

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 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, and City Clerk-Treasurer Lucas. Absent Wych, City Attorney Vondrak.

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

Drake Cadwallader, 415 Euclid Avenue, expressed his concerns that the cities Vicious Animal Ordinance is not strict enough and he would like to see it changed. Cadwallader's dog was attacked in August by several other unleashed dogs. Loughlin encouraged Cadwallader to call in to the Police anytime he sees the dogs loose.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading and waive the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of Ordinance 726, an Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cherokee, Iowa, by Implementing a One-Year Sewer Rate Schedule with a 3% increase. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Conover to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading and waive the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Ordinance 727, an Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cherokee, Iowa, by Implementing a One-Year Water Rate Schedule with a 3% increase. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Pingel seconded by Loughlin to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading and waive the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Ordinance 728, an Ordinance Establishing the Street Grades for the 2025 City of Cherokee Curb and Gutter Improvements Project-Dakota Ave. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Pingel, seconded by Loughlin to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading and waive the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Ordinance 729, an Ordinance Establishing the Street Grades for the 2025 City of Cherokee Curb and Gutter Improvements Project-Jefferies St. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Pingel, seconded by Nitz to approve the following resolutions contingent upon an explanation from Beck Engineering explaining what a unit represents in the project calculation: Resolution 2024-36, a Preliminary Resolution for the Construction of Curb and Gutter Replacement, Driveway Replacement and other Related Improvements in the City of Cherokee, State of Iowa.

Resolution 2024-37, a Resolution Fixing Values of Lots.

Resolution 2024-38, a Resolution Adopting Preliminary Plat and Schedule, Estimate of Cost and Proposed Plans and Specifications for the Construction of the 2025 City of Cherokee Curb and Gutter Improvements Project.

Resolution 2024-39, a Resolution of Necessity (Proposed). Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Nitz, seconded by Conover, the following was approved under Consent Agenda. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Approve City Council Minutes of November 26, 2024.

November Police Report.

Approve Electric Pump Invoices (3).

Review Park & Rec Minutes of December 2, 2024.

Approve Application for Tax Abatement – 932 Aster Drive, Michael & Nancy Hunter.

Approve Beck Engineering Invoice.

Approve Electric Pump Invoices (3).

Approve Woodall Electric Invoices (3).

Approve Ahlers & Cooney Engagement Letter for 2025 City of Cherokee Curb and Gutter Improvement Project.

November Treasurer's Report and Receipts as follows: General \$143,186.79; Police Forfeiture \$451.70; County Library \$11.41; Road Use \$61,986.80; Employee Benefits \$24,321.42; Emergency \$0; Other Street Monies/Local Option Sales Tax \$74,635.93; Hotel/Motel Tax \$14,111.72; Tax Increment Financing \$0; Wilson School Reserve \$0; Library Memorial \$2,327.05; Park & Rec Capital Improvement \$348.75; Cemetery Special Care \$138.71; Debt Service \$10,076.15; 2016 Capital Projects \$0; Floods of 2018/19 \$0; Flood Buyout Program \$0; Roosevelt St. Prj. \$958.99; Willow St. Bridge \$0; American Rescue Funds \$0; Emergency Set-Aside \$257.75; Oak Hill Perpetual Care \$0; Water Utility \$59,459.00; Water Utility – Industrial \$0; WTP Generators \$0; Water Main Project Bond & Interest \$5,367.50; Water System Maintenance \$9,263.70; Sewer \$111,142.80; Sewer Facility Bond & Interest \$5,285.08; Sewer System Maintenance \$8,400.94; Beech St. Lift Relocation \$0; CDBG Sanitary Sewer Euclid/Spruce \$0; Aviation Authority \$577.94; Solid Waste \$30,323.40; Landfill \$2,063.40; Storm Sewer Utility \$6,851.50; Self-Insurance \$153.29; Police Dept. Special Acct \$0.

