

**MINUTES
CITY OF ALTAMONT
November 8, 2021**

REGULAR MEETING	The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with Mayor Richard Hayward presiding. Mayor Hayward opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilmember Souders led the prayer. Councilmembers present: Ben Cochran, Raymond Coffey, Paul Souders and Kyle Wiford.
MINUTES	Councilmember Cochran moved and Souders seconded to approve the minutes of the meeting from October 28, 2021. Motion carried.
INVOICES	Councilmember Cochran moved and Souders seconded to pay the invoices in the amount of \$64,285.22. Motion carried.
DEAN RUARK	Dean Ruark requested an extended lake stay for a couple more months. Councilmember Cochran moved and Souders seconded to allow another 60-day extension for an extended lake stay for Mr. Ruark. Motion carried.
FEBRUARY UTILITY BILLS	Residential and business gas and electric fuel factors for the February energy crisis totaled \$713,323.27. Council was in favor of giving 10% of the fuel factors back to the citizens. Councilmember Cochran moved and Coffey seconded to use the American Rescue Plan Act Funds on option number 3 for 10 percent back to our citizens from the February 2021 energy crisis to be paid toward back bills or give a credit if they have a zero balance. Motion carried.
LINEMAN SERVICES	LeaAnn Myers and Brad Myers met with Gerry Bieker regarding lineman services. The City of Chetopa is wanting to get on board with the lineman services and wanted to see if the City of Altamont would like to join. Mr. Bieker stated the entire cost is estimated at \$370,000 plus consumables. He stated the first year or two Chetopa would need more maintenance than Altamont would. He felt like Chetopa may be willing to pay for 75 percent of the total cost and have Altamont pay 25 percent for the first couple years and then transition to a 50/50 cost share after that. Councilmember Cochran and Coffey still have several questions in the contract. Attorney Myers has a few things he would like to see changed in the contract. Mayor Hayward felt like we could hire a lineman for our system for the cost of the contract price. Councilmember Souders recommended the City keep the work in house. He feels we have qualified workers in the City. Council would like to get some clarification and a cost comparison for having someone hired in house.
HEALTH INSURANCE	Councilmember Cochran moved and Souders seconded to raise the City's portion of health insurance premiums to \$550 per month per employee. Motion carried.
EMPLOYEE EVALUATIONS	Councilmember Cochran moved and Coffey seconded the City Council recess into executive session to discuss employee's performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319 (b) (1) to include: City Administrator and the department heads when we get to their department and including the city attorney. The open meeting will resume in the City Council room at 7:55 PM. Motion carried. Councilmember Cochran moved and Coffey seconded to go back into executive session to discuss employee's performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319 (b) (1) to include: the City Administrator, the department heads when we get to their department and the City Attorney. The open meeting will resume in the City Council room at 8:30 PM. Motion carried. Councilmember Cochran moved and Coffey seconded to approve the employee evaluation and pay raises per the City Administrator and City Council recommendations in accordance with the wage ordinance. Motion carried.
4 TH POLICE OFFICER	Council was presented with a cost analysis and proposed schedule for hiring a fourth full-time police officer for 2022. Councilmember Cochran moved and Coffey seconded to allow Michael to hire a fourth police officer beginning in 2022. Motion carried.
CITY ADMINISTRATOR	Report written by LeaAnn Myers. Deputy Clerk/Treasurer – Bridget Nash will start on November 12. Janitor opening – we are accepting applications for a new janitor to clean City Hall, Fire and Police Departments; the position is open until filled. February utility bills – finalized total electric and gas charges from the February utility bills. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – City received \$77,294.52 in July 2021 and \$459.85 in October 2021. Final disbursement of \$77,754.37 expected in July 2022. Grant funds totaling \$155,508.74 and must be used by March 11, 2023. KMEA – Brad and LeaAnn met with KMEA regarding lineman services. City of Chetopa is wanting to contract with KMEA for lineman services and wanted to see if Altamont would be interested in splitting the cost. McMillan Park

**MINUTES
CITY OF ALTAMONT
November 8, 2021
Page 2**

CITY ADMINISTRATOR Plans – planning the kick-off meeting for 20 acres park development on November 30, 2021. Lake Overflow Project – Brad and LeaAnn completed the Community Fisheries Assistance Program (CFAP) grant final report for the Lake Overflow Project. The City is expected to receive \$26,324.97 from the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism for completing this project; the total project cost \$38,462.25. Employee Evaluations – reviewed employee evaluations with department heads. Health Insurance – met with Blue Cross Blue Shield regarding 2022 insurance renewal. Lake swings – delivered on November 4th.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE The next November Council meeting date is Monday, November 22 at 7:00 PM.

OFFICES CLOSED Altamont City Offices will be closed November 11 in observation of Veteran’s Day and November 25 - 26 in observation of Thanksgiving.

CHRISTMAS PARADE The Altamont Christmas Parade will be Saturday, December 4th at 10 AM.

THANK YOU The City received a Thank You from the Twila May family for a donation to the Mount Pleasant Fire Department.

ELECTION WINNERS Congratulations to Councilmembers Kyle Wiford and Lyle Sykes and Mayor Hayward on winning the election.

ADJOURNMENT Councilmember Cochran moved and Souders seconded to adjourn the Council meeting at 8:47 PM. Motion carried.

DATE

LeaAnn Myers, City Administrator