

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024, 6:00 P.M.
CHEROKEE CITY HALL**

A regular meeting was called to order on this date by Mayor Schmidt. Roll call: Present: Councilpersons Conover, Loughlin, Nitz, Pingel, Wych, City Attorney Vondrak and City Clerk-Treasurer Lucas. Absent None.

Motion by Nitz, seconded by Loughlin to approve the agenda. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Nitz to approve Amy Douglas as interim Recreation Director at a salary of \$56,000 and hiring Tyler Ebel for \$20/hour on an as needed basis beginning November 29, 2024 through October 2, 2025. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel to approve Resolution 2024-35, a Resolution Rejecting Bids for the Beech Street Lift Station Project. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

On a motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel, the following was approved under Consent Agenda. Roll call: AYES: Conover, Loughlin, Nitz, Pingel. NAYES: Wych.

Approve City Council Minutes of October 22, 2024.

October Police Report.

Approve Ownership Change on Alcohol License for Dollar General #2837.

Review Board of Adjustment Minutes of October 21, 2024.

Approve Council Appointment of Kyle Basten to Iowa Surface Transportation Enhancement Act Regional Planning Authority and Technical Advisory Committee.

Approve Class B Retail Alcohol License for Kimmes Cherokee Country Store #07.

Approve Special City Council Minutes of November 5, 2024.

Review Park & Rec Minutes of November 4, 2024.

Approve Pay App #7 for Wescott Park Relocation Project.

Approve Application for Tax Abatement – 872 Aster Dr. – Soto Housing, LLC (Jose Soto).

October Treasurer’s Report and Receipts as follows: General \$683,899.96; Police Forfeiture \$389.98; County Library \$15.48; Road Use \$58,235.95; Employee Benefits \$398,490.17;

Emergency \$0; Other Street Monies/Local Option Sales Tax \$85,939.96; Hotel/Motel Tax

\$12,958.19; Tax Increment Financing \$37,377.17; Wilson School Reserve \$0; Library Memorial

\$2,832.71; Park & Rec Capital Improvement \$153,698.77; Cemetery Special Care \$5.65; Debt

Service \$156,001.03; 2016 Capital Projects \$3,223.00; Floods of 2018/19 \$22,244.34; Flood

Buyout Program \$0; Roosevelt St. Prj. \$3,219.69; Willow St. Bridge \$0; American Rescue Funds

\$0; Emergency Set-Aside \$318.87; Oak Hill Perpetual Care \$160.00; Water Utility \$97,582.26;

Water Utility – Industrial \$0; WTP Generators \$230,284.80; Water Main Project Bond & Interest

\$5,367.50; Water System Maintenance \$9,804.37; Sewer \$120,163.85; Sewer Facility Bond &

Interest \$5,285.08; Sewer System Maintenance \$8,676.90; Beech St. Lift Relocation \$0; CDBG

Sanitary Sewer Euclid/Spruce \$284.00; Aviation Authority \$10,282.90; Solid Waste \$31,316.54;

Landfill \$29,280.21; Storm Sewer Utility \$7,267.89; Self-Insurance \$189.61; Police Dept. Special Acct \$0.

