

City of Chetopa – Council Meeting Minutes

Date: September 15, 2026 • **Time:** 7:00 p.m. • **Location:** City Hall

Presiding: Mayor Bob Boyd

Present: Council Members: J. Nading, B. Koontz, L. Seaman, C. Bentley & J. Morgan **Absent:** E. Wulf **Also Present:** Clerk A. Wilkinson, Attorney S. Adamson, Police Chief Jason Wammack, Sergeant Corie Brown, Utility Billing/City Treasurer Krystal Adams, Water Treatment Plant Supervisor Jason Morgan, David Hubbell, Pauline Brecheisen, Debbie Yost, Scherrill Grissom, Joe Durnell and Tammy Bushong.

1. Opening:

- Meeting called to order by Mayor Boyd; Pledge of Allegiance & Seaman led prayer.
- **Agenda:** Motion to approve. (Koontz/Morgan; motion carried)
- **Minutes (September 1, 2026):** Motion to approve. (Nading/Seaman; motion carried)
- **Minutes (September 8, 2026 Special Council Meeting):** Motion to approve. Seaman/Nading; motion carried)
- **Treasurer's Report:** Motion to approve. (Koontz/Morgan; motion carried)
- **Court Report:** Motion to approve. (Seaman/Nading; motion carried)
- **Warrant Register:** Motion to approve. (Nading/Seaman; motion carried)
- **Appropriation Ordinance #3763:**
 - Payroll: \$ 33,442.38
 - Other Funds: \$110,431.03
 - **Total:** \$ 143,873.41

2. Old Business:

- **Willow Street Lift Station Generator Repair (Bentley):** Stated no update.
- **Officer Eichler Restitution (Shane):** Reported Eichler residence located in Baxter Springs and requested document be served through the Cherokee County Sheriff's Department.

3. New Business:

- **City Employee Application:** Mayor appointed Blake Carter for Public Works position with wages @ \$18.00 per hour and a raise when CDL is obtained.
 - Motion to confirm appointment. (Nading/Seaman; motion carried)
 - Mayor appointed Christopher Richey as part-time Police Officer with wages at \$20.00 per hour; will need to attend part-time police academy.
 - Motion to confirm appointment. (Nading/Koontz; motion carried)
- **Building Permit:** Joel & Kim Riddle 122 S. 9th St; 20ft storage container.
 - Motion to approve. (Seaman/Koontz; motion approved) (Nading abstained)
- **City Employee Additional Job Request:**
 - Motion to allow PD Sergeant Corie Brown to coach CHS Boys Basketball and Assistant Jr. High Boys Basketball. (Seaman/Nading; motion carried)

4. Department Updates:

- **Utility Billing Clerk/City Treasurer (K. Adams):** Requested permission to remove six deceased customers from delinquent utility billing: total amount of \$1,581.65.
 - Motion to write off the utility accounts. (Koontz/Morgan; motion carried)
- **City Clerk (A. Wilkinson):** Reiterated Agenda deadline is on Fridays before Tuesday council meetings; posted on city website in July 7, 2026 Council Meeting minutes.

5. Council Discussion:

- **Bentley:** Stated electricians moved transformers for Russell Creek Engineering LLC.
 - Motion to approve emergency lineman call-out rates at \$60 per hour and \$58 per hour for assistant on electrical outages only. (Koontz/Nading; motion carried)
- **Koontz:** Voiced citizen complaints of speeding on Maple Street school zone.
 - Police Chief Wammack responded that officers are not stationary for more than 15 minutes and several citations have recently been issued.
- **Morgan:** Inquired about repainting of skate park basketball court lines.
 - USD 505 Recreation Committee to be contacted on status of project.

6. Mayor's Report:

- Noted Public Works posted new one-way signs around school streets as requested.
- Suggested councilmembers read article on pages 110-112 in recent KS Gov't Journal.
- Updated bridge driftwood removal delayed due to heavy equipment mechanical issue.
- Discussed selling two Dodge Police Trucks that are not being utilized.
 - Motion to advertise for sealed bids until October 20, 2026, council meeting. (Nading/Morgan; motion carried)
- Reported council quorum attended the September 14, 2026 Labette County Commission meeting and unanimously voted to raise 2027 Oak Hill Cemetery budget 1.5 mills.
- Noted PP Manual pg.20 doesn't consider Governing Body Members as city employees.
- **OFFICER MANN JOB RESIGNATION:**
 - Read letter of resignation 2-week notice effective on September 8, 2026; Breach of contract discussion followed.
 - Motion to accept resignation. (Koontz/Nading; motion carried)
- Discussed unofficial cash offer on N. 9th Street acreage property.
- Addressed question at Special Council Meeting on September 8, 2026, requesting current treasurer's report funding totals for that day.
 - Quoted page 40 of League of Kansas Municipalities Manual where Special Council Meeting discussions are limited to exact subject meeting was called for.
- Reported Chetopa Fire Department attended the 9-11 ceremony in Nashville, TN and publicly noted pride in all our volunteers and appreciate all they do for city's benefit.
- Thanked council members for being available when called upon and willing to help.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn at 7:44 p.m. (Seaman/Koontz; motion carried)

Seal

Mayor

Clerk