

**CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE, ARKANSAS
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
JUNE 25, 2009**

The Honorable Mayor Lloyd Hefley called the regular monthly meeting of the City Council to order at approximately 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 25, 2009.

Mayor Hefley led the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silent prayer.

ROLL CALL: Clerk Endrihs called roll. Present were Lynn Maxedon, Peter Martin, VernaMae Newman, Angela Petersen, Billie Shelton, Russ Stokes, Tom Thone and Ray Torbit. Attorney Jon Abele was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Newman made a motion that agenda be accepted; seconded by Petersen; unanimously carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS (limit 3 minutes per speaker):
There were none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Mayor and Aldermen left the court room for a meeting – subject – New Hire. Upon return, an announcement was made that Misty Andrews would be hired as a part time employee at the Animal Center, at \$7.25 per hour, 24 hours per week; no benefits.

APPROVAL OF MAY 21, 2009 MINUTES: Martin moved that minutes be accepted; seconded by Stokes; unanimously passed.

CLERK’S REPORT: Clerk Endrihs reported that Mayor Hefley, Lynn Maxedon, Terry Romans and she attended the “Welcome to Arkansas Program” which was held at the Hardy Gym on June 9th. Purpose of this meeting was to encourage everyone to make visitors to the area feel welcome and want to return.

Endrihs and Bickle attended the City Business Association Meeting Thursday, June 11th where plans for the 4th of July fireworks were finalized. Romans attended the Spring River Chamber of Commerce Meeting on Tuesday, June 16th.

The 75th Convention of the Arkansas Municipal League was held in Hot Springs, June 17-19, 2009. Attending were Mayor Hefley, Joan and Terry Romans, Lynn & Ruth Maxedon, VernaMae and Bob Newman, Attorney Jon Abele and Clerk Endrihs.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Romans answered a few questions that were addressed to him. Thone questioned the cost of new furniture for the Chief of Police’s Office. He indicated that it was way over budget. Chief Crook replied that the former chief had done this and the funds were to come out of the Special Equipment Fund and funds would be transferred.

CORRESPONDENCE: None was given.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

FIRE: Chief Taylor reported that 81 calls were made during the month of May due to the commercial inspections. The Firefighters trained for a total of 208 hours on various subjects and the volunteers trained for 2 hours on Apparatus and 2 hours on FF1 Practices.

Year pump tests have been started on all fire engines. During the test it was found that Engine One had a bearing going out in the transfer case. Parts had been ordered and Engine One will be fixed when parts are received. (Report on file)

Chief Taylor further reported that the Department is taking bids for the roof repair on the Baseheart Station. Three bids have been received at this time and they will be brought up at the working meeting. He further added that Engine 1 is now back in service.

POLICE: Chief Crook reported that there have been 52 Incidents of Primary Offense and 109 Citations by Violation. (Report on file) He further reported that Michael Alexander has been rehired and Tamara Taylor promoted to full time; so he now has a full staff once more – just in time for vacation requests. There are 5 Patrolmen, 1 Criminal Investigative Officer, 1 Sergeant and 1 Chief for a total of 8. The CID works from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. The others work 12 hour shifts 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM and 7:00 PM – 7:00 AM. Track is kept of all receiving warnings; and if these warnings don't slow individuals down, citations will be issued.

STREETS: David Crayne reported that the first pass on debris removal has been completed; hangers and hazardous trees taken care of in Section I and the final pass for Sections 1 and 2 started.

K & P Tree Service is making fair progress on removal of hangers and hazardous trees in other than Section 1.

The burn site is working well and public information is updated weekly with question and answer every Friday at 9:00 A.M.

Accurate records are being kept for FEMA and even more info is required for ADEM. First check on debris removal has been received from FEMA for \$178,761.75. Five more were received later for a total of \$124,000 and a check for \$116,000 is about to be submitted.

There are 13 full time temporary personnel and 3 part time individuals. Eight more will be interviewed shortly for ground work/chipping, as the regular staff has returned to original duties.

The Maintenance Department has completed multiple repairs and oil/filter changes and tracked regular vs. FEMA costs.

450 tons of cold mix was made; 63 resident calls for repair or assistance were responded to and the Department is working with Entergy/ABC on concerns regarding their cutting and chipping.

Crayne also took the opportunity to invite the Council and those in attendance to a street naming ceremony in memory of Jimmie Cherry, former Street Superintendent, on Friday July 10th at 8:45 AM. (This street is located on Street Department property and is not a city street.)