Bills totaling \$235,661.45

AGSTATE	FUEL	\$1,271.25
ALLIANT ENERGY	NATURAL GAS	\$162.69
ASCENDANCE TRUCKS MIDWEST	MUFFLER CLAMP	\$24.57

AXON ENTERPRISE INC.	AXON TASER	\$618.88
BAKER & TAYLOR INC.	BOOKS	\$846.80
BECK ENGINEERING, INC.	WESCOTT PARK RELOCATION	\$9,786.00
BECK ENGINEERING, INC.	CURB & GUTTER, GENERAL ENGINEERING	\$20,024.25
BETTER HOMES & GARDENS	SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL	\$18.00
BLAINE'S WATER CONDITIONING	WINTERIZE, RENTALS, WATER	\$176.15
BOMGAARS	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$2,256.52
BROCK KANNEGIETER	FLAG FOOTBALL REFEREE	\$450.00
BUILDERS SHARP. & SERVICE	LOCKNUT, DRIVE BELT	\$271.77
CAMERON KOHN	FLAG FOOTBALL REFEREE	\$450.00
CASEY CARPENTER	11/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00
CERTIFIED TESTING SERVICES	WESCOTT, WILLOW CURB, SKATEPARK	\$1,020.00
CHEROKEE CHRONICLE TIMES	10/24 LEGAL PUBLICATIONS	\$797.98
CHEROKEE CO. SOLID WASTE	10/24 ASSESSMENT	\$29,688.51
CHEROKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT	VOLUNTEER FIREMAN PAYROLL	\$1,260.00
CHEROKEE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	RANDOM SELECT	\$37.00
CHEROKEE ROTARY CLUB	MEALS	\$117.00
CHRIS HORTON	11/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00
CLAYTON REIS	BOOT REIMBURSEMENT	\$137.80
C-M-L TELEPHONE	TELEPHONE & INTERNET	\$1,212.56
CONNOR BEECK WINDOW CLEANING	CLEAN WINDOWS	\$115.00
COUNTRY TIRE & SERVICE	TIRE REPAIRS, OIL CHANGE	\$396.05
FAREWAY STORES, INC.	LIBRARY SUPPLIES	\$14.97
FELD FIRE	HELMETS	\$2,877.00
FIT	FXO WATER SCADA FCC LICENSE	\$885.00
FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL LAB	WATER SAMPLES	\$82.50
GCC ALLIANCE CONCRETE INC.	CONCRETE	\$347.50
GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SV	COPY CONTRACT	\$188.96
H & S ELECTRIC	FIX LIGHT	\$102.21
HAWKINS, INC.	LAB SUPPLIES	\$2,041.46
HEARTLAND TIRE	4 TIRES/PD	\$720.00
HOLIDAY INN DES MOINES	IMFOA LODGING	\$237.44
HY-VEE, INC.	DRINKS	\$22.74
I.M.W.C.A.	FY24 AUDIT PREMIUM ADJUSTMENT	\$7,925.00
IOWA STATE POLICE ASSOC.	2025 MEMBERS DUES	\$250.00
JOHN SNAPP	STEELE TOUR REIMBURSEMENT	\$372.27
KIRSTY MCCLAREN	UTILITY BILL REFUND	\$4.15
LEROY RUPP	UTILITY BILL REFUND	\$62.23
MCNALLY OPERATIONS, LLC	COPY LEASE	\$307.55
MEDIACOM LLC	INTERNET	\$416.90
MID AMERICAN ENERGY	ELECTRICITY	\$19,872.15
MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, LLC	11/24 ADMIN FEE & CLAIMS	\$1,212.77
MIDWEST LUBRICANTS, INC.	OIL & TRACTOR FLUID	\$994.40
MODERN HEATING & COOLING	FLUSH VALVES, FILTERS, WINTERIZE	\$1,300.77
MORGAN HOOGLAND	UTILTY BILL REFUND	\$77.41
MOTOR PARTS SALES	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$82.52
NATE JAMES	11/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$50.00
NORTH CENTRAL LABORATORIES	LAB SUPPLIES	\$464.56
ONE OFFICE SOLUTION	OFFICE SUPPLIES, CONTRACT BILLING	\$704.90
O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE STORES	PAINT REMOVER	\$78.99
R.J. THOMAS MFG. CO., INC.	UPDATE SIGN	\$55.00
REHAB SYSTEMS, INC.	LIFT STATION CLEANING	\$2,460.00
ROB STINES	11/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00

ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID	CLERICAL/TECHNICAL	\$63.50
S & W REPAIR, LLC	VEHICLE REPAIRS	\$168.45
SADIE GEHLEN	REISSUE UTILITY BILL REFUND	\$10.65
SANITARY SERVICES	10/24 GARBAGE PICK UP, FEMA TRASH DISPOSAL	\$29,691.58
SARA LUCAS	11/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00
SCE, LLC	JET PARK & EUCLID SEWER	\$871.50
SCHMILLEN CONSTRUCTION INC	RIP RAP-HASELHOFF 2ND ADD.	\$1,409.57
SCHMILLEN CONSTRUCTION INC	WESCOTT PARK RELOCATION	\$70,494.89
SECRETARY OF STATE	NOTARY RENEWALS	\$150.00
SIOUX SALES COMPANY	NAMEPLATE	\$40.85
STOREY KENWORTHY/MATT PARROTT	W2'S, 1099'S, ENVELOPES	\$168.31
TAYLORS TINS	CUSTOM PASSPORT TINS	\$634.00
THE COLLINS GROUP	IOWA FLAGS	\$60.91
THE IOWAN	SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL	\$24.00
TINSEL & TIDINGS	HOTEL/MOTEL GRANT REIMBURSEMENT	\$2,000.00
TODD LARSEN	11/24 CELL & BOOT REIMBURSEMENT	\$185.00
TODD MILLER	11/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	UNCLAIMED PROPERTY	\$81.74
TREASURER, STATE OF IOWA	10/24 SALES & EXCISE TAX	\$5,134.94
TRUCK EQUIPMENT INC.	GUTTER BROOMS	\$839.80
TYLER EBEL	FLAG FOOTBALL REFEREE	\$450.00
TYLER HAHN	MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT-ILA	\$245.22
U.S. BANK	MISC. CHARGES	\$2,431.29
UNITYPOINT CLINIC-OCC. MED	RANDOM SELECT	\$42.00
USPS	UTILITY BILL POSTAGE	\$479.60
VERIZON WIRELESS	CELL PHONES & HOT SPOTS	\$576.70
VISUAL EDGE IT	COPY CONTRACTS	\$153.01
WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL LEASE	COPY OVERAGE	\$207.00
WEX BANK	FUEL	\$3,515.82
ZACHARY WOOD	UTILITY BILL REFUND	\$5.99

Rick Angell, the city's Wellmark health insurance agent presented the renewal for 2025. The current plan renewal has a 11.54% premium increase for next year. Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Conover to approve the Wellmark health insurance premium as presented. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

The Hotel/Motel Tax Advisory Board met on October 24, 2024, and have made the following recommendations based on the grants that were received: Approve Depot Renovation, Inc. grant for \$1,323.50, Deny Cherokee Dog Park grant for \$5,000. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Pingel, seconded by Loughlin to approve a wage authorization for Dan Holmes, Machine Truck Operator for \$24.00/hour with 1 week of vacation. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Tom Grafft, ISG, meet with council to discuss the short term and long term goals of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The short term proposal is to convert the current lagoons to aeration lagoons, by doing this we are going to need to get different permits from the DNR. ISG is working on getting those permits. Due to the electrical components being flooded, the major concern is the safety of the staff and facility, we can't tell what is wet and what isn't due to the complexity of the equipment. Rhonda Thompson, Hopkins Insurance reiterated that the city's insurance carrier expects safety of employees being the number one priority. Jerry Woodall, Woodall Electric has temporarily restored

power to parts of the plant using some old and new equipment. Woodall does not authorize the use of it or the liability of the old equipment, but it does work.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel to adopt the recommendation of ISG in their entirety and return the plant to a state consistent with ISG's recommendations and direct Rob Stines to make no changes or take any action without ISG and council approval. All communication regarding the Wastewater Treatment Plant will include ISG, Rob Stines, Mayor Schmidt, and the DNR. Roll call: AYES: Conover, Loughlin, Nitz, Pingel. NAYES: Wych.

Tom Roos, DNR stated that the city needs to move forward with getting a Certified Grade 3 or 4 Operator for the Wastewater Plant, Rob has done a great job running the plant so far, but we need to move forward. The DNR request a structure of hierarchy in writing of how the City will proceed.

Rob Stines, Wastewater Operator needs to order some safety and heat equipment for the Wastewater Plant. Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Conover to approve the purchase of 4 small heaters, 2 vibe sensors, a mini fridge, and wiring and conduit to hook up the heaters. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Loughlin would like to congratulate Sergeant Gannon for the excellent 6th grade NOVA program he put on.

Motion by Nitz, seconded by Loughlin, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Media Present: *Allison Moore, Cherokee Chronicle Times, Connor Trett, KTIV.*

Craig Schmidt, Mayor
ATTEST:
Sara Lucas
City Clerk-Treasurer