

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 Commissioner Tim Fairchild.

Commissioners Absent: Commissioner Kevin Berthot and Tim Egner.

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

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Mayor Jacob LaRue.

PROCLAMATION – 2024 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE

Mayor LaRue proclaimed January 15, 2024 as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service in Chanute. Sandy Haggard, RSVP Director AmeriCorps Seniors NCCC accepted the proclamation.

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COMMISSIONERS

Mayor LaRue thanked Commissioner Chaney for his service as City Commissioner.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR RE-ELECTED & ELECTED COMMISSIONERS

City Clerk Tina Bailey swore in returning Commissioner Tim Fairchild and new Commissioner Larry Taylor.

AGENDA

Mayor LaRue requested the addition of an Executive Session to Discuss Non-Elected Personnel and to table Item 9-Commission Reorganization & Item 12A-Appoint/Reappoint Commissioners to Interface with Specific City Boards. The amended Agenda was approved on motion by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Commissioner Taylor. 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 – December 11, 2023
- Warrant Register dated December 13, 2023

- Warrant Register dated December 20, 2023
- Warrant Register dated December 27, 2023
- Warrant Register dated January 3, 2024
- Uncollectible Accounts
- Review Various Board and Committee Minutes and Reports
- Reappoint Three Members to the Planning Commission
- Reappoint One Member to the Chanute Recreation Commission Board
- Request to Use Santa Fe Park to Hold Annual Chanute Mexican Fiesta

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jeana Larwrence, Chanute Public Library Executive Director provided a year end recap of items checked out from the library during 2023.

Ruthann Boatwright, Interim Chanute Main Street Executive Director introduced Stacy Murray. Ms. Murry is the new Chanute Main Street Executive Director.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Todd Newman gave his report on City activities and operations. Items reported on included an update on 2024 City Projects and the annual Operation Soupline event.

City Manager Newman invited new and returning Commissioners to update their photograph for the City Website. Photographs will be taken at 5:30 p.m. January 22, 2024.

City Manager Newman reported that he attended the annual Chamber of Commerce meeting and that the City of Chanute was awarded 2023 Business of the Year.

NEW BUSINESS

2024 FIREWORKS SHOW

City Staff is recommending using Mr. Allan Miller for this year's Fourth of July celebration. Mr. Miller shot off last year's display and everything went off beautifully. City staff will follow the same procedures as last year with City Staff picking up and delivering the fireworks on the day of the event. Parks and Street Department will help out with road closures. Any extracurricular or fundraising activities with the Fireworks display will be associated with an outside agency.

2024 Fireworks Show not to exceed \$12,000.00 out of Tourism.

General discussion was made. Comments were made by City Manager Todd Newman and Mr. Allan Miller.

Motion made by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to approve, Saturday, July 6, 2024 for the City's annual Fireworks Show and authorization for City staff to finalize a contract with Mr. Miller for his services and purchase of fireworks. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

City staff is requesting to contract out cemetery maintenance for Memorial Park and Elmwood cemeteries. Workforce shortages for seasonal help has made maintaining the cemeteries a struggle over the past few years. Also, the cemeteries have grown to full capacity which has made the weed eating more time consuming and less effective over the seasonal shortages.

A copy of the RFP along with the bid sheet was provided to the Commission for review.

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

City Manager Newman recommended that the Commission consider awarding a two-year cemetery maintenance contract to B&L Lawn & Landscape for Memorial Park Cemetery and to Roscoe’s Lawn Care for Elmwood Cemetery.

Motion made by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Fairchild, to allow the City Manager to enter into a two-year agreement for Cemetery Maintenance in Memorial Park with B&L Lawn & Landscape and Elmwood Cemetery with Roscoe’s Lawn Care. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

NRP – MURTHY & RAJAN, L.C.

Murthy & Rajan, L.C. has submitted an application under the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. It has been verified that the property listed under the scope of the application, 1425 South Santa Fe, parcel identification number 067-049-29-0-40-01-001.00-1 is within the scope of the city limits of Chanute. The application has been submitted and reviewed by the Chanute Community Services Department, Chanute Regional Development Authority, the Neosho County Appraisers office, and the Neosho County Treasurer’s office.

The application is now being submitted to the City Commission for consideration and approval. The application will be void one year from the date of the application being approved unless the construction is finished before then. The applicant is to notify the County Appraiser of the commencement of construction within ten (10) days after starting the project.

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

Motion made by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to approve the Neighborhood Revitalization Application – Murthy & Rajan, L.C. – 1425 South Santa Fe. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 519 SOUTH MALCOLM

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 504 WEST 2ND

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 415 WEST 1ST

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 1220 WEST MULBERRY LOT #19

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 120 SOUTH KANSAS

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 1218 NORTH GARFIELD

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 16 SOUTH WESTERN

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 1007 WEST MAIN

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 1106 NORTH STEUBEN

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 1207 NORTH LEE

General discussion was made. Comments were made by City Manager Todd Newman and City Attorney David Brake.

Motion made by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, 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. 2024-01, No. 2024-02, No. 2024-03, No. 2024-04, No. 2024-05, No. 2024-06, No. 2024-07, No. 2024-08, No. 2024-09, and No. 2024-10.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL

Motion made by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, that the City Commission recess into executive session to discuss non-elected personnel exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The open meeting will resume in the City Commission Chambers at 7:25 p.m. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Commission returned to open session at 7:25 p.m.

No action taken.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Taylor commented that he is looking forward to working with City staff and fellow Commissioners.

Commissioner Fairchild commented on Operation Soupline. He also commented on property resolutions and the land bank.

Commissioner Fairchild encouraged everyone to read and visit the Chanute Public Library.

General discussion was made. Comments were made by City Manager Todd Newman, Assistant City Manager Ryan Follmer, and City Attorney David Brake.

Mayor LaRue requested that the Commission consider scheduling a work session to discuss/define use of the new quarter cent sales tax, effective April 1, 2024.

Commission consensus was to hold a Work Session Monday, February 26, 2024, 5:30 p.m. to discuss/define use of the new quarter cent sales tax.

Mayor LaRue thanked the Chamber of Commerce for recognizing the City of Chanute as Business of the Year.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Mayor LaRue, to adjourn. Voting Aye: All.
Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Tina L Bailey, CMC
City Clerk