

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

March 04, 2025

The Chetopa City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, March 04, 2025,  
at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

**PRESIDING:** President of the Council Bob Boyd in the absence of Mayor Ryan Darnell.

**PRESENT:** Council Members/ Justin Nading, Brenda Dominguez, Chuck Bentley, Ernie Wulf  
and Linda Seaman.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Clerk/Toni A. Crumrine, Police Sergeant Travis Rakestraw, Attorney Shane  
Adamson, Assistant City Clerk Amy Wilkinson, Utility Bookkeeper/City Treasurer Krystal  
Adams, Officer Jason Wammack, Officer Alexis Scofield@7:07 p.m., Assistant City Supervisor  
Myles Adams, Betsy Koontz, Barb Harris, Jessica Morgan, Jim Nave, David Hubbell, Roberta  
Carter, Kacey Mayfield, Wesley Weishaar, Gabe Robison, Isabella Nash, Julia Nash, Jackson  
Lawellin, Mary Johnson, Raven Hull-Jones, Jordia Vancamp, Tayna Reedy, Hannah Vanibe,  
Barbara Evans, Stephanie George, Karla Seaman, Bill Moses, Tammy and Lee Bushong.

Boyd called the meeting to order and led the council and visitors in the Pledge of  
Allegiance. Nading opened the meeting in prayer.

It was requested to add several visitors and new business items: Wesley Weishaar (BG  
Consultants), Betsy Koontz and David Hubbell (Museum), Julia and Isabella Nash (Project  
Prom) and Stephanie George. Additionally, the SEKRPC Invoice, Bennett Pay Request, building  
permit, public works application, a 15-minute executive session for non-elected personnel and  
The Oak Hill Cemetery Association Board Meeting were requested to be added to new business.  
Motion by Seaman, second by Wulf to approve the Agenda with additions. Motion carried.

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

Boyd asked about the new interest rate for two city CD's that were maturing and K.  
Adams will obtain this information. Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to approve the  
Treasurer's Reports. Motion carried.

Boyd noted the Water Treatment Plant pump was purchased for less than the original  
quote. Motion by Wulf, second by Dominguez to approve the Warrant Register. Motion carried.  
Boyd voted Nay.

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 3725** as follows:

Payroll Funds	\$ 34,271.47
Other Funds	<u>132,337.24</u>
Total of all Funds	\$166,608.71

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

**Wesley Weishaar with BG Consultants** updated the council on the sewer project, projecting a completion date of early to mid-May, and discussed the drainage of the lift stations.

**David Hubbell** announced the plans to place the donated city jail on a concrete pad on the east side of the Museum building. Hubbell raised concerns about a tree that needs evaluation, sealing the front doors and two north windows, and uncovering the sidewalk. Motion by Wulf, second by Bentley to approve the Museum Board's request to display the old jail. Motion carried.

**Isabella Nash** requested a donation for Chetopa's Project Prom. Motion by Seaman, second by Dominguez to approve a \$200 donation. Motion carried.

**Stephanie George** sought clarification regarding the CDL requirement for her son Talon's employment during his 90-day probation period.

**Wilkinson** reminded the council of the previously rescheduled meeting from the normal 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday to Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and will post a reminder on the city's Facebook page.

**Crumrine** on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, requested a donation for the Easter egg hunt. Motion by Dominguez, second by Nading to approve a \$200 donation for the easter egg hunt. Motion carried. The spring cleanup date was discussed and Boyd suggested tabling the discussion until the next meeting.

**Boyd** asked about repairs for the 2020 Police Department truck and Rakestraw confirmed they are scheduled for March 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Dominguez** wants to ensure the parks around the river are sprayed this year.

**Bentley** noted that the discharge line pressure valve at the Willow Street lift station needs to be repaired. Motion by Wulf, second by Bentley to contact JCI. Motion carried.

**Nading** asked if any garage door opener bids had been received for the Fire Dept. Since none has been received, he will submit a change for Crumrine to update bid specifications.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **JUNK VEHICLE UPDATE**

Rakestraw reported that the Police Department continues to issue nuisance letters and has more tickets to write.

### **PUBLIC WORKS APPLICATION**

A public works candidate has been interviewed. Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to hire Jeff Arthur for the position pending Mayor Darnell's appointment. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **SOUTHEAST KANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

A SEKRPC administrative invoice for \$6,250.00 was presented. Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to pay the invoice. Motion carried.

## **BENNETT PAY REQUEST/CDBG DRAW REQUEST**

The Bennett Inc. pay request No.5 for \$314,625.86 was presented for payment. A CDBG draw request for \$72,321 was also presented for approval and will need to be signed by the Mayor and the City Clerk for the CDBG portion of the Bennett Pay Request. Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to approve the mayor and clerk to sign pay request and draw request. Motion carried.

## **BUILDING PERMIT-SUTTON**

Edward Sutton to move a new 12x40 portable building at 123 N.14<sup>th</sup> Street, in the City of Chetopa. Building Inspector Nading recommended the approval of the permit. Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to approve the building permit for Sutton. Motion carried. Nading abstained.

Motion by Wulf, second by Dominguez to adjourn the regular meeting and open up the Oak Hill Cemetery Board Meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

## **OAK HILL CEMETARY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING**

Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to go back into regular session@7:52 p.m. Motion carried.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Nading, second by Dominguez to enter into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with the council, Attorney Adamson, Officers Rakestraw, Wammack, and Scofield for a period of fifteen (15) minutes with the session ending at 8:10 p.m. Motion carried.

Entered: 7:55 p.m.

Returned: 8:10 p.m.

President of the Council Boyd called the meeting back to order and asked if any action was to be taken.

Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to re-enter into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with the council, Attorney Adamson, Officers Rakestraw, Wammack, and Scofield for a period of five (5) minutes with the session ending at 8:17 p.m. Motion carried.

Entered: 8:12 p.m.

Returned: 8:17 p.m.

President of the Council Boyd called the meeting back to order and the following action was taken. Nading cited Kansas Statute Annotated 60-1205 regarding grounds for forfeiture of public office and requested an investigation into council member Charles Bentley for misconduct.

Motion by Nading, second by Seaman to refer the civil proceeding to the County Attorney.

Motion carried. Boyd voted Nay.

A verbal exchange occurred between Tammy Bushong and Nading regarding the council/mayor's ethical conduct. Koontz asked about civil law procedures and Attorney Adamson clarified that the civil suit would be referred to the County Attorney for investigation.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Boyd, second by Seaman to enter into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with the council, Attorney Adamson, and Assistant City Clerk Wilkinson for a period of ten (10) minutes with the session ending at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried.

Entered: 8:24 p.m.

Returned: 8:34 p.m.

President of the Council Boyd called the meeting back to order and asked if any action was to be taken. Motion by Wulf, second by Dominguez to pursue breach of contract proceedings in reference to former police officer Eichler with the City of Chetopa. Boyd instructed Rakestraw to gather a breakdown of the expenses the city has incurred to date and provide them to the City Clerk and Attorney.

Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to promote Myles Adams to the position of City Supervisor, pending Mayor Darnell's appointment. Motion carried.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Seal

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Mayor

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City Clerk