

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 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 Loughlin, Nitz, Pingel, Wilberding, Wych, City Administrator Letsche, and City Clerk-Treasurer Lucas. Absent None.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Wilberding to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

At 6:01 p.m., Mayor Schmidt opened a public hearing on the Status of Funded Activities for the CDBG 2019 Disaster Recovery Buyout Grant. Erin Berzina, SIMPCO provided a description of accomplishments, summary of the budget and spending, work remaining, and description of changes and current status. Hearing no other comments, the hearing was closed at 6:04 p.m.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Nitz, to approve Resolution #2024-05, a Resolution Approving Contract and Bond for the Willow St. Curb and Gutter Improvements Project. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Pingel, seconded by Nitz, to approve Resolution #2024-06, a Resolution Approving Service with the Cherokee Area Economic Development. Roll call: AYES: Nitz, Pingel, Wilberding, Wych: All. NAYES: None. Loughlin abstained.

Motion by Pingel, seconded by Nitz to approve Resolution #2024-07, a Resolution Approving Service with Cherokee Chamber of Commerce. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel to approve Resolution #2024-08, a Resolution Approving Service with Cherokee Regional Medical Center-Fitness Center. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Wilberding to approve Resolution #2024-09, a Resolution Approving Lease of Real Estate for 1.48 Acres of Spring Lake Road within the CN Railroad Right of Way. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Nitz, seconded by Wych to approve Resolution #2024-10, a Resolution Approving Labor Agreement with the Cherokee Policeman's Association dated July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

On a motion by Wilberding, seconded by Nitz, the following was approved under Consent Agenda. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Approve City Council Minutes of January 23, 2024.

Amend and Approve City Council Minutes of January 23, 2024 Budget Workshop to include setting a 6 month review for the Financial Administration-City Clerk additional \$1,000 wage increase.

Approve City Council Minutes of February 8, 2024 Special Meeting.

January Police Report.

Approve Application for Tax Abatement – 210 S. 5th St. – Michael Frazier.

Review Park and Rec Minutes of February 5, 2024.

January Treasurer's Report and Receipts as follows: General \$147,876.65; Police Forfeiture \$3,369.23; County Library \$1,005.27; Road Use \$60,862.60; Employee Benefits \$16,743.99;

Emergency \$909.30; Other Street Monies/Local Option Sales Tax \$484.49; Hotel/Motel Tax \$106.59; Tax Increment Financing \$8,641.73; Wilson School Reserve \$0; Revolving Loan \$0; Library Memorial \$696.01; Park & Rec Capital Improvement \$61.86; Cemetery Special Care \$2.13; Debt Service \$10,285.53; 2016 Capital Projects \$0; Floods of 2018/19 \$0; S. 5th Street Improvement Project \$0; American Rescue Funds \$350.24; Emergency Set-Aside \$88.36; Oak Hill Perpetual Care \$1,071.58; Water Utility \$72,876.48; Water Utility – Industrial \$2.57; Water Main Project Bond & Interest \$5,032.50; Water System Maintenance \$10,087.49; Sewer Utility \$112,256.78; Sewer Facility Bond & Interest \$5,653.50; Sewer System Maintenance \$9,347.87; Beech St. Lift Relocation \$10,027.00; CDBG Sanitary Sewer Euclid/Spruce \$0; Aviation Authority \$518.64; Solid Waste \$32,602.48; Landfill \$30,455.60; Storm Sewer Utility \$7,200.98; Self-Insurance \$66.52; Police Dept. Special Acct \$0.

