

CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Jacob LaRue presided and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioners Present: Mayor LaRue and Commissioners Kevin Berthot, Phillip Chaney and Tim Fairchild.

Staff Present: Todd Newman, City Manager; Tina Bailey, City Clerk; David Brake, City Attorney; and Cory Kepley, Chief Finance Officer.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Commissioner Phillip Chaney.

AGENDA

The Agenda was approved on motion by Commissioner Berthot, seconded by Commissioner Fairchild. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda is used to approve non-controversial or routine matters by a single motion and vote. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- Minutes – City Commission – May 22, 2023
- Minutes – City Commission Special Call Meeting – June 5, 2023
- Warrant Register dated May 24, 2023
- Warrant Register dated May 31, 2023
- Warrant Register dated June 7, 2023
- Review Various Board and Committee Minutes and Reports
- Request to Shoot Fireworks – Guest Home Estates 2

Motion made by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Commissioner Berthot, to approve the Consent Agenda. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jane Brophy, Chanute Chamber of Commerce & Office of Tourism Executive Director and Ruthann Boatwright, Interim Chanute Main Street Executive Director provided a brief update on the Biking Across Kansas event.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

City Manager Todd Newman gave his report on City activities and operations. Items reported on included a reminder of the upcoming 2024 Budget Work Session, payments received for both the Tioga and Renewable Concepts revolving loans, and an update on the downtown restroom project.

OLD BUSINESS

CITY QUARTER CENT SALES TAX

The City of Chanute and the CRDA split a quarter cent sales tax that was voted on by the people in November of 2018. The approved sales tax is set to expire March of 2024. At the last three city commission meetings, Commissioners discussed the sales tax.

The state law covering city retailers' sales tax states that a special tax must be in an increment of 0.05 of one percent. Discussion by Commissioners has resulted in the City Attorney drafting a renewal Resolution for the current 0.25 of one percent sales tax.

Ballot would allow the voters to consider renewing the 0.25 of one percent sales tax for five years.

The City Attorney has prepared a proposed Resolution as directed by the Commission.

General discussion was made. Comments were made by City Attorney David Brake.

Motion made by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Commissioner Berthot, to adopt A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE CALLING OF A SPECIAL QUESTION ELECTION IN THE CITY OF CHANUTE, KANSAS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY A QUESTION RELATING TO THE RENEWAL OF A CITYWIDE RETAILERS' SALES TAX FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENTS TO MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

The Resolution was assigned: No. 2023-66

NEW BUSINESS

APPOINT MEMBER TO THE PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

Parks Advisory Board member Taylor Hogue has resigned her position on the board, leaving one board vacancy. The City has received one board application from Amanda Hamilton, who is interested in filling the vacancy. City staff recommends that the Commission appoint Amanda Hamilton to fill the remainder of the vacant unexpired term, through February 28, 2027.

General discussion was made.

Motion made by Commissioner Chaney, seconded by Commissioner Berthot, to appoint Amanda Hamilton to fill the vacant unexpired term as presented, through February 28, 2027. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CERTAIN CITY STREETS/ALLEYS, USE OF MAIN STREET PAVILION & PARKING LOT, AND ASSISTANCE FROM THE CITY FOR DOWNTOWN BLOCK PARTY/150TH CELEBRATION

Jane Brophy, Executive Director, Chamber of Commerce, is requesting temporary closure of certain City streets/alleys, use of the Main Street Pavilion & parking lot, and assistance from the City in order to hold a Downtown Block Party as part of the 150th Celebration, Saturday, July 1, 2023, closure from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

A complete agenda along with a map identifying events and locations was provided to the Commission for review.

General discussion was made. Comments were made by Chanute Chamber of Commerce and Office of Tourism Executive Director Jane Brophy.

Motion made by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Mayor LaRue, to approve the request for temporary closure of certain City streets, use of the Main Street Pavilion, and for City assistance as presented for a Downtown Block Party as part of the 150th Celebration on Saturday, July 1, 2023, closure from 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager Todd Newman reported that Chanute Public Library Director Jeana Lawrence had contacted his office inquiring about the Library changing the eligibility of board members residence to cover the Chanute School District boundaries.

General discussion was made. Comments were made by Chanute Public Library Director Jeana Lawrence, City Manager Todd Newman, and City Attorney David Brake.

Commission consensus was for City staff to research this item and report back to the City Commission.

CHARTER ORDINANCE NO 17 – MILL LEVY LIMIT FOR LIBRARY

City Staff has received a request from Jeana Lawrence – Library Director for a three (3) mill increase for operations. The current Charter Ordinance caps the Library at six (6) mills. The three (3) mill increase would increase the libraries budget by approximately \$180,000.00.

Included in the Commissioners packet for review is Charter Ordinance No. 17 and State Statue 12-1267 for the annual budget; tax levy to support library; procedure to increase levy.

Chanute Public Library Director Jeana Lawrence provided an overview of the Library’s request.

General discussion was made. Ms. Lawrence, City Attorney David Brake, and City Manager Todd Newman.

Motion made by Commissioner Chaney, seconded by Commissioner Fairchild, to pass “A CHARTER ORDINANCE AMENDING CHARTER ORDINANCE NO. 17 WITH RESPECT TO THE MILL LEVY LIMIT FOR LIBRARY; AND PROVIDING SUBSTITUTE PROVISIONS ON THE SAME SUBJECT”.
Voting Aye: Mayor LaRue and Commissioners Chaney and Fairchild
Voting Nay: Commissioner Berthot
Motion carried.

The Charter Ordinance was assigned: No. 21

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 1315 SOUTH PLUMMER

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 727 NORTH EVERGREEN

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 725 SOUTH GRANT

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 309 SOUTH TENNESSEE

General discussion was made. Comments were made by City Manager Todd Newman.

Motion made by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Commissioner Berthot, to adopt resolution declaring that the above properties are in violation of Chanute Municipal Codes and authorizing abatement of certain nuisances as presented. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

The Resolutions were assigned: No. 2023-67, No. 2023-68, No. 2023-69, and No. 2023-70.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Berthot commented on the Library Mill Levy and HVAC funding.

General discussion was made. Comments were made by City Manager Todd Newman.

Commission consensus was to place the April 26, 2021 proposed agreements for the Library and Museum on a future Agenda for further review and discussion.

Commissioner Fairchild welcomed Hailey Phillips, The Chanute Tribune News Director to Chanute.

Commissioner Fairchild commented on tonight's Depot discussion and also the Biking Across Kansas event.

Commissioner Fairchild announced that the Chanute Community Foundation received a Patterson Family Foundation 50/50 Matching Grant in the amount of \$70,000 for Santa Fe Park.

Mayor LaRue commented that he appreciated the discussion on the Depot Building.

Mayor LaRue reported that he had received inquiries for the Commission to approve additional days to shoot fireworks this year for the Fourth of July.

General discussion was made.

Commission consensus was to leave the dates to shoot fireworks as July 3rd & July 4th.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Mayor LaRue, to adjourn. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Tina L Bailey, CMC
City Clerk