

September 14, 2022

The scheduled monthly meeting of the Chapman City Council was held Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at City Hall at 7:00 pm. Mayor Howard Battishill was present. Councilmembers Rick Johnson, Tim Jury, Christy Loy, and Mary Monasmith were present. Also in attendance were City Attorney Brad Jantz, City Administrator Bill Flanery, Police Chief Kevin Diercks, Golf Superintendent Austin Murphy, Director of Public Works Edward Wehrmeister, Director of Parks and Recreation Tori Heller, and Matthew Hutzenbiler of the American Legion.

#2 Consent Agenda

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

#3 Public Comments

None

#4 American Legion 3-D Archery Shoot in Sheeran Park

Matthew Hutzenbiler stated the American Legion would like to have a community archery shoot at Sheeran Park in conjunction with the Chapman Archery Team. This is a community involvement event, and they will give away some turkeys and hams in preparation for Thanksgiving. They would like to use the tennis courts and the city park to hold the event. There will be 3-D targets. The event will be on 15 October from 10:00am to 2:00pm. There will be curtains for the backdrops and all the required safety equipment. The alley on the west side of the park would need to be closed. The bows are up to 19 pounds. It is the same equipment the high school uses for archery. The bows will not have sights and they will not shoot over 50 yards. Brad Jantz will contact the city's insurance, EMC, and ask about special event insurance coverage. There will be an entry fee for the turkey and the ham. Participants will shoot 5 arrows and they will calculate the scores based on the national scoring system. There will be three age groups (elementary, high school, and adults).

Motion by Johnson to approve the 3-D archery event and alley closure on 15 October 2022 from 10:00am to 2:00pm contingent on staff review, 2nd by Monasmith, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#5 Request for Road Closure in Front of St. Michael's Parrish on 2 October 2022 from 10:00am to 1:30pm for Annual Bazaar

Motion by Jury to approve the road closure in front of St. Michael's Parrish on 2 October 2022 from 10:00am to 1:30pm for the annual bazaar, 2nd by Johnson, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#6 Ordinance 1055 – Change in Sewer Rate

City Administrator Bill Flanery stated that Ordinance 1055 would change the way sewer rates are calculated and would once again calculate the sewer rate based on average water usage during January, February, and March. The sewer surcharge would increase from \$5.00 to \$15.00 to help cover the bond payment for the lagoon project. Residents that water their yard or have gardens will see a decrease in their sewer rate. Residents that do not water their yard and do not use much water each month will see an increase of \$10.00 in their bills. The sewer surcharge will be \$15.00 for everybody. There was no discussion on crediting accounts for sewer rates charged over the last three months.

Motion by Johnson to approve Ordinance 1055 – Change in Sewer Rates, 2nd by Jury, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

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#7 Ordinance 1056 – Bond / Fine Schedule

Ordinance 1056 will adopt the current bond and fine schedule used by surrounding communities. Judge Thompson recommended the city adopt the new bond/fine schedule. The new ordinance will allow the judge to modify the bond/fine schedule without publishing a new ordinance each time. In the future, any modifications to the bond/fine schedule by the judge will be presented to the council for review, but there will no longer be a publication requirement.

Motion by Johnson to approve Ordinance 1056 – Bond / Fine Schedule, 2nd by Jury, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#8 Ordinance 1057 – Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Membership

Ordinance 1057 will expand the radius for membership on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to include anyone residing in the Chapman USD 473 School District. Many of the children that compete in the recreation programs live in the school district but not necessarily in town.

Motion by Jury to approve Ordinance 1057 – Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Membership, 2nd by Loy, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#9 Charter Ordinance 9 – Exemption from KSA 12-1222 Relating to Library Board Membership

Library boards are regulated by state statute. KSA 12-1222 states that library board members must be residents of the municipality. The library board has requested to allow up to two members to reside outside of the city limits. A charter ordinance is required to change the membership requirements for the library board. Charter Ordinance 9 would exempt the city from the current resident requirements and allow up to two members to reside in adjoining townships. The ordinance will have to pass by at least a 2/3 majority vote. There is a 60-day protest period after publication that allows residents to object and petition the council if they are not in favor of the ordinance. The ordinance becomes effective after it has been published for 60 days. After 60 days, another ordinance will be published expanding the radius and allowing for new members to be added to the board.

