

May 11, 2022

The scheduled monthly meeting of the Chapman City Council was held Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at City Hall at 7:00 pm. Mayor Howard Battishill was present. Councilmembers Christy Loy, James Bell, Tim Jury, and Rick Johnson were present. Also in attendance were City Administrator Bill Flanery, Representative John Barker, John Nachtman, and Brianne Beck.

#2 Consent Agenda

Motion by Jury to approve the consent agenda as presented, 2nd by Bell, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#3 Public Comments

None

#4 Legislative Update – State Representative John Barker

Representative Barker stated the State of Kansas is required to conduct a census every ten years and after the census, they must redistrict everything based on the population. The congressional maps were completed first. The people in Johnson County and Wyandotte County wanted to stay together but had to be separated because they had too many people. Each congressional district needs about 500,000 people. The Legislature was able to create a map for each of the four districts where each district had the exact same amount of people. The issue went before a Wyandotte District Court and the presiding judge found the redistricting to be unconstitutional. The case is now before the Kansas Supreme Court, and they will be the determining factor. The Legislature also went through the House Districts and 124 of the 125 districts changed. Every House District must have a population of 23,535 with a variation of no more than two percent. The legislature put 1.2 billion dollars into KPERS this year. Ten years ago, KPERS was funded at 56 to 57 percent. KPERS is now funded at 80 percent. The legislature paid off debts and saved the state 82 million dollars a year in interest. The legislature also paid off 570 million dollars in bonds and placed 750 million dollars into a rainy-day fund. The legislature funded schools with more money than the governor asked for this year. Teachers can now take a \$250.00 tax credit for buying supplies for the classroom. The state has a 20 mill levy for education. The legislature moved changed the exemption from property taxes from \$20,000 to \$40,000. The Value them Both bill was passed and will be on the August primary. Only 32 percent of 3rd grade students read at a 3rd grade level in Kansas. The legislature provided more funding for education and required the State Board of Education to develop a program to get 80 percent of 3rd grade students to read at a 3rd grade level. Math proficiency for 7th grade students is also near 30 percent. The legislature provided more funding to get math proficiency up to 80 percent. The legislature made the Kansas High School Athletic Association mandatory reporters for abuse, just like teachers. To qualify for food stamps during the pandemic, all a person had to do was sign up for them. There was no requirement to have a job or look for work. To be eligible for food stamps now, an individual must work 30 hours a week or be enrolled in a job training program. The legislature passed the Sportsbook Gaming Bill. Based upon surveys, 70 percent of people wanted the bill to pass. The legislature also passed a bill requiring anyone that touches an election ballot to sign an affidavit that they did not remove or add any ballots. The ballots must contain a watermark now. If you vote by using the voting machines, it will automatically print out a ballot and they will be held in case there is a recount. The food sales tax will go from six percent to four percent next year and down to two percent the following year. It will be eliminated entirely after that.

#5 Final Evaluation of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 20-PF-021

The sewer project came in under the bid amount, so the city did not receive the full CDBG amount of \$600,000. The city received \$532,681.01 from CDBG. The overall project cost was \$2,536,632.12. There is a remaining invoice of \$5,000 for North Central Regional Planning Commission.

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Motion by Johnson to close-out Community Development Block Grant 20-PF-021, 2nd by Loy, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#6 Proclamation in Honor and Recognition of National Skilled Nursing Home Week

Mayor Battishill signed a proclamation honoring nursing home residents and declaring May 8th through May 14th as nursing home week.

#7 Fireworks Application – Blockbuster and Celebrating Freedom

Motion by Jury to approve fireworks applications for Blockbuster and Celebrating Freedom, 2nd by Bell, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#8 Appointment of Bill Flanery to Kansas Municipal Energy Agency Board of Directors

Motion by Jury to appoint Bill Flanery to the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency Board of Directors, 2nd by Bell, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#9 Road Closure of 300-500 Block of West 5th Street for Prom on May 14th (1800-2000)

Motion by Jury to approve road closure of the 300-500 block of West 5th Street for Prom on May 14th from 1800 to 2000, 2nd by Loy, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#10 Roof Repairs for City Hall and Fire Department

The council packets contain roof repair estimates from five roofing companies in the area. The packets also include reviews from the Better Business Bureau and customer reviews from Google. The roofing companies include Wray Roofing, Geisler Roofing, Tailored Roofing, Larson Roofing, and Skyview Roofing.

Motion by Bell to contract with Skyview Roofing LLC for roofing repairs of City Hall and the Fire Department, 2nd by Loy, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#11 Appointment of Members to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Karl DeArmond and Tara Gruver)

Motion by Bell to appoint Karl DeArmond and Tara Gruver to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, 2nd by Loy, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#12 Appointment of Judy Blixt to the Economic Development Committee

Motion by Johnson to appoint Judy Blixt to the Economic Development Committee, 2nd by Bell, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#13 Approval of Liquor License for 1855 Retail Liquor

Motion by Bell to approve the liquor license for 1855 Retail Liquor, 2nd by Loy, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#14 Reports

City Administrator – Bill Flanery

Mr. Purvis declined the offer from the city to remain as the city attorney. The City Administrator has contacted Keith Henry and Brad Jantz to see if they are interested in filling the city attorney position. The League of Municipalities does not have a referral system for attorneys, but you can post an available

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position on their website. Their recommendation is that the city reach out to nearby cities and see if their attorney is available.

There was a sewer backup last year and Dan Wasylk's basement at 1139 Manor Drive flooded. Mr. Wasylk has filed a claim against the city in the amount of \$24,600 for clean-up and damage to his basement. EMC Insurance has been contacted and will investigate the claim.

The EDC set the city-wide garage sale for the 3rd and 4th of June. They also scheduled a Father's Day run for 18 June. The city spent over \$20,000 on fireworks last year. The price will be significantly higher this year. The City Administrator recommended the city not purchase fireworks this year. Many residents do not like the fireworks and the impact they have on their pets. The city could use a portion of that money for a band at the Labor Day celebration. There will be a chili cook-off and pie bake-off as part of the Labor Day celebration this year.

Sewer repairs have started. The intersection project will start at the end of the month. There is no start date for the abatement project of the old grocery store.

Council

Councilwoman Loy stated there will be a 50th anniversary celebration for the nursing home on June 4th. There will be a DJ. It is open to the entire community, and they will serve hotdogs and chips. Kona Ice will also be there. They will have some raffles, prizes, and games.

Councilman Johnson stated that Holdrege, Nebraska, put in a splashpad and that the children really enjoy it. It would be nice to have something similar at Shamrock Park. The city should investigate getting a hotel along I-70. Councilman Jury stated that getting a hotel had been discussed in the past. The proposal was for the city to donate the ground and the hotel would maintain and run for 15 years. After 15 years, the hotel would be turned over to the city. The council rejected the proposal as the city would have to maintain and run the hotel after it had been in business for 15 years and would potentially be run down. Councilman Johnson proposed the city offer to give the ground to the hotel and offer tax increment financing (TIF) to assist with the building of the hotel. In exchange, the hotel would build an unattached covered swimming pool that residents of Chapman have access to. The hotel could also have a conference center or room that residents could rent out for receptions or gatherings.

#15 Adjournment

Motion by Johnson to adjourn, 2nd by Loy, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

Howard Battishill, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bill Flanery, City Clerk