

**CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE, ARKANSAS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2010**

The Honorable Mayor Lloyd Hefley called the meeting of the Cherokee Village City Council to order at approximately 6:30 PM, Thursday, September 16, 2010. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silent prayer.

Clerk Endrihs called roll. Present were Aldermen Peter Martin, Verna Mae Newman, Russ Stokes, Tom Thone, Ray Torbit and Kent Viers. Absent were Lynn Maxedon and Angie Petersen. Also present was Attorney Jon Abele.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Newman indicated that after the PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REPORT DeLoach would like to add “Burned-out Homes.” She further requested that “Signs” be removed from UNFINISHED BUSINESS. With these two corrections, she then moved that the Agenda be approved; seconded by Torbit and unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2010 MINUTES: Martin moved that these minutes be approved as presented; seconded by Newman and unanimously passed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

FIRE – Due to illness in the family, Chief Taylor was absent. His written report indicated that his Department had responded to 16 calls during August. The Firefighters trained for 216 hours on various subjects and the Volunteers trained for 2 hours on Hose and 2 hours on Ventilation. He further offered his thanks to the citizens of Cherokee Village for their cooperation during the Burn Ban as they had very little trouble with unauthorized burning. (Report on file)

POLICE – Chief Crook reported that 42 Citations of Violation were issued and there were 65 Incident Primary Offense Totals. (Report on file) Thone questioned the increase in thefts and Chief Crook commented that “it was just that time of year.” In answer to question regarding marking of cars, Chief Crook replied that they were waiting for cooler weather as they noticed with earlier attempt to apply the stripping, it bubbled in the heat. They now have the black material and as the weather cools, the work will be completed.

He added that there was a change in staff as Shane Hightower resigned to take a job at ASU in Jonesboro and was replaced by Code Enforcement Officer Chris Spurlock who was a part time police officer. Thone questioned if job was posted. Chief Crook replied that

Spurlock was a part-time office and this was a promotion to full time; so no ads were placed.

The Chief also indicated that he and Bob Smith feel that if they don't get more individuals (16 to date) signed up for Senior Watch, they will have to drop it. Mr. Smith has already or is planning to contact all the clubs/organizations listed in our CV Directory. He has delivered a number of speeches to interested groups; notices of meetings have been on the radio as well as in the newspapers; however, before the plan is dropped, an attempt will be made to see if the plan will work on a county-wide basis.

Chief Crook further added that his Department has received a check for "The Click It or Ticket" program for \$2300. Another grant check for \$2295 for Special Equipment is due soon as the grant company accepted his list of equipment needed.

Martin questioned the purchase of a breathalyzer for the County. Chief Crook replied that the present machine is old and going down and the request has been made to the area City Police Departments for each City to give \$1000 towards the purchase of a new one. He plans to put it in next years budget and pay it in January. Although there is a portable breathalyzer in each police car, this evidence will not hold up in court; so it means a trip to Salem or Horseshoe Bend if the County machine goes down.

ANIMAL CONTROL – Chief Crook reported that there were 16 Strays/Surrenders and 1 Owner Relinquish. They received 6 animals from Ozark Acres for a total number of Intakes of 23. No owners reclaimed their animals and 7 dogs and 3 cats were euthanized. Five animals were adopted; 5 dogs and 1 cat went into Local Rescue. None were transported to Rescue for Adoption and 0 were scheduled for Transport to Rescue. Total number of outgoes was 21. As of this date there were 60 dogs and 38 cats on site. Total income collected was \$185. Animal Control is still receiving food and monetary donations although they have slowed down; but donations of towels and blankets continue to be received on a regular basis. The next adoption drive is October 11 at Wal-Mart and the next Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic is scheduled for October 5-7. There were 215 volunteer hours. The dog house needs to be sealed, the buildings need a fresh coat of paint before the end of the season and they are in need of a load of white gravel for building #2. (Report on file) Questioned was raised regarding the possibility of putting a camera on the premises to film anyone leaving animals at the gate or tied up elsewhere near by. The chief replied that this is being looked into. The camera with a flash is cheaper but not recommended; so they are looking at a better camera to set up.

Some discussion followed on the funds collected in SPARE. This is a 501C3 fund and not connected with the City. Mayor Hefley indicated that they expect a full accounting by the end of this year.

