time no bids have been received.

1504 MAPLE STREET PROPERTY

Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan mentioned that he contacted the previous property owner, who confirmed that the property had been sold; however the new owners have not recorded the deed. The residence is currently unoccupied, but if neighbors see anyone there, they could notify the authorities to serve them a nuisance letter in person.

DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE IN VETERANS PARK

Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan spoke with the dog owners and they agreed to keep their dogs on a leash and clean up after them while in the park.

Pictures of the new pole truck were shown to the council. Police Chief/City Supervisor Feagan stated it was a nice truck. Discussion was held on selling the old pole truck on Purple Wave.

Motion by Nading, second by Dominguez to post the old pole truck for sale. Motion was rescinded. It was decided to revisit the city surplus list to identify multiple items to list for sale on Purple Wave.

Dominguez stated she would still like to receive a quote for installing larger one-way signs with flashing lights on Elm Street, between 5th and 6th Street, north of the school. Feagan stated he would get quotes for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

BG CONSULTING INVOICES 24 & 25

Clerk Crumrine presented BG Consulting invoices #24 in the amount of \$1,581.50 & #25 in the amount of \$9,942.47 for payment.

Motion by Seaman, second by Dominguez to pay both BG Consulting invoices for a total of \$11,523.97. Motion carried.

POLE TRUCK LEASE PURCHASE

A lease purchase for the new pole truck was presented for approval. The yearly payments are \$6,188.28 with a 3-year payment plan at 6.5% interest rate.

Motion by Seaman, second by Nading to execute the lease purchase agreement with the Bank of Commerce. Motion carried.

VACATION REQUEST

Feagan's 18th work anniversary with the city is this month and he has requested to roll over the 7 days and 7.50 hours of vacation, due to a shortage of officers in the department.

Motion by Dominguez, second by Nading to allow Feagan to carry over his vacation days. Motion carried.

TREE REMOVAL

A tree at 315 S. 4th Street was discussed and needs to be removed due to safety concerns.

Motion by Boyd, second by Nading to accept bids for the tree removal. Motion carried.

Clerk Crumrine was instructed to seek sealed bids for this tree removal.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Seaman, second by Nading to enter into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with the mayor and council for a period of five (5) minutes with the session ending at 8:37 p.m. Motion carried.

Entered: 8:37 p.m.

Returned: 8:42 p.m.

Mayor Darnell called the meeting back to order and no action was taken from executive session.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Seal

Mayor

City Clerk