Bills totaling \$432,361.64

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| 360 CUSTOM DESIGNS           | CLOTHING                                 | \$316.00     |
| A-OX WELDING SUPPLY CO.      | SERVICE CHARGE                           | \$12.50      |
| ALLIANT ENERGY               | NATURAL GAS                              | \$375.97     |
| AMERICAN TREE SERVICE LLC    | CUT TREES                                | \$3,600.00   |
| ASCENDANCE TRUCKS MIDWEST    | SERVICE TRUCK                            | \$472.60     |
| BAKER & TAYLOR INC.          | BOOKS                                    | \$980.10     |
| BECK ENGINEERING, INC.       | WESCOTT PARK RELOCATION                  | \$2,945.75   |
| BECK ENGINEERING, INC.       | CITY ENGINEERING                         | \$17,839.50  |
| BLAINE'S WATER CONDITIONING  | WATER & COOLER RENT, SALT                | \$226.75     |
| BOKF, NA                     | BOND PAYMENTS & INTEREST                 | \$68,905.00  |
| BOMGAARS                     | OPERATING SUPPLIES                       | \$2,673.30   |
| C-M-L TELEPHONE              | TELEPHONE & INTERNET                     | \$1,441.49   |
| CASEY CARPENTER              | 12/24 CELL PHONE & EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT | \$2,203.89   |
| CERTIFIED TESTING SERVICES   | WESCOTT PARK RELOCATION                  | \$565.00     |
| CHAMPION ELECTRIC, INC.      | SET STREET LIGHT TIMERS                  | \$50.00      |
| CHEROKEE CO. SOLID WASTE     | 11/24 ASSESSMENT & FEMA HAULING          | \$34,216.51  |
| CHEROKEE COUNTY RECORDER     | RECORD AGREEMENT                         | \$12.00      |
| CHEROKEE NAPA                | AIR FILTER                               | \$74.93      |
| CHICAGO CENTRAL & PACIFIC    | DRIVEWAY LEASE                           | \$2,000.00   |
| CHRIS HORTON                 | 12/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT           | \$35.00      |
| CONNOR BEECK WINDOW CLEANING | CLEAN WINDOWS                            | \$141.00     |
| COUNTRY TIRE & SERVICE       | NEW TIRE & REPAIRS                       | \$781.46     |
| DEMCO, INC.                  | OFFICE SUPPLIES                          | \$294.47     |
| DES MOINES STAMP CO.         | NOTARY STAMP                             | \$34.00      |
| ELECTRIC PUMP                | FEMA-PUMPS & PUMP REPAIRS                | \$135,020.45 |
| FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL LAB    | WASTEWATER SAMPLES                       | \$1,335.00   |
| HALLETT MATERIALS            | ICE CONTROL SAND                         | \$1,161.72   |
| HASELHOFF CONSTRUCTION, INC  | CRANE SERVICE                            | \$1,487.50   |
| INTEGRATED INDUSTRIAL SYSTEM | WORK ON UV @ INDUSTRIAL PLNT             | \$1,811.25   |
| IOWA FINANCE AUTHORITY       | SRF LOAN INTEREST & SERVICE FEE          | \$8,133.75   |
| MID AMERICAN ENERGY          | ELECTRICITY                              | \$557.58     |
| MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, LLC   | 12/24 ADMIN FEES & CLAIMS                | \$560.65     |
| MISSI ROGGE                  | MILEAGE TO/FROM MILFORD                  | \$80.40      |
| MODERN HEATING & COOLING     | CHECK FURNACE & FILTERS                  | \$282.32     |

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| MOTOR PARTS SALES               | OPERATING SUPPLIES                      | \$84.34     |
| NATE JAMES                      | 12/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT          | \$50.00     |
| NORTHSIDE TIRE                  | METAL BRAIDED EXTENSION                 | \$35.17     |
| NORTHWEST IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES | FY25 MEMBERSHIP DUES                    | \$50.00     |
| ONE OFFICE SOLUTION             | OFFICE SUPPLIES                         | \$612.06    |
| ROB STINES                      | 12/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT          | \$35.00     |
| SANITARY SERVICES               | 11/24 GARBAGE PICK UP                   | \$28,934.75 |
| SARA LUCAS                      | 12/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT          | \$35.00     |
| SHELLY HAHN                     | CLEANING SUPPLIES                       | \$34.35     |
| THE ACCURATE COURT REPORTER     | SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL                    | \$39.00     |
| THOMPSON PROPANE & SUPPLIES     | GRILL TANK REFILL                       | \$14.02     |
| TODD LARSEN                     | 12/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT          | \$35.00     |
| TODD MILLER                     | 12/24 CELL PHONE & TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT | \$853.20    |
| TREASURER, STATE OF IOWA        | 11/24 SALES & EXCISE TAX                | \$4,842.91  |
| TYLER TECHNOLOGIES              | TIME & ATTENDANCE                       | \$3,842.50  |
| USA TODAY                       | SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL                    | \$44.32     |
| USPS                            | UTILITY BILL POSTAGE                    | \$475.31    |
| VERIZON WIRELESS                | CELL PHONES & HOT SPOTS                 | \$536.63    |
| VISUAL EDGE IT                  | COPY OVERAGE                            | \$162.27    |
| VONDRAK LAW FIRM, LLC           | 10/24 LEGAL SERVICE                     | \$10,060.00 |
| WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL LEASE     | COPY CONTRACT                           | \$207.00    |
| WEX BANK                        | FUEL                                    | \$2,935.97  |
| WOODALL ELECTRIC                | FEMA-SEWER ELECTRICAL REPAIRS           | \$87,008.00 |
| WORKSHOP                        | BRINE TRUCK MOTOR REPAIRS & SHARPENING  | \$807.00    |

Each year, the Iowa DOT uses the City Bridge Candidate list to offer funds for the replacement or rehabilitation of city bridges. Cities are limited to one bridge per city, per fiscal year. Cherokee has two bridges on that list, E. Maple Street and W. Bluff Street. Todd Larsen, Street Superintendent recommends replacing the E. Maple Street Bridge. Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Conover to accept the offer from the Iowa DOT for the City Bridge Funding – Federal FY 2026. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Mike Tippy, 1122 Hill Street, submitted a request to have a sewer credit on a high water bill. Tippy has not seen any signs of a water leak. Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel to deny this request, as there is no evidence showing that the water did not go down the sewer. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Due to the next regular City Council meeting being on Christmas Eve, we are rescheduling that meeting to Monday, December 23, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

City Clerk Lucas is preparing budget sheets for the FY 25/26 year and needed clarification on what to include for wage increases. Consensus of the council was to recommend a 1.5% wage increase.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Conover, the meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Media Present: *Allison Moore, Cherokee Chronicle Times.*

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