Bills totaling \$256,701.51

5STAR PROFESSIONAL PAINTING	PATCH/PAINT YOUTH AREA IN LIBRARY	\$2,300.00
AGSTATE	FUEL	\$5,036.93
ALLIANT ENERGY	NATURAL GAS	\$1,579.84
AUTOMATIC BUILDING CONTROL	FIRE ALARM MONITORING	\$240.00
BAKER & TAYLOR INC.	BOOKS	\$764.23
BECK ENGINEERING, INC.	UNION ST. BOX CULVERT IMP	\$24,525.00
BECK ENGINEERING, INC.	CITY ENGINEERING	\$95.50
BECK ENGINEERING, INC.	COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES 2ND ADDITION	\$130.00
BECK ENGINEERING, INC.	CURB AND GUTTER IMPROVEMENTS	\$4,206.75
BENSON CONSTRUCTION	SNOW REMOVAL	\$2,016.00
BLAINE'S WATER CONDITIONING	SALT, SERVICE, MAINTENANCE, WATER	\$463.25
BOMGAARS	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$805.76
BUILDERS SHARP. & SERVICE	CHAIN SHARPENING	\$142.99
C & B OPERATIONS	DURA-MAX CUTTING EDGE	\$1,396.36
C-M-L TELEPHONE	TELEPHONE & INTERNET	\$1,016.78
CARROLL CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY	FOAM BLANKET	\$165.00
CASEY CARPENTER	2/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00
CHEROKEE AREA ECONOMIC DEV.	REC. BANQUET/TICKET/PLAQUE	\$230.00
CHEROKEE CHRONICLE TIMES	LEGAL PUBLICATION	\$737.01
CHEROKEE CO. SOLID WASTE	1/24 ASSESSMENT	\$29,688.51
CHEROKEE COUNTY SHERIFF	SMALL CLAIMS	\$30.00
CHEROKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT	VOLUNTEER FIREMAN PAYROLL	\$1,600.00
CHEROKEE REGIONAL MED. CENTER	RANDOM SELECTS	\$37.00
CHICAGO CENTRAL & PACIFIC	RENT FEE '24	\$2,000.00
CHRIS HORTON	2/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00
COMES INVESTMENT (PIZZA HUT)	PIZZA	\$138.34
CORE & MAIN LP	CHEMICALS	\$1,095.34
COUNTRY TIRE & SERVICE	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE & HAULING SNOW	\$1,933.41
DEMCO, INC.	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$307.16
DON EHRICH	UTILITY REFUND	\$25.01
DUANE MUMMERT	2/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00
FAREWAY STORES, INC.	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$18.96
FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL LAB	WASTEWATER SAMPLES	\$468.00
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING	SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL	\$12.97
GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL	COPY CONTRACT	\$41.79
GREGG COMPUTER SERVICE	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$29.95
HALLETT MATERIALS	CONCRETE & ICE CONTROL SAND	\$2,321.76
HOLZHAUER MOTORS, LTD.	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$460.84
IMPACT7G, INC.	ARCH. SURVEY OF BRIDGES	\$613.60
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	\$52.20

