

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; 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.

AGENDA

The Agenda was approved on motion by Commissioner Fairchild, seconded by Commissioner Berthot. 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 – August 28, 2023
- Warrant Register dated August 30, 2023
- Warrant Register dated September 6, 2023
- Uncollectible Accounts
- Review Various Board and Committee Minutes and Reports
- Request to Hold Artist Alley Festival – September 30, 2023
- Request for Temporary Road Closure and Approval to Sell/Serve/Consume Alcohol- Outsiders Bar & Grill, September 30, 2023
- Request for Temporary Road Closure and Approval to Sell/Serve/Consume Alcohol- Outsiders Bar & Grill, October 14, 2023

General discussion was made. Comments were made by City Manager Todd Newman and Main Street Board member Cheryl Olson.

Main Street Board member Cheryl Olson commented that Outsider’s had not contacted Main Street to set up during this year’s Artist Alley event, but that the request for closure during Artist Alley would be fine as long as it was the same closure that they did last year.

City Manager Newman will provide follow-up to the Commission related to the request from Outsiders Bar & Grill for the October 14, 2023 event.

Motion made by Commissioner Berthot, seconded by Commissioner Fairchild, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, with a contingency for the City Manager to confirm approval from the Chanute Rotary Club for Outsider's request. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Cindy Morrison, 724 South Evergreen commented on property taxes, smart meters and comments made by the Commission during Commission Comments at their August 28, 2023 regular meeting.

Conrad Froehlich, 20 S Tennessee commented on the upcoming Christmas in the Park event and thanked the City for temporary use of the old USD 413 Fisher Administration building.

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

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Todd Newman gave his report on City activities and operations. Items reported on included an update on the Santa Fe Ball Complex, City Fiber Pon's 8 & 9, and the Impact Center.

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

Commissioner Chaney commented on the campground bathroom located at Santa Fe Park.

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

OLD BUSINESS

NEW LEASE AGREEMENTS WITH THE SAFARI MUSEUM AND CHANUTE PUBLIC LIBRARY

At the April 26, 2021 City Commission Meeting, representatives of the Safari Museum and Chanute Public Library discussed the need for new lease agreements as the terms of the 1990 original agreements were no longer applicable. The City Attorney prepared new lease agreements. On August 14, 2023, the City Commission had a work session with the museum and library boards and again discussed the revised agreements at the last commission meeting.

Changes have now been made to the draft agreements to provide for a five-year term and changes to the language in Section 9, which now sets up a joint Building Fund.

The two proposed new lease agreements would replace the 1990 original agreement and be binding on the parties.

General discussion was made. Comments were made by City Manager Todd Newman, City Attorney David Brake, Safari Museum Executive Director Conrad Froehlich, and Attorney David Bideau.

Motion made by Commissioner Chaney, seconded by Commissioner Fairchild, to give written notice per Article #17 of the 1990 Joint Use and Lease Agreement between the City of Chanute, The Martin and Osa Johnson Safari Museum, Inc., and The Chanute City Library for breach of contract and give a 90 day notice due to no lease payments made.

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

Mayor LaRue called for a vote for the motion on the floor.

Voting Aye: Commissioner Chaney and Fairchild

Voting Nay: Mayor LaRue and Commissioner Berthot

Motion failed.

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

Motion made by Commissioner Berthot, seconded by Mayor LaRue, to approve the lease agreements as presented with a 14-day response required from each entity.

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

Mayor LaRue called for a vote for the motion on the floor.

Voting Aye: Mayor LaRue and Commissioner Berthot

Voting Nay: Commissioner Chaney and Fairchild

Motion failed.

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

Motion made by Commissioner Berthot, seconded by Commissioner Fairchild, to approve the lease agreements as presented with a 14-day response required from each entity and if none received to give written notice per Article #17 of the 1990 Joint Use and Lease Agreement between the City of Chanute, The Martin and Osa Johnson Safari Museum, Inc., and The Chanute City Library for breach of contract and give a 90 day notice due to no lease payments made. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION ON NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROJECT – KATHY STANISLAUS

At their September 26, 2022 regular meeting, the City Commission approved a Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Application from Kathy Stanislaus, for the property located at 1029 South Denman.

CRDA is requesting on Ms. Stanislaus' behalf that a one-year extension to September 2024, be granted on this property application so that she may still benefit from the NRP while completing the project.

The Neighborhood Revitalization Program adopted by the Chanute City Commission does state in the "Application Process" section (Item 7) that projects must be completed within one year from the date the application is approved. There is an exception made in Item 7 of the "Criteria for Eligibility" section of the document that says, "The City Commission has the authority to grant extensions up to 2 years for commercial properties and 1 year for residential properties, if conditions warrant."

The value of the property is expected to increase if additional time is given to allow more time to complete the project.

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

Motion made by Commissioner Berthot, seconded by Commissioner Fairchild, to approve the request for a one-year extension for Kathy Stanislaus's Neighborhood Revitalization Project. Voting Aye: All. Motion carried unanimously.

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 1021 SOUTH GRANT

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 1102 WEST MAIN

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 219 SOUTH LAFAYETTE

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 501 NORTH EVERGREEN

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 902 SOUTH WASHINGTON (#914)

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 604/606 SOUTH CENTRAL

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 215 SOUTH DENMAN

PROPERTY RESOLUTION – 516 NORTH CENTRAL

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

Motion made by Commissioner Berthot, seconded by Commissioner Fairchild, 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. 2023-97, No. 2023-98, No. 2023-99, No. 2023-100, No. 2023-101, No. 2023-102, No. 2023-103, and No. 2023-104.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Fairchild shared a quote from Calvin Coolidge "Never been hurt by anything I didn't say."

Commissioner Chaney commented on school crossing guards and wages.

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

Commissioner Chaney commented on the 10-mile billboard signs.

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

Commissioner Chaney commented on the cemeteries.

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

Mayor LaRue stated that downtown is looking nice.

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

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