

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

September 2, 2025

The Chetopa City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall.

PRESIDING: Mayor Bob Boyd.

PRESENT: Council Members/Linda Seaman, Betsy Koontz, Justin Nading, Ernie Wulf and Chuck Bentley.

ALSO PRESENT: City Clerk Amy Wilkinson, Attorney Shane Adamson, Utility Bookkeeper/City Treasurer Krystal Adams, Court Clerk Patty Wilkinson @ 7:04, Officer De’Vaughn Amann, Water Plant Supervisor Mike Tyler, Debbie Yost, Barb Harris, Jessica Morgan, Rocky Billings, David Hubbell, and Toni Crumrine.

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

Motion by Nading, second by Wulf to approve the Agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Koontz, second by Wulf to approve the Minutes of the August 19, 2025, regular meeting. Motion carried.

Boyd mentioned the collection of back utility funds. Motion by Nading, second by Seaman to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

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

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE # 3738 as follows:

Payroll Funds	\$ 31,919.45
Other Funds	<u>\$ 43,233.62</u>
Total of all Funds	\$ 75,153.07

PUBLIC HEARING-REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE/BUDGET HEARING

Motion by Wulf, second by Koontz to open the Public Hearing for the Notice to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate and Budget Hearing. Motion carried. No public comments were made regarding the notice to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate. Boyd presented Resolution 2025-2 to levy a property tax rate exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Motion by Nading, second by Koontz to adopt Resolution 2025-2. Motion carried following roll call.

The 2026 Budget was presented for adoption. Motion by Wulf, second by Koontz to adopt the 2026 budget. Motion carried. Clerk Wilkinson passed the certificate page around for all governing body members present to sign. Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to close the public hearing. Motion carried.

MAYOR, COUNCIL, EMPLOYEES & VISITORS

Tyler reported that Maguire Iron, Inc. is still scheduled to paint the water tower in mid-September.

Tyler also presented a quote from White Equipment Controls for a backwash filter electric actuator. Two units are required at a cost of \$2,726.00 each. Motion by Wulf, second by Bentley to purchase two actuators. Motion carried.

A Wilkinson reported that council member Betsy Koontz expressed interest in continuing to serve on the Museum Board, subject to council approval. Motion by Wulf, second by Bentley to allow Koontz to remain on the Museum Board. Motion carried. Koontz abstained.

Adamson reported that the Open Records Fee Ordinance will be ready for the next council meeting.

Officer Amman stated there was only one notable incident over the Labor Day holiday weekend, otherwise, things were going well within the Police Department.

Seaman inquired whether a mowing letter had been issued for the property at 4th and Cherry Street.

Nading reported that the Fire Department would like to purchase a dump tank for \$1,597.12. Motion by Wulf, second by Seaman to approve the purchase. Motion carried. Nading abstained. Nading also noted that the Fire Department recently purchased three batteries from Eubanks Equipment for Truck #7 and the truck now requires a new alternator. Motion by Wulf, second by Koontz to send Truck #7 to Fleet Maintenance Solutions for repair. Motion carried. Nading abstained.

Bentley inspected the Willow Street lift station generator and reported that the sensor and thermostat need replacement due to overheating. He also stated that the electric lines need to be walked to identify issues affecting Russell Creek Engineering Inc. ICR is awaiting a quote on the primary voltage stabilizer and will also need to be contacted for a quote to install three new transformers.

Koontz expressed interest in developing a upgraded plan for a fence along the riverbank in Veterans Park.

Boyd presented photos of the brush pile along the river, which had accumulated against the pump house and bridge. Wilkinson reported that she has contacted Jeff Fisher at KDOT regarding the matter. Photos of the proposed car wash signs were also reviewed. It was noted that the signs are acceptable as long as they remain on the car wash property and do not encroach on the city easement.

OLD BUSINESS:

SEWER UPDATE

The contractor is working on completing the punch list.

JUNK VEHICLE /OUT-OF-STATE LICENSE PLATE UPDATE

In Chief Wammack's absence, discussion regarding the junk vehicle and out-of-state license plate list was tabled.

HORNET ADDITION DISCUSSION

The council reviewed an informational packet submitted by Maggy Robison. The City's Neighborhood Revitalization Plan was explained. Further discussion concerning the north side of the addition was tabled pending property research by Attorney Adamson.

PROPOSED SICK PAY

Employee feedback on the sick leave policy was reviewed. Further discussion was tabled to allow council members time to gather information from other entities on how they handle sick pay policies.

STATUS OF SEALED BIDS ON 3 CITY VEHICLES

Clerk Wilkinson reported that M. Adams spoke with Moore Automotive to obtain the batteries for the vehicles.

NEW BUSINESS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Wulf, second by Koontz to enter into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with the Mayor, the council, and Attorney Adamson for a period of ten (10) minutes, with the session ending at 8:23 p.m. Motion carried.

Entered: 8:13 p.m.

Returned: 8:23 p.m.

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

Boyd appointed Jessica Morgan to fill the vacant council seat. Motion by Wulf, second by Koontz to confirm the appointment. Motion carried. Clerk Wilkinson administered the oath of office to Morgan and she took her seat at the council table.

Motion by Seaman, second by Koontz to give Clerk Wilkinson a \$1.00 per hour pay raise. Motion carried.

Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to schedule a public works job interview for Luke Wilkinson. Motion carried.

Boyd recommended not posting video recordings until the council minutes were approved.

Attorney Adamson was asked and stated he had no objections to this protocol. Motion by Koontz, second by Wulf to delay video posting until the minutes have been approved. Motion carried.

EMPLOYEE VACATION APPROVAL

Tyler requested approval for six vacation days. Motion by Wulf, second by Nading to approve the request. Motion carried.

STORAGE CONTAINER DISCUSSION

Attorney Adamson reported that he has contacted three city attorneys regarding their policy on storage containers and will provide an update at the next meeting.

RECLOSURE DISCUSSION

Boyd noted that the donated electrical reclosure needs to be taken to Sunbelt Solomon for testing. Motion by Nading, second by Koontz to authorize an employee to transport the reclosure to Solomon, Kansas. Motion carried.

Motion by Seaman, second by Wulf to adjourn @ 8:56 p.m. Motion carried.

Seal

Mayor

City Clerk