

MINUTES
CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE, ARKANSAS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
6:30 P.M., THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2016
CHEROKEE VILLAGE CITY HALL
(meetings are video recorded)

Mayor Stokes called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 28, 2016. He led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of prayer.

Roll was called by Clerk Stephanie Johnson. Present were Jerry Adams, Bill Circle, Les Covington, Chuck Kristopeit, Chuck McMahon, Rob Smith, Steve Thompson, and Mayor Stokes; absent were Pamela Rowland and City Attorney Jon Abele.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Adams moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Smith and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: (limit 3 minutes per person)

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Covington moved to approve the December 17, 2015 council minutes, seconded by Thompson and passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Clerk Johnson read a Christmas card addressed to the Police Department thanking them for their service. The card also contained 10 \$100 gift cards to be given to families in need during Christmas. The sender requested to remain anonymous.

FINANCIAL REPORT: McMahon moved to approve the financials for audit, seconded by Kristopeit and passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Stokes stated the State of the City address would be during the February City Council meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- **ANIMAL CONTROL:** (report on file)
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE:** (report on file) – Mayor Stokes stated inmates had been working at the animal shelter and dump sites exposed by lack of foliage.
- **DISTRICT COURT:** (report on file)
- **FIRE:** (report on file)
- **POLICE:** (report on file)
- **STREET:** (report on file) – Mayor Stokes reported several individuals commented on the expedited snow removal following the recent snowfall. Stokes commended the Street Department and told them to keep up the good work.

PLANNING & ZONING –

1. **NOTICE OF HEARING TO CONSIDER RAZE AND REMOVAL RESOLUTION FOR: LOT 9, BLOCK 6, CHICKASAW FIRST ADDITION (18 CHICKASAW DRIVE) TO CHEROKEE VILLAGE SUBDIVISION, SHARP COUNTY, ARKANSAS (MARY BOB RUSSELL/ JESSICA LA CRAZE, OWNER (S).)** Phil Caves reported this particular raze and removal had been carried over from the previous month's council meeting in order to give council members the opportunity to view and investigate the property. Caves reported extending a courtesy call to the owner who stated she could not attend the meeting and requested to be postponed until February. Smith moved to proceed with raze and removal, seconded by Circle. A roll call vote was taken; there were 7 yeas, passing the motion unanimously.
2. **NOTICE OF HEARING TO CONSIDER RAZE AND REMOVAL RESOLUTION FOR: LOT 2, BLOCK 3, FIRST ADDITION (4 HIAWATHA DRIVE) TO CHEROKEE VILLAGE SUBDIVISION, SHARP COUNTY, ARKANSAS (RICHARD MENDES, OWNER.)** Phil Caves stated certified mail sent to the owner had been signed for. Caves reported the site being an eyesore and danger to the community. Covington moved to proceed with raze and removal, seconded by Thompson. A roll call vote was taken; there were 7 yeas, passing the motion unanimously. Following the motion, Adams asked for suggestions for removing dilapidated properties cost effectively and quickly. Caves stated the city can put a tax lien on the property to get back the funds used to raze and remove. Thompson suggested revisiting the rental ordinance in place. Thompson stated any land owners renting their property in Cherokee Village are business owners, requiring a business permit to do business within city limits. Thompson suggested putting a clause in those particular permits to include entering into an agreement with the city to cover raze and removal of the property, should that occur. Thompson suggested speaking with City Attorney, Jon Abele.
3. **COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:** Mayor Stokes appointed Jack Soden and Steve Vaughan to the Planning and Zoning Commission

- **CODE ENFORCEMENT:** (report on file)
- **PARKS & PLANNING:** (report on file)
- **RESTORATION:** (report on file)

A & P COMMISSION: (report on file)

- **GRANT UPDATE:** Mary Whelan reported a grant was received for the Tohi pavilion in the amount of \$19,500. Whelan also stated \$2500 grants from the Highland Elks Lodge and White River Medical Systems were on their way.
- **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:** (report on file)
- **ROAD & STREETS COMMITTEE:** (report on file)

WRMC REPORT: (report on file) James Mack Street gave an update on the facility. Street reported the check for the Tohi Trail was in the mail.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **REAFFIRMATION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURES** – Mayor Stokes asked for a motion to approve the combination of the first five resolutions of 2015 for operational procedures in 2016 including, **RESOLUTION 2015 – 1, A RESOLUTION TO SET CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATES AND TIME OF MEETING, RESOLUTION 2015 – 2, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING CITY COUNCIL PROCEDURES FOR THE CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE, RESOLUTION 2015 – 3, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES FOR APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES AUTHORIZED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, RESOLUTION 2015 – 4 CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AT CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE PUBLIC MEETINGS, and RESOLUTION 2015 – 5, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE TO RESTRICT THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION FOR A PERIOD OF ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS AFTER SUCH LEGISLATION HAS BEEN ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL.** Thompson made a motion to pass the combined resolutions for 2016 operations, seconded by Covington. A roll call vote was taken; there were 7 yeas, passing the motion unanimously.
2. **ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO-TEM** – Mayor Stokes opened the floor for nominations. Covington nominated McMahon, seconded by Thompson. McMahon nominated Thompson, seconded by Smith. Thompson stated McMahon did a great job in 2015 and deserves another year in the position. Stokes asked for a show of hands in favor of McMahon. There were 6 hands raised in favor of McMahon, one hand raised in favor of Thompson. McMahon was chosen as 2016 Mayor Pro-tem.
3. **RESOLUTION 2016-1: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2016 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE** - Smith moved to approve **RESOLUTION 2016 – 1**, seconded by Covington. A roll call vote was taken; there were 7 yeas, passing the resolution unanimously.
4. **RESOLUTION 2016-2: A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE STREET DEPARTMENT'S 2015 MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE** – McMahon moved to approve **RESOLUTION 2016 – 2**, seconded by Circle. A roll call vote was taken; there were 7 yeas, passing the resolution unanimously.
5. **LOT DONATION:** The city was contacted by Gary Godwin, Chairman of Deacons with: Rehoboth Baptist Church of Tucker, Georgia to donate the following lot to the city: Lot 12, Block 1 of the Teton Addition (Walhara Drive). SID reported taxes are current. Covington made a motion to accept the lot donation, seconded by Kristopeit. A roll call vote was taken; there were 7 yeas, passing the motion unanimously.

COMMENTS ON CITY RELATED BUSINESS: Peter Martin addressed council concerning 18 Chickasaw Drive and the proposed raze and removal. Martin asked if the owner was currently paying taxes. Martin suggested giving a land owner, if they want to keep the property, a date to complete renovations or improvements by. Martin

stated giving the land owner this option could possibly decrease the amount of raze and removals.

Police Chief Rickey Crook approached council and thanked them and the budget committee for a painless budget process this year. Crook expressed his thanks and appreciation to members for their time and consideration of reviewing budgets and reported that this was the easiest budget process he had ever been through with the city.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m., seconded by Thompson and passed unanimously.

DATE: 2/19/14

APPROVED: Russell Stokes, Jr.
Russell Stokes, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST: Stephanie Johnson
Stephanie Johnson, City Clerk/Treasurer