STREET – Crayne reported that the Street Department had received \$62,000 from FEMA and were awaiting another \$212,000 still to come. He has requested ADEM share on Ice Storm, flood money appropriated, and an additional \$52,300 still in review.

His regular staff has been busy with ROW clearing and culvert cleanout; mowing on ROW; digging soft spots and adding base rock to Tonganoxie Road; reshaping ditches and repairing shoulders; preparing 4.6 miles of road for asphalt mix and blading cold mix for other roads.

His Maintenance Department completed multiple repairs and oil/filter changes and serviced and repaired vehicles from FEMA projects.

In general his department responded to 18 resident calls, installed 8 driveway approaches, chip sealed 6.24 miles and assigned community service to clear brush and trees from around new building. (Report on file) He added that they are looking into another means of handling low water bridge crossings and have discussed this with FEMA as well as others; however, it may take a couple of years for a positive solution.

COMMUNITY SERVICE – DeLoach reported that there were 650 hours worked in August to pay a total of \$4,875 in fines. There were 336 mandatory hours worked and 160 volunteer hours worked for a total of 1146 hours. (Report on file)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PERSONNEL - Newman reported that they have received over 65 applications for the two job openings – one in Animal Control and the other for Code Enforcement Officer. She and her committee have gone through them all and set aside 10 to be interviewed - five for each job. If these don't work out, they will go back to the applications; however, the hope is to have them filled within a week.

ABCV COMMITTEE - met September 7th. In the absence of Maxedon, his report indicated that a partial draft of The Plan was discussed as to who would accomplish the suggested items, when these things could be accomplished and the paying for items. They will continue to take input from community leaders. More is to be discussed at next meeting. (Report on file)

SAFETY – Torbit reported that the Fire Department had a number of smoke alarms and would provide and install them on request at no charge.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION:

Hrezo reported that there were 216 Construction Permits issued this year for a total of \$10,342.50 as compared to the 336 issued in 2009 for a total of \$11,000.00. Total income from Permit Fees for Business, Building, Septic, and Recording/Legal is \$16,097 for the year. Roofing permits amount to \$125,798. There were 33 jobs inspected and 14 jobs completed.

Hrezo also reported on Code Enforcement. He indicated there were 11 complaints for the month, 12 old complaints, 6 letters mailed, 1 citation issued on Burn Pile; 65 personal contacts and verifications made; 8 dump sites, and 18 jobs completed. (Report on file)

DeLoach then led a discussion in burn-outs, condemned houses and how to deal with them. He indicated that the latter could possibly be cleaned up and made liveable; however, it was time to get rid of the burnouts. DeLoach indicated that there were 4 burnouts in question as well as 4 unsafe houses and he wanted the Council's permission to take them down. After much discussion, Martin moved that Attorney Abele set the paperwork in motion to legally destroy these 8 buildings; Newman seconded. Roll call was taken. YES votes – Martin, Newman, Viers, Stokes, Thone and Torbit. Motion passed. Attorney Abele will start the paperwork.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Lions Club has requested to set up for White Cane Days at the corner of Okmulgee Drive and Iroquois Drive September 30 to October 2, 2010. Thone moved that this be passed; seconded by Viers and unanimously carried.
2. **RESOLUTION NO. 2010-09** – A RESOLUTION TO LEVY SHARP AND FULTON COUNTY ADVALOREM TAXES FOR THE CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE, ARKANSAS. Torbit asked if mills should be added after the 2.0. Newman moved that Mills be added after the 2.0 figures and then be approved to pass; seconded by Stokes. Roll call was taken; YES votes – Martin, Newman, Viers, Stokes, Thone and Torbit.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Martin questioned Line Items 20 for Advertising as well as Line Items 31 for M. Lee Smith Publishing for \$377.00 and Line Item 32 for Education/Registration fees. Much discussion followed on the Advertising. Mayor Hefley indicated that he would check on the items listed under OVG and TAP and get back with them at next meeting.

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

ADJOURNMENT: Newman moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:50 PM and was unanimously passed.

DATE: _____

APPROVED: _____
Lloyd Hefley, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Phyllis J. Endrihs, Clerk/Treasurer