

Minutes
CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE, ARKANSAS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
6:30 P.M., JANUARY 27, 2022
CHEROKEE VILLAGE CITY HALL

CALL TO ORDER at 6:30 PM by Mayor Stokes

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was lead by Mayor Stokes

MOMENT OF PRAYER was offered by Mayor Stokes

ROLL CALL; ESTABLISH QUORUM – Present - Kristopeit, Hill, Ishmael, Thompson (arrived late), Smith (per phone), and Martin. Absent – Rowland and Hefley. Quorum established 6

Motion by Mr. Martin to waive the rules and open discussion from December 16, 2021 Executive Session, Seconded by Mr. Kristopeit

- Actions to expend funds for the 3 Fire Fighters in the amount of \$17,000.00. Motion by Mr. Martin to approve this expenditure, seconded my Mr. Kristopeit. Roll call vote: YEA's – Kristopeit, Hill, Ishmael, Thompson, Smith and Martin. NAY's – None. Motion passed

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Mr. Kristopeit made a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Hill. Motion passed.

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

- Chris Studebaker expressed concerns about rental properties not being taken care of by Owner. Reported to, but she feels it has not been addressed by P & Z. Thomas Swiatkowski was not present due to illness so Mayor Stokes will discuss this with Thomas once he is back to work.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. December 16, 2021 Regular Council Meeting – Mr. Smith motioned to approve, seconded by Mr. Hill. Motion passed and minutes will be filed for audit.

CORRESPONDENCE: No Correspondence.

Mr. Martin commented that he has not received council packets for a couple months. Mr. Martin wants an email from City server. (@cherokeevillage.org) Mayor Stokes states this was due to security reasons. Discussion followed. Mr. Martin requested this be on February Council Agenda.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Motion by Mr. Kristopeit to approve the Financial Report, seconded by Mr. Thompson. Motion passed and will be submitted for audit.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. Proclamation Arkansas School Board Member Recognition Month- January 2022. Mayor Stokes read the Proclamation to acknowledge School Board of Highland local schools.
2. Mayor Stokes had a meeting with representative from ARDOT about the low water bridge concerning acquiring property the City owns. Paperwork was turned over to City Attorney for review. The City has 30 days to respond which was shortened from 60 days.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

ANIMAL CONTROL – Report on file. Due to the virus key personnel are out of the office; both employees are out. City has acquired outside help to feed, water and care for the animals currently at the facility. Donations are being received from the community. We are grateful for that.

COMMUNITY SERVICE – Report on File

DISTRICT COURT – Mayor reported that several cases were postponed due to the virus, where people were not able to attend on both sides of the Court proceedings.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – Chief Dienst submitted a yearly report for 2021. Mr. Martin proposed the question of “Who and when appointed the replacement of Fire Chief.” Mayor Stokes replied “ I made that announcement in December when Chief Pendarvis retired. Mayor pointed out that the 2 biggest responses were EMS including Medical Assist (if ambulance is already there and call fire dept. for help) and Public Service assistance consisting of lift assist including street dept and Police dept, when needed. Mayor asked Chief to explain shift change from 24 hrs on and 48 hrs off to 48 hr shifts and 96 hrs off. A lot of leg work on Chief’s part to make that happen and has raised moral. Discussion on vacation, sick leave, holiday pay, comp hours, and overtime, were changed to apply with LSFA.

P&Z/CODE ENFORCEMENT – Mr. Martin proposed the question of there being 2 positions which Thomas Swiatkowski is over. Mayor responded Thomas is handling both City Inspector and Supervisor at the Street Dept. This is being evaluated at this time. Thomas is out with the virus.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – The new trucks have arrived and are being equipped slowly due to supply chain issues. Mayor mentioned the ice store caused several traffic hazards. There were 15 autos in the ditch on Iroquois in a short time.

STREET DEPARTMENT – Report on File. Mayor Stokes complimented the Street Department did a good job on the last storm. They too have been hit by the virus leaving them shorthanded.

OTHER REPORTS:

A & P REPORT (No Report)

AIRPORT REPORT – December meeting did not have a quorum. January minutes show there is still a problem with trees on the property at the end of the airports property. Progress has come to a standstill. The addition of Emerson to the community being able to land bigger aircraft would improve economic development. Quorum court may need to be contacted to help with talks with owner.