Motion by Monasmith to approve Charter Ordinance 9 – Exemption from KSA 12-1222 Relating to Library Board Membership, 2nd by Jury, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#10 Contract with Everbridge Notification System

Everbridge provided a demonstration on their notification system to City Administrator Bill Flanery and Police Chief Kevin Diercks. The notification system would allow the city a method to provide various notifications to members of the community. Notifications could include public works notifications of road closures or power outages. They could also include weather warning or other urgent messages for the community. Everbridge could include phone numbers for all the landlines in the area. This would allow the city to reach those that may not have a cell phone or frequently use social media. The annual cost for the system would be \$3,650.00. The initial fee would be \$3,942.00 which includes a set-up fee. The city can include a comment on utility bills to inform residents of the notification system. The hardest part of the system is getting the word out to the community and letting them know how to sign up for the program. The school has a different messaging system to reach parents of children enrolled in the school district. The school's system does not reach the rest of the community. The notification system would cover a lot of gaps that were identified after the incident in the summer. Messages to the community would be sent by the City Administrator or Police Chief.

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Motion by Jury to contract with Everbridge for the community notification system, 2nd by Loy, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#11 Evergy Project to Replace Utility Poles

Evergy is replacing 18 of their utility poles in Chapman. The city uses Evergy's utility poles for transmission of electricity. The initial proposal from Evergy was almost \$96,000 to transfer the city's under-build to the new poles. Evergy is going forward with the project and has now offered to transfer the under-build for \$75,000. The other option is to leave the old poles which would result in some residents having two poles in their yards. The city recently received \$238,000 from FEMA for damages to the sewer plant. That money will be placed in the capital improvement fund and could be used to fund the pole replacement project. The city does not have the resources to complete the pole replacement project. The city does not have a certified lineman. The poles are located as you come in to Chapman on Old Highway 40 and up through the golf course. Additional poles run behind houses on Oakhill Drive and up Nicholson. Councilman Jury requested the issue be tabled in order to research the cost of the project. The \$75,000 seems incredibly high but it may be an extremely fair price based on the way everything has gone up in price recently. Some of the poles have transformers on them but not all of them. Councilman Jury stated he did not want employees of the city completing the project as they are not trained or qualified as lineman. Councilman Johnson recommended the city counteroffer \$37,500 for the project. Councilman Jury stated it seemed as though Evergy was requiring the city to pay to replace their poles. The poles belong to Evergy, and it seems the city is being asked to pay for the entire price to replace the poles and transfer all the under-build. Councilman Johnson requested an itemized bill for the project showing how the total equaled \$75,000. The agenda item was tabled until an itemized bill is produced to justify the cost of the project.

#12 Pole Agreement with Cox Communications

Cox Communication is updating the records and identifying who is using their infrastructure. City Attorney Brad Jantz will contact Cox Communication and discuss the 60-day notification requirement in the contract and request that be extended.

Motion by Johnson to approve entering into the pole agreement with Cox Communications subject to staff review, 2nd by Jury, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#13 Repair of Fitness Center Door and Card Reader System

The door to the fitness center has been broken for a couple of years. A new lock system was ordered, but it would not work on the door. Access to the fitness center should be restricted to members. A card system would allow the city to restrict access to only current members. Cards can be turned on/off by the city staff as members pay for the service. The current lock has a code that members received when they sign up. The code is changed once every couple of years, so anyone that had the code in the past can still access the fitness center even if their membership has expired. The card system would cost about \$3,000 and that would come with 500 cards. The equipment in the fitness center needs to be upgraded. The primary users of the fitness center are older residents. Councilman Jury recommended contacting locksmith Ed Kolowsky for an estimate for a new lock. The agenda item was tabled, and no action was taken.

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#14 Purchase of Locator to Conduct Utility Locates

The city needs to new locator to assist with emergency locates for utilities. The city is currently unable to properly mark utilities for emergency locates due to the current located being damaged. The new locator will cost \$4648.07.

Motion by Johnson to purchase the new locator for \$4648.07, 2nd by Monasmith, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#15 Change Order 1 – Sanitary Sewer Repair Project (Reduction of \$1,850.30)

Change order 1 reflects a reduction in the overall cost of the sewer repair project of \$1,850.30. The change order needs to be approved by the council.