J & M DISPLAYS, INC.	2024 FIREWORKS	\$5,000.00
JACOB STALLMAN	BOOT REIMBURSEMENT	\$150.00
JJSS, LLC	TV LINE @ 716 HYLAND	\$150.00
JOLLY TIME KOATED KERNELS	POPCORN FOR F/D DANCE	\$172.00
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	CONTINUING EDU. J.S.	\$770.00
LINDA BETSINGER MCCANN	BOOKS	\$70.00
LUKE GRAVENISH	2/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$50.00
MEDIACOM LLC	INTERNET	\$406.90
MID AMERICAN ENERGY	ELECTRIC	\$1,135.99
MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, INC	2/24 HRA ADMIN FEE & CLAIMS	\$12,120.32
MODERN HEATING & COOLING	HVAC SYSTEM REPAIR	\$100.00
MOTOR PARTS SALES	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$81.93
MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$95.00
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC.	SMART POINTS & METERS	\$13,290.00
N.O.V.A. PRINCIPLES FOUNDATION	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$132.00
NATE JAMES	2/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$50.00
NOGGIN WATER	COOLER RENT	\$27.50
NORTHSIDE TIRE	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$41.70
O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE STORES	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$471.66
ONE OFFICE SOLUTION	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$172.19
REHAB SYSTEMS, INC.	JET VAC/ROCK ISLAND/CHERRY/BEECH	\$18,229.75
ROB STINES	2/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00
S & W REPAIR, LLC	TRANSMISSION & INSTALLATION	\$4,452.43
SANITARY SERVICES	1/24 GARBAGE PICK UP	\$28,919.40
SARA LUCAS	2/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00
SCE, LLC	CURB STOP	\$1,813.06
SCE, LLC	SNOW REMOVAL & GRAVE DIGGING	\$7,905.00
SCHOLASTIC, INC.	PROGRAMMING	\$512.30
SIOUX SALES COMPANY	BULLET PROOF VEST & OFFICER CLOTHING	\$1,450.85
SIOUX VALLEY FAMILY HEALTH	VACCINES	\$120.00
SPLASHTACULAR	SITE INSPECTION	\$3,850.00
STEVE'S WINDOW SERVICE	CLEAN WINDOWS	\$115.00
THE BOOK VINE	BOOKS	\$695.52
THOMPSON INNOVATION	WTP NETWORK & FIREWALL UPGRADE	\$5,895.78
TODD LARSEN	2/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00
TODD MILLER	2/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$35.00
TOM LETSCHE	2/24 CELL PHONE REIMBURSEMENT	\$50.00
TOM MUMMERT	HAUL SNOW	\$438.00
TREASURER, STATE OF IOWA	1/24 EXCISE & SALES TAX	\$5,006.20
TRIVISTA - IOWA	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$1,731.05
U.S. BANK	MISC. CHARGES	\$1,472.87
UNITYPOINT CLINIC-OCC. MED	RANDOM SELECT	\$42.00
UNUM LIFE INS. CO OF AMERICA	2/24 LIFE & DISABILITY INS.	\$1,515.55
USPS	UTILITY BILL POSTAGE	\$456.19
VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC.	BEECH ST.	\$44,499.76
VERIZON WIRELESS	PHONES, IPAD, HOT SPOTS	\$535.85
VISUAL EDGE IT	COPY OVERAGE	\$239.13
WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL LEASE	COPIER LEASE	\$207.00
WEX BANK	FUEL	\$4,452.72
YOUR FLEETCARD PROGRAM	FUEL	\$637.67

Dakin Schultz and Shane Tymkowicz, Iowa DOT updated Council on the upcoming IA Little Sioux Bridge Replacement Project. Construction is scheduled to begin in March 2026, with the Contract

Letting in October 2025. There will not be a cost to the City for this project, although the DOT will need to have a detour agreement with the City.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Wych to write off a past due utility bill for Akenon Anyang at 614 W. Willow St. in the amount of \$156.87. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Nitz, seconded by Wilberding to approve the following recommendation from the Hotel/Motel Tax Advisory Board, to table Tinsel and Tidings request for \$5,000 until more information can be provided. Loughlin would like to approve the Cherokee Community Theater requested of \$4,000. Motion by Nitz, seconded by Wilberding to approve the Cherokee Community Theater Hotel/Motel Grant request of \$4,000. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Wilberding to approve a wage authorization for Sara Lucas, City Clerk as discussed in the budget workshop. Increasing salary to \$70,000 with an additional \$1,000 per month for additional duties training the City Administrator, to be reviewed in 6 months, effective January 26, 2024. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel to approve a \$1.00/hour wage increase for Jacob Stallman, Water Operator for receiving his Grade 1 in Water Treatment and Water Distribution. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None

Motion by Wilberding, seconded by Loughlin to approve a \$1.00/hour wage increase for Rob Stines, Wastewater Operator to be reviewed in 6 months with the potential of a reduction pending the outcome of his Waste Water III Operator test, effective February 9, 2024. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Loughlin meet with Dave Ellis, Recreation Director to discuss updates needed for the Community Center. They put together a plan for improvements to begin in the FY 25/26 year. Ellis will be gathering bids in 2025, planning to use some of the Hotel/Motel Tax to cover the expense of the updates.

Motion by Wilberding, seconded by Loughlin to approve the proposal from Certified Testing Services, Inc. for the Construction Materials Testing for the 2024 Willow St. Curb and Gutter Improvement Project. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Council reviewed the FY 24/25 Budget making several cuts to be reflected in the budget worksheets.

On a motion by Loughlin, seconded by Wilberding, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Media Present: *Kate Kealey, Cherokee Chronicle Times*

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