

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

June 3, 2025

The Chetopa City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 3, 2025,
at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

PRESIDING: Mayor Bob Boyd.

PRESENT: Council Members/ Chuck Bentley, Linda Seaman, Brenda Dominguez, and Ernie Wulf. Josh Moore and Justin Nading were absent.

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Amy Wilkinson, Attorney Shane Adamson, Utility Bookkeeper/City Treasurer Krystal Adams, Court Clerk Patty Wilkinson, Barb Harris, Roberta Carter, Debbie Yost, Betsy Koontz, Barbara Evans, Barbara Rexwinkle, Bill Moses@ 7:09p.m. and Police Chief Wammack @8:00 p.m.,

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

Motion by Seaman, second by Wulf to approve the Agenda with additions. Motion carried.

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

Adams pointed out the cash balance of \$224,330.30 after the warrant is approved. Motion by Seaman, second by Bentley to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Wulf pointed out the big payouts that were paid to the two employees that left employment. Bentley questioned the amount of sick time an employee had after recently being off for several months. City policy currently states that employees can accrue up to 960 hours. Bentley will check into what other towns are doing per policy. The proposed sick-pay discussion will be tabled until the next meeting.

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

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 3732 as follows:

Payroll Funds	\$ 85,334.95
Other Funds	<u>\$ 165,430.06</u>
Total of all Funds	\$ 250,765.01

MAYOR, COUNCIL, EMPLOYEES & VISITORS

Adams asked if we wanted to set up an account for donations that could go towards the swimming pool repairs. Debbie Yost stated that the bank could track the donations. Motion by Wulf, second by Dominguez to allow the city employees to advertise and open a bank account for the swimming pool donations. Motion carried.

P. Wilkinson reported that she had gathered quotes for the court television and installation but was going to continue looking for a cheaper alternative. Dominguez stated she could bring her personal laptop to record the council meetings if the court is still in session when the meeting starts. The television purchase was tabled at this time.

A Wilkinson reported reaching out to the Kansas Works Youth Program out of Pittsburg, KS but has not heard back at this time, however Angela Forquer had a different contact with the program and has given the city's number so hopefully we will have some information soon.

Seaman reported the traffic leaving the liquor store are coming out on 10th Street at a high rate of speed. Boyd will talk with Wammack over this. At a residence at 7th street and Cherry Street, there is concern over poison ivy growing in the alley. A. Wilkinson stated she would place a work order for this issue.

Boyd inquired about specifications for a sump pump for the swimming pool to allow it to drain more efficiently. Bentley stated he would get the specifications for the pump.

Dominguez asks about the overgrown brush near 111 South 16th Street. A. Wilkinson stated she would put out a work order to trim up the roadway.

Wulf inquired about the perma-patch for the roads. It was reported that public works started on the list of potholes around town. Wulf also brought up the \$10 monthly water line fee.

Boyd reviewed the yearly water quality report, which is sent to all customers, noted there were no violations in 2024. He commended the water plant staff for their excellent work. He also displayed photos of the tree removal at 3rd and Walnut Street by Bill's Lawn Service and commented on the improved appearance of the area.

A photo of a damaged electric pole was shown. Boyd urged citizens to report incidents when they see them, as the person responsible for hitting the pole left the scene. He also presented an image of the trailer at 811 Plum Street which has been served the minimum housing code letter.

Boyd then showed a photo of an overfilled dumpster containing household trash at the East River Park, which has since been removed. Only one dumpster remains and it's within park camera view. A new bulletproof vest was purchased for Wammack at a significantly lower price than previously purchased.

A photo of the reclosure control panel was shown. A quote from Sunbelt Solomon upgrading to a Form 4D panel would cost \$7,450, while repairing the current Form 3 control panel would cost \$4,000 with no guarantee of success. Sunbelt Solomon recommended the upgrade. Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to upgrade to the Form 4 control panel. Motion carried.

The storm siren photo was shown with Boyd noting the repair bill from CDL was costly. He also raised a question about whether sanitation workers should pick up excess trash placed in containers other than the city -issued polycart. Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to provide an additional polycart for residents with habitual excess trash. Motion carried.

Boyd informed the council that the payroll clerk had distributed salary information and encouraged members to review it, noting that some department heads had expressed interest. The council also discussed the issue of after-hours callouts for city employees.

Boyd recommended a \$1 per hour wage increase for K. Adams. Motion by Wulf, second by Bentley to approve the raise effective immediately. Motion carried.

PET TAG FEES

The current pet tag fees were discussed. Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to establish a flat fee of \$5.00 per animal for city pet tags and remove the spay and neuter charges. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

OFFICER EICHLER RESTITUTION

Adamson noted that a check from the city in the amount of \$210.00 is needed to file Eichler's restitution.

SEWER UPDATE

Boyd reported at the sewer project meeting that the smoke testing has been rescheduled as the process cannot be done in wet weather conditions. Bennett, Inc. Pay Request No 8. in the amount of \$133,437.00 was presented for payment. Motion by Wulf, second by Dominguez to pay the request. Motion carried.

WATER TAP FEE

Discussion was held regarding the water tap fee and the associated monthly minimum charge when the tap is not in use. Motion by Brenda, second by Bentley to draft an ordinance requiring individuals requesting a new water tap and meter to cover the full cost of installation. Motion carried.

WATER TOWER

The water tower 10" riser needs to be replaced with a repair estimate of \$94,754.00. The Maguire Iron, Inc contract for service was presented for the mayor's signature.

Motion by Wulf, second by Bentley approve the adoption of Ordinance No. 998 as presented. **AN ORDINANCE TO ASSESS A ONE-TIME FEE FOR EACH WATER METER OVER A TWENTY-FOUR MONTH PERIOD TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENT OF THE STEEL WATERPIPE RISER FOR THE WATER TOWER FOR THE CITY OF CHETOPA, KANSAS.**

POLICE OFFICER APPLICATIONS

The council reviewed two police officer applications. Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to hire Gracie Mann as a full-time police officer. Motion carried. Motion by Wulf, second by Bentley to hire Bo Sharp as a full-time police officer. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION CLASS

KMU is hosting the Electric Distribution Overhead Workshop in September for \$495.00. Motion by Wulf, second by Bentley to send M. Adams to the electric workshop. Motion carried.

TRASH TRUCK BID

Fleet Maintenance was contacted regarding the brake issues on the trash truck. Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to accept the repair estimate for \$2,525.00. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Betsy Koontz inquired whether the new police officers would be allowed to take the police trucks home. Boyd responded that the guidelines are currently being reviewed, and her concern has been noted. Betsy also mentioned she had filed for the council position and asked about receiving council packets. It was explained that the former clerk's policy was to distribute the packets after the election to help new members become familiar with city information.

Debbie Yost inquired about the status of city mowing. It was noted that public works employees have been mowing as weather permits.

Bill Moses raised concerns about the condition of the Elm Street bridge, stating the south side is beginning to wash out. Boyd responded that Nading and Dominguez were on the street committee and would check into the issue.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Seal

Mayor

City Clerk