

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 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 by phone, Pingel by phone, Wych, City Attorney Vondrak and City Clerk-Treasurer Lucas. Absent None.

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

Bob Leach, Cherokee Horse Arena would like to have the Horse Arena Project added to the September 10, 2024 agenda. Chris Jepsen gave a follow up report from the August 13, 2024 meeting that the Fair board is in favor of moving the horse arena to the fairgrounds if that is what is decided. Ray Mullins, Park and Rec Board was looking for clarification of what the purpose of the Park & Rec Board is if they are not included in any decision making. Loughlin explained a few roles of the board and stated that there is a Park and Recreation Master Plan that Clerk Lucas will email to the board.

Mike Conover, 926 Amber Drive, introduced himself as a candidate for City Council Ward 2. Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Wych to appoint Mike Conover, City Council Ward 2 to fulfill Dave Wilberding's term through December 31, 2025. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

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

Approve City Council Minutes of August 13, 2024.

Approve I & S Invoice.

Approve Morse Equipment Invoice.

Approve Woodall Electric Invoices (4).

Approve Pay App. #1 Willow St. Curb & Gutter Improvement Project.

Approve Class E Retail Alcohol License for Hy-Vee, Inc.

Bills totaling \$214,611.77

360 CUSTOM DESIGNS	CLOTHING	\$265.00
AGSTATE	DIESEL	\$1,769.78
ALLIANT ENERGY	NATURAL GAS	\$923.04
BOMGAARS	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$938.33
BUILDERS SHARP. & SERVICE	OIL & OIL FILTER	\$159.32
CHAMPION ELECTRIC, INC.	LOCATE AT WILLOW & 59	\$205.00
CHEROKEE CO. TREASURER	PROPERTY TAXES-1657 515TH ST.	\$822.00
CHEROKEE TRUCK & TRAILER	UNIT 20 TRUCK REPAIRS	\$237.32
CONNOR BEECK WINDOW CLEANING	CLEAN WINDOWS	\$26.00
CORE & MAIN LP	TEST STRIPS	\$33.18
COUNTRY TIRE & SERVICE	OIL CHANGE	\$64.08
FAREWAY STORES, INC.	POP FOR COMMUNITY CENTER	\$86.31
FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL LAB	WASTEWATER SAMPLES	\$745.50
HY-VEE, INC.	POOL CONCESSIONS	\$55.16
I & S GROUP, INC.	SOUTH INDUSTRIAL PARK STUDY	\$2,285.00
IOWA LAKES ELECTRIC COOP	ELECTRICITY	\$153.00
JOSH CEDAR	FEMA-SKIDLOADER RENTAL	\$5,121.02
MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT LLC	SCBA FLOW TESTING	\$1,635.75
MEDIACOM LLC	INTERNET	\$406.90

MID AMERICAN ENERGY	NATURAL GAS	\$36,566.31
MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS, LLC	9/24 HRA ADMIN FEE & CLAIMS	\$576.44
MORSE EQUIPMENT CO., LLC	BEARING KITS & CARBON RINGS	\$14,573.36
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC.	METERS & SMARTPOINTS	\$2,916.00
NORTH CENTRAL LABORATORIES	LAB SUPPLIES	\$808.58
NORTHSIDE TIRE	BATTERIES	\$189.75
ONE OFFICE SOLUTION	POST ITS	\$81.13
PAIGE REINERT	UTILITY BILL REFUND	\$9.92
PITNEY BOWES	RELOAD POSTAGE 8/5/24	\$1,027.34
PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FIN.	POSTAGE MACHINE LEASE	\$159.57
SECRETARY OF STATE	NOTARY	\$30.00
SIOUX VALLEY FAMILY HEALTH	VACCINE	\$1,110.00
THOMPSON PROPANE & SUPPLIES	PROPANE	\$1,711.90
UNUM LIFE INS. CO OF AMERICA	LIFE & DISABILITY INS.	\$1,494.35
USPS	UTILITY BILL POSTAGE	\$513.53
VOGEL TRAFFIC SERVICES	PAINT	\$3,722.15
VONDRAK LAW FIRM, LLC	7/24 LEGAL FEES	\$3,840.00
WOODALL ELECTRIC	FEMA-SPRUCE ST LIFT STATION	\$129,349.75

Council discussed how to proceed with repairing the Yacht Club following the June flood. We have received several quotes to repair the electrical, these would be the only repairs made until a final plan is set. Motion by Pingel, seconded by Loughlin to winterize the Yacht Club and make sure it is safe from the water and sewer line standpoint and readdress all repairs after the winter season. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Council members attended the FEMA Buyout meetings held by Emergency Management to go over the potential buyout process. Lucas meet with FEMA last week to go over the beginning stages of a potential buyout. Lucas will continue to meet with FEMA and report back to council.

The City received two Request for Qualifications for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. One was received from Veenstra and Kimm, Inc. and one from ISG, Inc. Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel to accept ISG, Inc. as the Wastewater Treatment Plant Engineer. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

SCE supplied four proposals for the Wastewater Treatment Plant so that we can use the lagoons for treatment once the power is restored. This involves replacing a 16" valve so we can shut the force main off from the plant. A new 12" tap and line so we can discharge water into the north end of the lagoons. Replacing a broken 14" valve that allows us to drain the lagoons, and adding additional piping to a lift station so we can run discharge water from the lagoons to the UV system. Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Pingel to approve the proposals and begin the repairs. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

The City needs to update our Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Lucas is looking for direction on who should be working on this since we are without a City Administrator. Wych stated that per a Resolution 2018-46, department heads are in charge, so each department head can help the Mayor and Lucas complete the document.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Wych to approve the following Hotel/Motel Grants: Cherokee Historic Preservation Commission-\$2,500, Cherokee Golf Course-\$2,500, Tinsel & Tidings-\$2,000,

Tiel Sanford Memorial Trust Fund-\$3,500, Cherokee Chamber Commerce-Women in Business-\$2,000 and deny Cherokee Regional Hospice-\$5,000. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Kyle Basten, Beck Engineering presented to options for a restroom/concession building at the new Wescott Park. Consensus of the council was to proceed with the block frame building. Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Wych to table this until the September 10, 2024 meeting and find out what funding source will be used. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Todd Larsen, Street Superintendent presented a quote from Schmillen Construction to crush the cities concrete pile. The crushed concrete is used for roads, alleys, water leaks, and other miscellaneous jobs. Since this is not a budgeted item and multiple departments use the concrete, Larsen would like the expense to be spread over those departments. Motion by Pingel, seconded by Loughlin to table for 2-4 weeks and have each department determine if they have it in their budgets to pay for a portion of it. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Larsen requested approval to have Beck Engineering begin the design of the FY25 Curb and Gutter Project on the East side of town. Motion by Wych, seconded by Loughlin to table this for 2 weeks. Roll call: AYES: All. NAYES: None.

Loughlin requested that each council member check in with the department they are the liaison for and send an update on Friday's of what each department is doing. Pingel commented that we need to make sure the Parks Department gets the seeding around the new sidewalk at the Bacon Aquatic Center taken care of. Jamie Hodgdon will seed it for us if we get the sight prepared. Loughlin has been in contact with Justin Pritts, Cherokee County Emergency Management and he has two trailers for flood victims that he would like to place at Spring Lake Park Campground for 6 months. We should have a lease from FEMA for this at the September 10, 2024 meeting.

Motion by Loughlin, seconded by Nitz, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

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

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