

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF CHEROKEE VILLAGE, ARKANSAS**  
**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**6:30 P.M., THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023**  
**CHEROKEE VILLAGE CITY HALL**  
**(meetings are video recorded)**

Roll was called by Interim Treasurer Deb Weichinger, filling in for City Clerk's absence. Present were Pamela Rowland, Heather Harrison, Jeff Tatum, Eddie Ishmael (by phone), Steve Thompson, Mayor Rose and City Attorney Jon Abele. Absent: Andrew Hefley, Rob Smith, Peter Martin, City Clerk Penny Trumpy.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Council Member Thompson asked to add two (2) items to the agenda.

- Review depository accounts and interest earned.
- Consider a resolution to move council meetings from the third Thursday to the second Monday of each month.

Council Member Thompson moved to approve the revised agenda, second by Council Member Tatum and passed unanimously.

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** (February 16, 2023): Council Member Thompson moved to approve the minutes, second by Council Member Rowland, and passed unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** none

**STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS:** Carmen Inman showed the slide presentation of the Cherokee Village 2022 State of the City Address.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Rose reported he spoke with Bruce Street from ARDOT regarding the low water bridge project(s). The project is out for bid in May. Expecting to start the first bridge project in August 2023; the second bridge is out for bid in May. The bridge(s) will be a two (2) season project. The first low water bridge project should begin the summer of 2023.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:** See Cherokee Village Web site for reports on File.

**ANIMAL CONTROL:** On File – (January & February)

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** On File

**DISTRICT COURT:** On File

**FIRE:** On File

**PLANNING & ZONING:** On File

**POLICE:** On File

**STREET DEPARTMENT:** Newsletter

**OTHER REPORTS:**

**A & P Minutes:** On File (1.5 million people expected to come to Arkansas for the solar eclipse. Currently working on pie festival; and has had first meeting regarding the solar eclipse).

**AIRPORT REPORT:** On File

**GRANT REPORT:** (No report)

**P & Z COMMISSION:** Draft minutes - On file

**STREETS COMMITTEE:** Minutes

**TRI-COUNTY SOLDE WASTE:** On file

**WELCOME CENTER:** No Report

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **RESOLUTION 2023-07: Resolution Establishing a Code of Conduct for City Council Members.** Mayor Rose summarized the resolution and asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Motion was made by Council Member Rowland, second by Council Member Tatum to approve the resolution. Roll call vote: Ayes: Council Members Rowland, Harrison, Tatum, Ishmael, and Thompson. Motion passed. Code of Conduct documentation to be signed by all City Council Members and filed with the City Clerk.
2. **ORDINANCE 2023-02: An Ordinance Specifically Permitting the Mayor of Cherokee Village, Arkansas, to conduct business with the City of Cherokee Village, Arkansas, and prescribing the extent of such authority; Declaring an Emergency; and for other purposes. (Tabled from February 2023).** Second reading by Deb Weichinger, title only. Per City Attorney Jon Abele, need six (6) council members to pass vote on ordinance. Table to April 2023 meeting.
3. **Mayor and Clerk's Salaries. Discuss and finalize Salaries & Budget detail. (Tabled from February 2023).** After some discussion, Council Member Thompson motioned to increase Mayor's 2023 annual salary to \$21,050 and increase City Clerk's 2023 annual salary to \$17,000; second by Council Member Tatum. Ayes: Council Members Rowland, Harrison, Tatum, Ishmael, Thompson. Motion passed. Council Member Tatum requested the consideration of insurance for both the Mayor and City Clerk be on the April 2023 city council meeting agenda.
4. **Lighting and repairs to Senior Center. Updates on estimates and timeline.** After some discussion, Council Member Rowland motioned to spend up to, but not to exceed \$5,300 for the Senior Center lighting and repairs. Council Member Thompson seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Ayes: Council Members Rowland, Harrison, Tatum, Ishmael, and Thompson. Motion passed.
5. **Amendment to Mayor and Clerk's Salaries.** After some additional discussion, Council Member Rowland motioned to make the 2023 salary increases for the Mayor and City Clerk to be retroactive. Motion was seconded by Council Member Thompson. Roll call vote. Ayes: Rowland, Harrison, Tatum, Ishmael and Thompson. Motion passed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Phone Systems - Mayor:** Council Member Thompson motioned to review, waiting for more information. Council Member Tatum seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
2. **Short Term Special Use Permit No 2023-02: Arkansas Pie Festival & Pie Day 5K – April 29, 2023, 8 am – 3 pm.**
3. **Short Term Special Use Permit No 2023-03: Spring River Farmers Market, Town Center, May 27 to July 29, 2023.**
4. **Short Term Special Use Permit No 2023-04: Thunder on Thunderbird, July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration, 7 – 9:30 pm.**

Motion was made by Council Member Tatum, seconded by Council Member Thompson to approve all three (3) short term special use permits No 2023-02, 03, and 04. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **Review of Depository Accounts and Interest Earned:** Council Member Thompson discussed the low interest rates the city is earning on the amount of interest earned on the number of accounts the city currently has on deposit at two (2) local banks. Interest rates have been currently increasing and Council Member Thompson would like to have council consider forming a committee to explore options available with the local banks to increase the interest earned on the city's bank accounts. Council Member Thompson motioned, seconded by Council Member Tatum to establish a committee to include Les Covington, Steve Thompson, Paul Heunsch and Deb Weichinger to meet before the next council meeting.

6. **Council to consider changing the monthly council meeting dates.** Council Member Thompson asked council to consider changing the current 6:30 pm, third Thursday of the month council meeting dates to the second Monday of the month. Thoughts shared: less imposition on holidays, council packet preparation, bank reconciliations, staff availability to attend different meeting date/time. After some discussion, Council Member Harrison motioned to table any further discussion until April meeting. Council Member Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed. Mayor Rose is to ask city staff (particularly department heads) if any particular day of week or time of day would be best to attend a change in council meetings.

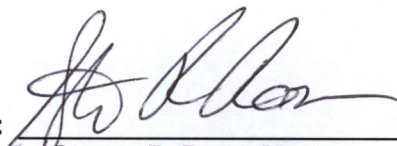
A question wasn't presented regarding Andrew Hefley's absences from council.

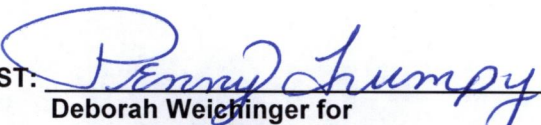
**COMMENTS:**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Rose moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m., second by Council Member Rowland.

DATE: 4/20/23

APPROVED:   
Steven R. Rose, Mayor

ATTEST:   
Deborah Weichinger for  
Penny Trumpy, City Clerk