Motion by Johnson to approve Change Order 1 – reduction of sewer project total by \$1,850.30, 2nd by Jury, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#16 Addition of Personnel to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Lacey Fielder, Amber Stanley, and Mitchell Keating)

Motion by Johnson to approve the appointment of Lacey Fielder, Amber Stanley, and Mitchell Keating to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, 2nd by Jury, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#17 Discussion on Funding for Senior Center

Councilwoman Monasmith stated the manager of the Senior Center is funded by the Area Agency on Aging. The Senior Center is on their third manager and the current manager is fantastic. The Area Agency on Aging provides the funding for the manager position, but only provides \$8.06 an hour. The Senior Center increased the manager's salary to \$12.00. The increase in the salary created a budget problem for the Senior Center. The Senior Center lost several members of the community due to COVID over the past couple of years. Getting people to come back to the center after COVID has also been a struggle. Chapman does a lot for our children and the schools, but we do not do much for our elderly. Lance at Astra Bank donated \$1,000 to assist with the budget problem at the Senior Center. Most grants or funding sources do not allow you to spend the money on salaries. The city already gives the Senior Center \$1,500 each year. A lot of Senior Centers receive significant support from their cities. Some cities provide the building and/or utilities and maintenance. Some also have city employees function as the managers for the Senior Center. Councilwoman Monasmith asked if the city would consider a donation of \$3,000 to \$4,000 to help with the budget issue at the Senior Center. Councilman Johnson asked if ARPA funds could be used to assist. City Attorney Brad Jantz stated ARPA funds could be used in this situation.

Motion by Jury to donate \$5,000 of ARPA money to the Senior Center, 2nd by Loy, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

#18 Reports

Director of Public Works – Ed Wehrmeister

The public works crew have been working on several water leaks. Wesley will be setting a couple of new utility poles next week. Cecil Thrush helped drain the pool by transferring the water to the lift station which helped fill the lagoons.

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Director of Parks and Recreation – Tori Heller

The new members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be a tremendous help. Girls' volleyball is going on right now and is going well. We partnered with the high school and 65 girls signed up for the program. Basketball starts in November. Tori is putting together a week-long cheer clinic in November and another one January.

Superintendent of the Golf Course – Austin Murphy

The numbers for the golf course are outstanding. There are only two spots left in the golf cart storage shed. Golf cart storage is \$200.00 a year plus a \$150.00 trail fee.

Police Chief – Kevin Diercks

The police department has been very busy. There is a school safety meeting on Friday morning. Part of that meeting will be about providing a School Resource Officer (SRO). There have been 20 calls to the school since school has started. An SRO could have responded to many of those calls. Homecoming is on Friday and the police department will lead the parade down the street to the ballfield. The homecoming dance is Saturday evening, and an officer will be on duty for that one. We are waiting on a Watchguard camera for the new patrol car. Kevin is on the 911 Advisory Council. The 800 Radio System is used by the Highway Patrol and KDOT and everyone around us. The county will be moving towards the 800 Radio System, but it is extremely expensive. In the near future, the Advisory Council may ask for a .25 cent sales tax to fund the 800 Radio Service. The total cost would be a million to a million and a half dollars to upgrade the system and towers. The radio systems for the cars are about \$5,000. The plan for the SRO is to split the cost with the school. The police department has responded to the school twice for a kindergarten child that has attacked teachers. Two divorced parents got into a fight on freshman orientation night. These are incidents that the school board does not really know about. If we get a School Resource Officer, it will probably be for the 2023-2024 school year.

Council

Councilmember Johnson – Asked when the part-time seasonal help would be finished working. The plan is for them to work through the end of September.

Councilmember Jury – Thanked everyone for all the work with the Labor Day celebration. The band was outstanding. The Labor Day event was paid for with the money set aside for fireworks.

Mayor Battishill – Thanked everyone for what they do.

City Administrator – Bill Flanery

Labor Day was very successful. Everyone really enjoyed the band. There were 31 vendors for the event. More food vendors are needed next year. The chili cook-off went well and there were 10 contestants. There were 6 contestants for the pie bake-off, and we will work on increasing those numbers next year. There was an issue with the beer vendors on Sunday evening complaining about each other and trying to prevent the other vendors from setting up in a certain area or questioning their CMB license. There was a lot of bickering, and it took away from the event. A recommendation for next year is to have the American Legion as the lone beer vendor.

The abatement of the old grocery store is still pending EPA funding.

Quotes have been requested for providing trash service to the community. Those quotes will be presented to the council once received.

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Linda Cosio is coming back to fill the utility clerk position.

For Halloween, the city would like to close Marshall from 4th to 5th Street to allow for Trunk or Treat. All vehicles would be facing the same direction on both sides of the street and prizes will be awarded for best decorated vehicle and storefront. Trunk or treat would start at 6:00pm. After trunk or treat, around 7:15pm, there will be a movie in the park. The movie will be The Nightmare before Christmas or Hocus Pocus.

#19 Adjournment

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

Howard Battishill, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bill Flanery, City Clerk