PLANNING & ZONING REPORT:

Jerry Adams reported that there were a total of 198 Permits for Construction Types issued in May of 2009 for a cost of \$797,641 as opposed to 2008 report of 184 Types of Construction for total cost of \$868,102. Total Tear Offs and Layovers issued were 51 - cost of \$170,410. Thirty-six (36) permit jobs were inspected and 33 completed. (Report on file)

CODE ENFORCEMENT: There were 106 complaints taken in May, 18 old complaints, 131 letters mailed, 8 citations issued, 29 personal contacts made and 249 verifications (while driving discovered violations). 79 were completed in May. (Report on file)

Adams commented that Linley Survey had submitted a bill for \$5500 and as a gesture of good will gave a discount of \$1200. Bill then was \$4300. Maxedon then asked if he had a plan for incorporating the white areas. Adams replied that he did but that would be coming up later. The Mayor commented that this would be discussed at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PERSONNEL: Newman said her committee had met and they gathered up the applications for the Police and Fire Departments and she brought them to the 75th Arkansas Municipal League Convention to show to Attorney Mark Hayes. Attorney Hayes was asked to go over them and see if any changes need to be made in compliance with State law. She further added that they were still working on the City Handbook.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Third reading of **ORDINANCE 2009-03 – AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE OPERATIONS OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES (ATVS), LAWN TRACTORS, RIDING MOWERS, GO-CARTS, GOLF CARTS AND MOTOR-DRIVEN CYCLES AND/OR MO-PEDS WITH ENGINE DISPLACEMENT OF 250CC OR LESS.** Martin moved that title only be read; seconded by Torbit and unanimously approved. Clerk Endrihs read the title only. Roll call vote was taken. YES votes: Martin, Newman, Torbit, Stokes, Petersen, Thone and Shelton; NO vote Maxedon. Motion carried.

Annexation of “White Zones.” – to be discussed at a later meeting per Mayor Hefley.

NEW BUSINESS:

DeLoach announced that his topic “No Subject” would be delayed until a later meeting. It pertained to a couple of former Ordinances that he wanted to discuss with Attorney Jon Abele before presenting to Council.

TEMPORARY SPECIAL USE PERMIT – Fireworks Display at Thunderbird Dam on July 4th. Martin moved that this be approved; seconded by Newman and unanimously passed.

TEMPORARY SPECIAL USE PERMIT – “Kids focusing on Fun” was submitted by Progressive Eye Center, Inc. for Saturday, July 18th. Following discussion as to whether it would be inside or outside, DeLoach indicated that this event was going to be an Appreciation Day with hot dogs, cold drinks and fun and probably would be outside. Martin moved that this be approved; seconded by Newman; unanimously passed.

Martin requested that for future permits, Council look into whether event is on private or public property.

TEMPORARY SPECIAL USE PERMIT – Fireworks Display submitted by the Elks Club for September 5th was almost overlooked. Stokes motioned to approve; seconded by Newman and unanimously passed.

DEER HUNT: The Mayor announced that the Fish & Game people feel that a city needs 3-4 deer hunts in a row before they can adequately determine the difference in the deer population. He has asked them to do a spot check in August to verify their findings. They have agreed to do so.

Shelton asked about the Temporary Special Use Permit for Bike Ride requested by Highland Elks which he found in his packet. Since no one else had this in his/her packet, it was determined to have been previously passed. A check revealed that this Permit was approved by City Council at the April 17th meeting..

PROPOSAL TO FORM A BETTER CHEROKEE VILLAGE (ABCV) COMMITTEE: Submitted by Lynn Maxedon Motion: The Mayor shall within 60 days designate a citizens committee named A Better Cherokee Village (ABCV). The purpose of the committee shall be to engage the community to develop a common vision for the future of Cherokee Village for at least the next 20 years. The developments by the ABCV committee shall be used by future municipal leaders for community development and community improvement projects. The City Council, as it sees fit, shall use the developments of the ABCV committee to provide resources via the annual city budget. The Mayor shall initially name an ABCV steering committee of 3 to 5 members. The steering committee shall as appropriate, in turn name ABCV sub-committees as needed to accomplish the following objectives:

- Conduct a Formal Needs Assessment
- Prepare a Vision Statement
- Create a Community Blueprint

The ABCV committee shall not require funding from the city budget. The committee can accept donations should their activities require funding. All income and expenditures shall be through the city treasury.

. Maxedon explained his proposal and then moved that it be passed; seconded by Newman. Discussion followed. Maxedon explained that in order to get funding for any projects, we need to have a plan in place. He would like to get a steering committee together in advance so they can work with the group coming in to give Assessments. The Steering Committee can then report to the City Council. Roll Call was taken -. YES votes: Newman, Petersen, Stokes, Thone and Maxedon; NO votes: Torbit and Shelton; Martin abstained.

Maxedon then reported on the Natural Gas Project . He is working on the details and when things fall into place, there will be public meetings and eventually agreements to be signed as to whether the individual wants the natural gas or not.

The last item he wanted to talk about was a special license plate being issued by the State that would promote spaying/neutering animals with a portion of the profit being returned to the center doing the spaying/neutering.

DATE FOR WORKING MEETING: Discussion followed on whether to have the working meeting on July 1st or 8th followed. It was unanimously agreed to keep it on the 1st of July.

COMMENTS ON CITY RELATED ITEMS (limit 3 minutes per speaker): None.

ADJOURNMENT: Stokes moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:35 PM seconded by Newman and unanimously agreed.

DATE: _____

APPROVED: _____
Lloyd Hefley, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Phyllis J. Endrihs, Clerk/Treasurer