

# UNAPPROVED MINUTES

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

February 18, 2025

Due to adverse weather conditions, the meeting was rescheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2025 @ 7:00 p.m. Notifications were made to visitors scheduled.

February 25, 2025

The Chetopa City Council met at the rescheduled session on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

PRESIDING: Mayor Ryan Darnell.

PRESENT: Council Members/Bob Boyd, Justin Nading, Brenda Dominguez, Chuck Bentley and Ernie Wulf. Linda Seaman was not present.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk/Toni A. Crumrine, Police Sergeant Travis Rakestraw, Attorney Shane Adamson, Assistant City Clerk Amy Wilkinson, Utility Bookkeeper/City Treasurer Krystal Adams, Court Clerk Patty Wilkinson, Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Mike Tyler, Officer Alexis Scofield, Assistant City Supervisor Myles Adams@7:08, Pauline Brecheisen, Scott Crowder, Angela Forquer, Betsy Koontz, Debbie Yost, Barb Harris, Jessica Morgan, Scherrill Grissom, Ashley Judd, David O'Banion, Rebecca Scoggins, Christy Best, Mark Rhodes, Josh Plair, Tammy and Lee Bushong.

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

An updated agenda showing additions and deletions was presented.

Motion by Nading, second by Dominguez to approve the Agenda with updates.

Motion carried.

Motion by Nading, second by Dominguez to approve the Minutes of the last regular meeting. Motion carried.

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

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

Boyd questioned the Blue Cross Blue Shield billing adjustments.

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

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 3723** as follows:

Payroll Funds	\$ 32,206.78
Other Funds	<u>183,265.08</u>
Total of all Funds	\$215,471.86

### MAYOR, COUNCIL, EMPLOYEES & VISITORS

**Christy Best** requested a water adjustment at city cost due to a water leak.

Motion by Wulf, second by Dominguez to adjust the water usage to city cost. Motion carried.

# UNAPPROVED MINUTES

**Josh Plair, owner of Mr. Plair's Small Town Wash,** gave an update on his idea of adding a laundry station and dog wash station plans. Pictures were shown to the council.

**Mark Rhodes** provided an update on the cleanup of his scrap metal property at 718 Pecan Street. Wulf noted that he had driven past the property and was pleased with the improvements.

**Becky Scoggins** shared an update on the upcoming Spring Fling event, scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Scoggins stated that she would request details on the specific roads needing closure for the event in the coming weeks.

**Tammy Bushong, President of Belmore Apartments,** addressed concerns regarding the company's access to police reports when the police department is contacted. She inquired about the requirements for obtaining these reports and Rakestraw explained the department's protocol. Additionally, the issue of loose dogs around town was discussed.

**David O'Banion** introduced himself and informed the council that he had purchased the four housing units behind 525 Maple Street. The discussion included the water meter connection for these units.

**Tyler** reported that Allen Winters from W&W Trenching plans to begin the waterline replacement project in mid to late March.

Tyler also presented a contract from **Midco Diving and Marine Services**, providing a quote totaling \$4371 for cleaning the clearwell and intake wellhouse in March 2026, a task that needs to be completed every three to five years. Midco Diving and Marine Services requires that the contract be signed a year in advance to allow for scheduling the cleaning. This amount will be included in the 2026 budget.

Motion by Nading, second by Wulf to approve the Mayor's signature on the contract. Motion carried.

**K. Adams** addressed the issue at 3076 N. 2nd Street. Boyd questioned why the city was covering costs for work done in a private residence, leading to a lengthy discussion. Boyd stated this should not be the city's responsibility and remarked that the city supervisor should not have instructed Lawellin Hauling to handle the repairs. The mayor then asked whether the city would pay the bill or require the residents to cover the cost. Attorney Adamson clarified that the resident is responsible for this expense.

**A. Wilkinson** informed the council that the city was not awarded the Kansas Water Office grant to help fund the waterline replacement project.

Wilkinson also requested that the Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> council meeting be rescheduled to Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, as she and Clerk Crumrine would be leaving for the Spring Conference in Manhattan on Tuesday.

Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to reschedule the meeting to Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

**Crumrine** provided an update on the Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Program. She reported that the auditors were present on Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> and noted that, despite receiving grant reimbursement funds in January, the sewer fund would still have a budget

# UNAPPROVED MINUTES

violation for 2024 due to expenditures that were made in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2024 that were not reimbursed before the end of the year.

**Rakestraw** requested approval for himself and Officer Wammack to attend the Kansas Narcotics Conference in Wichita, KS April 14<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Nading, second by Wulf to approve the officers' attendance at the conference, with expenses covered by the police training fund. Motion carried.

Rakestraw reported that the heater core went out of the 2020 police truck.

Motion by Nading, second by Wulf to approve the truck to be repaired. Motion carried.