GRANT REPORT (No Report)

P & Z COMMISSION - Minutes for December commented that the Trail extension has hit another hurdle. ARDOT must approve drawing for drainage which could take 2 – 3 months. Roy Echols is checking into this by looking for a contact in Little Rock to speed things up.

STREET COMMITTEE (No Report)

TRI-COUNTY SOLID WASTE – There were 3 grants approved at the last White River meeting which will help with their funding. They are in need of a truck.

WELCOME CENTER – Year end report of number of visitors to the village and Welcome packets. Thanksgiving and a week in December was a big Christmas shopping time. 675 volunteer hours were donated by people who support the Welcome Center. More volunteers are welcome.

OLD BUSINESS: - No old business

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Martin made a motion to hold off on reaffirmation of council procedures until after the Working meeting so Council can set procedure. After discussion no Second to the motion was made - motion died.

Mr. Hill asked Mr. Martin if there was a resolution in general or all. Mr. Martin states all, as things are not done the same. Mr. Kristopeit asked if it can be revisited. Mr. Hill stated he would like more information. Mr. Hill made a motion to reaffirm resolution as written. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Roll call vote. YEA’s – Kristopeit, Hill, Ishmael, Thompson, Smith, NAY’s Martin. Motion passed 5 to 1

1. REAFFIRMATION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURES-umbrella motion acceptable
 - a. 2015-01, A Resolution to set City Council Meeting Dates and Time of Meeting
 - b. 2015-02, A Resolution Adopting City Council Procedures for the City of Cherokee Village.
 - c. 2015-03, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Cherokee Village Establishing Guidelines for Appointments to Commissions & Committees Authorized by the City Council.
 - d. 2015-04, A Resolution regarding Citizen Participation at City of Cherokee Village Public Meetings.
 - e. 2015-05, 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.

2. ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO-TEM – Mr. Smith currently serves as Mayor Pro-Tem. Floor was opened to nominations. Motion by Mr. Martin to appoint Rob Smith as Mayor Pro-Tem. Seconded by Mr. Hill. Motion passed. Congratulations Mr. Smith

Motion to place item for bid and be removed by Mr. Martin and Seconded by Mr. Ishmael. Mayor asked City Attorney if resolutions need to be read to which Mr. Abele answered “No resolutions do not need to be read”.

Mr. Martin amended his motion to include all resolutions to be accepted as they are standard budget clean up items. Seconded by Mr. Thompson to accept all resolutions. Roll Call vote - YEA’s Kristopeit, Hill, Ishmael, Thompson, Smith and Martin. Motion passed

3. RESOLUTION 2022-01: A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AN ITEM SURPLUS PROPERTY AND TO REMOVE FROM CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE PROPERTY ASSET LIST
4. RESOLUTION 2022-02: A RESOLUTION AMENDING ADMINISTRATION GENERAL FUND OF THE CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE 2021 BUDGET
5. RESOLUTION 2022-03: A RESOLUTION AMENDING ADMINISTRATION GENERAL FIRE FUND OF THE CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE 2021 BUDGET
6. RESOLUTION 2022-04: A RESOLUTION AMENDING POLICE DEPARTMENT FUND OF THE CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE 2021 BUDGET

Mayor stated that 2 depts. are not reported here: Planning and Zoning and Street Dept due to the virus, and will be addressed at February’s Council meeting.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS ON CITY RELATED BUSINESS (limit 3 minutes per person)

1. Chris Studebaker - Animal Control increase of pet License and people who do not pay license. Why should some pay and some not. Mayor suggests to talk to Chief Lane in the absences of Animal Control due to virus. Some discussion concerning animals being under owner’s control.
2. Mr. Kristopeit stated he understand Mr. Martin’s concern with New Council members being up to date on Resolutions. The date for the working meeting is the Monday before the Council Meeting. February 14’ 6:30 PM.
3. Mr. Joe Whited inquired council’s comments on a multi family unit complex (50 units) being built on the 22 acres across from the old hospital. Mayor stated you must go to Planning and Zoning first.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Hill. Meeting Adjourned.

DATE: 2/26/2022

APPROVED: Russell Stokes, Jr.

Russell Stokes, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST: Penny Trumpy

Penny Trumpy, City Clerk