

May 19, 2025

### Town of Chandler Council Meeting Minutes

The Chandler Town Council meeting was called to order May 19, at the Chandler Town Hall, 401 E. Lincoln Ave. at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll call: Present** – Cheryl Amos, Tom Burnett, Sarah Eller, Tonya Wester, Ron Whitledge

**Absent** – None

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Minutes:** Motion was made by Ron Whitledge to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Tom Burnett. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos – yes, Tom Burnett – yes, Sarah Eller – yes, Tonya Wester – yes, Ron Whitledge – yes. **Motion carried.**

**Town attorney:** Joshua Clayborn informed the Council of a forthcoming proposal to establish a hydrant meter rental fee. The topic was tabled for future consideration pending input from Public Services. He also introduced Ordinance 2025-05 for first reading. The ordinance establishes rules and regulations for public park use, including a requirement that children under the age of 13 be accompanied by an adult. Council members discussed the age threshold and enforcement concerns, with suggestions to increase the age to 14 or 15 in the future. The ordinance may be revised prior to second reading. Motion was made by Cheryl Amos to approve Ordinance 2025-05 on first reading, seconded by Sarah Eller. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos – yes, Tom Burnett – yes, Sarah Eller – yes, Tonya Wester – yes, Ron Whitledge – yes. **Motion carried.**

**Police Chief:** Chief Kirk Tevault reported that there is sufficient budget to add one or two part-time officers to provide coverage during staff shortages and upcoming summer vacations. Council members agreed this would be helpful. Tyler Kinder also proposed locking electrical receptacles at the park to discourage loitering by unsupervised minors who gather to charge cell phones and vape devices. These outlets could be unlocked for facility rentals. The council expressed interest in this low-cost deterrent strategy.

**Fire Chief:** Chief Spencer Wester was not present. Council President Tonya Wester noted the department had recently responded to several grass fires.

**Director of Public Services:** Tyler Kinder reported no updates from the Water and Sewer Department. Discussion later returned to park development and lighting.

**Utility Administrator:** Misty Denk and the council reviewed lighting plans for town parks and municipal properties. Discussion focused on using grant funds to install new holiday light poles along Fourth Street, near the basketball courts and restrooms, and at the Fire Department and utility shop.

Council debated whether to order five or ten light poles and considered reallocating funds between lighting and electrical work. Members emphasized prioritizing lighting along high-traffic corridors and completing conduit work while concrete is still unset at the new Fire Department. Motion was made by Cheryl Amos to move forward with ordering six poles and obtaining electrical estimates for installation, seconded by Ron Whitledge. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos – yes, Tom Burnett – yes, Sarah Eller – yes, Tonya Wester – yes, Ron Whitledge – yes. **Motion carried.**

The Council also discussed development at the nature park, the progress on park upgrades by volunteers, and the successful community use of sod distributed from the ballfield project.

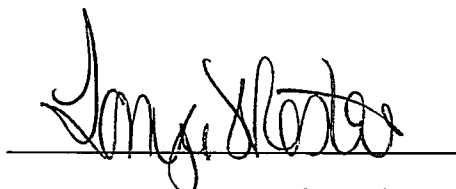
Misty presented two grant opportunities through OCRA. The Council agreed to move forward with the application for a comprehensive planning grant and expressed interest in the housing assistance grant pending clarification of the 10% local match requirement. Motion was made by Sarah Eller to proceed with the planning grant application, seconded by Cheryl Amos. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos – yes, Tom Burnett – yes, Sarah Eller – yes, Tonya Wester – yes, Ron Whitledge – yes. **Motion carried.**

**Environmental Manager:** Michael Bell proposed council training in compliance with MS4 requirements. The Council agreed to hold a training session on June 2, 2025 at 5:15 PM, immediately prior to the next regular meeting. The session will be treated as an special meeting for educational purposes only.

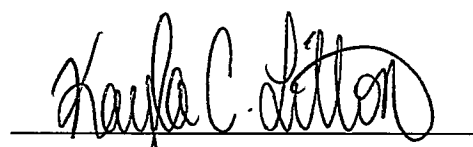
**Clerk-Treasurer:** Kayla Litton presented a software concept from ClearGov, designed to enhance budget planning and public transparency. She noted the software would not replace current systems but could aid department heads and citizens in visualizing budget data. Council members expressed interest in the concept but noted that cost would be a primary concern, particularly given the Town's budget size compared to those cited in the demo. Kayla agreed and stated that she was most interested in the idea itself and will continue researching pricing and alternatives. Larry Haag with Egis encouraged the Council to adopt more formalized long-term planning and asset management strategies across all departments, similar to those in place for utilities.

**Claims:** Claims in the amount of \$736,321.96 were presented for approval. Motion was made by Sarah Eller to approve claims as presented, seconded by Cheryl Amos. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos – yes, Tom Burnett – yes, Sarah Eller – yes, Tonya Wester – yes, Ron Whitledge – yes. **Motion carried.**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion was made by Cheryl Amos to confirm the next regular meeting date for June 2, 2025, seconded by Tom Burnett. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos – yes, Tom Burnett – yes, Sarah Eller – yes, Tonya Wester – yes, Ron Whitledge – yes. **Motion carried.**



Tonya Wester, Council President



Kayla Litton, Clerk Treasurer