Rakestraw reported an accident involving the 2018 police truck.

**M. Adams** reported the need for an additional worker in the public works department and discussed the amount of the required line locates needing to be completed.

Motion by Nading, second by Bentley to authorize Adams to contact Lawellin Hauling for assistance with the line locates. Motion carried.

Motion by Dominguez, second by Wulf to advertise for a public works employee and the seasonal mowing position. Motion carried.

**Boyd** inquired about opening the Elmore Park bathroom to provide shelter for a homeless person. Rakestraw commented that there is nothing written in police policy handling situations such as this.

Boyd showed pictures of the installation of the pump that JCI rebuilt.

Boyd gave Rakestraw a vehicle maintenance spreadsheet to update.

**Bentley** announced the Sinclair Station had sold with plans to restore the building.

## OLD BUSINESS

### SEWER PROJECT UPDATE

Crumrine stated that Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> is the next sewer meeting with the Engineers.

### JUNK VEHICLE UPDATE

Rakestraw stated not all of the notices had been delivered. The Mayor verified that the police were doing the spreadsheet tracking. Boyd inquired about the RV parked just off Maple street. Rakestraw reported the tags were valid. Bentley stated he would ask the owners to move the RV.

### LIBRARY BUILDING DISCUSSION

Nading reported the old Methodist church was considered as a potential location for the library. A. Wilkinson noted that the library building had to be removed from the 2025 budget but mentioned that a CDBG grant will be available this summer, which could be used to apply for funding for a new library building. Bank of Commerce President Debbie Yost assured that the library is welcome to remain in its current location as long as needed, recognizing the city's financial constraints.

### POLICE TRUCK PERSONAL USAGE DISCUSSION

On the advice of our insurance agency, the personal use of police department trucks will not be permitted.

# UNAPPROVED MINUTES

## NEW BUSINESS

### BG CONSULTANT INVOICE

BG Consulting Invoice No. 30 in the amount of \$36,782.50 was presented for approval. Motion by Nading, second by Wulf to approve the payment of Invoice No. 30. Motion carried.

### KMEA DIRECTOR APPOINTMENT

Boyd currently serves as KMEA Director 1, with a 2-year- term set to expire on April 30, 2025.

Motion by Dominguez, second by Wulf to reappoint Boyd as KMEA Director 1. Motion carried. Boyd Abstained.

### ANNUAL EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENTS

An employee listing was given to the governing body. The following appointments were made by the mayor.

Mayor Darnell appointed Jerry Wilson, Municipal Judge; Scott Feagan, Chief of Police; Toni A. Crumrine, City Clerk; Shane Adamson, City Attorney; and Krystal Adams, City Treasurer.

Motion by Nading, second by Wulf to confirm the appointments. Motion carried.

### COMMITTEE & OTHER DESIGNATIONS

Mayor Darnell appointed the following committees: Industrial & Property-Wulf & Bentley; Ordinance-Boyd & Nading; Police, Fire, & First Responders- Wulf & Seaman; Water & Electric & Sewer-Boyd & Seaman; Street & Alley & Sanitation-Nading and Dominguez; Parks-Dominguez & Bentley; Civil Defense Directors- Fire Chief Nading & Police Chief Feagan; Bank- Bank of Commerce-Chetopa; Newspaper-Labette Avenue & Parsons Sun and Christmas Decorations-Mayor and City Clerk.

Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to approve the Committee Appointments. Motion carried.

### ELECTION OF PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Motion by Bentley, second by Wulf to elect Boyd as President of the Council. Motion carried. Boyd abstained.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT 4<sup>th</sup> QTR 2024 PAY REQUEST

The Fire Department 4<sup>th</sup> quarter pay request in the amount of \$780.00 was presented for approval.

Motion by Wulf, second by Dominguez to pay the request. Motion carried. Nading abstained.

### SECOND JOB REQUEST DISCUSSION

As outlined in the city employee policy manual, council approval is required for an employee to accept a second job. Scofield obtained approval from Police Chief Feagan but did not seek council approval as required by policy.

Motion by Wulf, second by Dominguez to approve Scofield to continue employment with her second job. Motion carried. Boyd voted no.

# UNAPPROVED MINUTES

## **COTTONWOOD & NEOSHO RIVER BASINS WATER ASSURANCE ASSESSMENT**

Crumrine presented the Cottonwood & Neosho River Basin Water Assurance District No.3 Assessment 2025 membership in the amount of \$2,069.66.

Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to approve paying the Cottonwood & Neosho River Basin Water Assurance Assessment. Motion carried.

Mayor Darnell emphasized the importance of staying on top of property mowing this year and instructed Rakestraw to locate last year's initial mowing letter. This will allow the clerk's office to create a spreadsheet for the police department to track property mowing.

Motion by Dominguez, second by Wulf to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Seal

---

Mayor

---

City Clerk