

CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE, ARKANSAS

City Council Minutes

November 18, 2002

The semi-monthly meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM Monday, November 18, 2002 by Mayor Marjorie Rogers. The meeting was held at City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and she called for the roll call.

ROLL CALL:

Answer Roll Call: Chuck Bartlett, Marty Betz, Dewey Dark, Scott Paul, Louisa Relyea, Jack Stroup and Ray Torbit.

Also Present: Susan Maynard, City Clerk/Treasurer and Tom Garner, City Attorney

Absent: Tom Paul

MINUTES: Motion to approve the November 4, 2002 minutes as presented was made by Mr. Bartlett and seconded by Mr. Betz. With a voice vote of seven ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion to table the financial report to the next meeting was made by Mrs. Relyea and seconded by Mr. Bartlett. With a voice vote of seven ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mayor Rogers announced that our medical insurance will stay at \$260 per employee per month.

Bill Looney, Treasurer of the Spring River Chamber of Commerce made a presentation to ask the Council to include up to \$2,500 in its 2003 budget to help them out financially. They had made this request of Highland, and were scheduled to present it to the Sharp County Quorum Court and the Ash Flat and Hardy City Councils. They have one full-time employee who sends out information, returns emails, staffs volunteers and greets all new business owners. There is also the building maintenance and mortgage. They offer an Arkansas Scholarship Program and Arkansas Scholarship Fund. They also do Blue Ribbon Welcomes to new businesses and ground-breaking ceremonies. Expenses run approximately \$3,000 per month. They usually sponsor a golfing event which nets approximately \$4,000, but it was cancelled due to the golf course not being finished. Also, memberships and dues have been slow to come in. They are scheduling extra fund-raisers to make up for this, but would like the cities' help to be able to continue until there are sufficient back-up funds. Mayor Rogers said we would take it under consideration.

Linda Delamare, Natural Hazard Program Specialist, Region VI of FEMA, reported on the flood insurance program which is designed to help people who live in the flood plain get home insurance. Cherokee Village has recently been mapped. This process usually takes up to 20 years. The public has 90 days to look at these maps. There has been one open hearing. If something doesn't look right, we can submit it for change (technical date only). Ms. Delamare presented Mrs. Relyea with a certificate, recognizing her by FEMA as a NFIP Co-coordinator. Last year, she was recognized by the state. She also gave Oral Henderson a one-year service pin.

REPORTS:

Airport: None

Roads: None

Animal Control: Looking into one additional large cage.

Emergency Services: The NORAD radio system has been approved and is waiting for FEMA. Engineers should be here the end of the week to select a tower site. This site will cover five counties.

Environmental: Two applications, recycling, litter control, have been submitted to the Keep Arkansas Beautiful board. There were three categories. They have extended the deadline to December 3, but Mr. Betz has already submitted them. The grants are for \$500 each, but we won't know until January if we will get them.

Municipal Development and Planning: None

Planning and Zoning: Mrs. Hrezo reported things are going good. They are looking at house plans. Also they would like to add tree trimmers and painters to the list of businesses that must be permitted. Choctaw Center is moving along. They have been contacted by a dental building.

Police: The Police Dept. has been granted a six-month extension for the COPS grant paperwork. We have made a check for \$671 in payment of the City's share of a new equipment grant.

Mrs. Relyea excused herself from the meeting to give the FEMA representative a tour of the city at 2:30 PM.

OLD BUSINESS:

The 2003 budget was discussed page by page. Mr. Garner reported on the 36 acres we are trying to purchase from Daggett Development. He has talked with the Mayor, the Roads Committee and Planning & Zoning. Bob Evins of Union Planters Bank said the last awaited appraisal was in, and it looked good, months ago. Mr. Garner asked what the Council wanted to do. We could sue for the rental. We now have a lock on the property through the agreement we are negotiating. If we wanted cash rent, we would have to start all over. The bank needs approval of the agreement from their board. Mr. Bartlett said the City has done their share. We should put a lien against Daggett Development and collect the rent ourselves. Mr. Garner has told Mr. Evins that we want the agreement done NOW! Mr. Stroup's personal opinion was that we need to do something now, also. Mr. Garner said the first title search has come back OK. All our documents are signed. A title search is being done on the new collateral property. It was decided that the Mayor, Mr. Betz and another alderman would make an appointment to meet with Mr. Evins.

The church next door will be leaving the end of December.

NEW BUSINESS: Mrs. Maynard asked what could be done with the leaves that fall on the front sidewalk. Boyd will use the leaf blower and just blow them down to the lower parking lot.

Public Comments:

Jim West asked if we are enforcing the sign ordinance. He also asked if City Hall could be closed on Election Day, November 26 to protect the Mayor and the employees. Mrs. Hrezo said Planning & Zoning had received no written complaints regarding signs. Scott Paul stated that if there was an ordinance, we shouldn't have to receive complaints in writing. Tom Hrezo replied that we need written complaints for the subject to be called a nuisance. Whenever P&Z gets such a complaint it is handled right away. Mr. Paul then stated we should get the laws off the books if we can't enforce them. Mr. Hrezo explained the rules are in the Bills of Assurance and to change them would take a vote of all property owners of the subdivision. Mrs. Hrezo added that the City is better protected if there is a written complaint. In regards to the second question, Mr. Bartlett feels that as this is a city hall the front office, Planning & Zoning and the Police Dept. should be open on the 26th.

Mr. Stroup read from a prepared speech and presented the City with the "Cherokee Warrior". It was well received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Remember – Early voting is in effect
Monday, November 19, 6:00 PM; Sharp Co. Quorum Court, Ash Flat Courthouse
Monday, November 19, 7:00 PM; Fulton Co. Quorum Court, Salem Courthouse
Wednesday, November 20, 9:00 AM; District Court Trial Day, City Hall
Wednesday, November 20, Noon; Chamber of Commerce lunch, Hong Kong Cafe
Thursday, November 28; Thanksgiving, OFFICE CLOSED
Friday, November 29; Thanksgiving Vacation, OFFICE CLOSED
Saturday, November 30; Highland Christmas Parade
Monday, December 2, 1:00 PM; Public Budget Hearing, City Hall
Monday, December 2, 2:00 PM; Council Meeting, City Hall
Monday, December 2, 5:30 PM; Town Center Lighting Ceremony
Wednesday, December 4, 1:00 PM; Planning & Zoning Meeting, City Hall
Saturday, December 7; Ash Flat Christmas Parade
Thursday, December 12, 9:00 AM; District Court Plea Day, City Hall
Thursday, December 12, Noon; CVBA Luncheon, Loujo's Deli
Saturday, December 14; Hardy Christmas Parade
Monday, December 16, 2:00 PM; Council Meeting, City Hall
Wednesday, December 18, 9:00 AM; District Court Trial Day, City Hall
Wednesday, December 18, Noon; Chamber of Commerce lunch, Magnolia's Buffet
Wednesday, December 25; Christmas, OFFICE CLOSED

Senior Citizen's Center open every Monday and Wednesday, 11 – 3,
unless otherwise noted; lunch at 11:30 AM, Thunderbird Center.

Re-cycling open every Tuesday 9:00 – Noon, weather permitting, City Hall Parking Lot

ADJOURNMENT:

Motioned to adjourn was made by Mr. Bartlett and seconded by Mr. Stroup. With a voice vote of seven ayes, 0 nays, motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:25 PM.

DATE: December 16, 2002

APPROVED: Marjorie Rogers
Marjorie Rogers, Mayor

ATTEST: Susan E. Maynard
Susan E. Maynard, Clerk/Treasurer