

August 1, 2022

Town of Chandler Council Meeting Minutes

The Chandler Town Council meeting was called to order August 1, 2022, at the Chandler Town Hall, 401 E. Lincoln Ave. at 6:00 p.m.

Roll call: Present - Cheryl Amos, Kim Burnett, Sandy Elder, Tonya Wester, Ron Whitledge

Absent -

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes: Kim mentioned 2 errors. The date should be corrected to 18 instead of 185 and the minute incorrectly show Kim made both motions for the pay app for the Downtown Project. The council agreed to table the minutes till next meeting after Brian has a chance to review the recording and correct the minutes.

Public Hearing: Tonya suspended the regular meeting and opened the public hearing for storm water fees. Michael explained that due to staff issues Baker Tilly is still working on the rate review. He recommended going forward with increasing the rate to \$6 and revisit after the study. Michael mentioned costs are increasing due to new regulation put in place Dec. 2021. After talking with engineers that work with Boonville, Michael learned that they recommended Boonville increase their fee to \$10 from \$5. Tonya felt that we may need to go over \$6 but we should phase it in and invited the other council members to comment. Kim supports phasing it in. Tonya feels comfortable starting with \$6. Cheryl asked how many people are billed a storm fee and Michael estimated it to be 1100 to 1200. Ron felt that we are behind and suggested increasing it to \$6.50. Tonya invited public comments and received none. Josh said there are no legal hurdles to raising the fee and feels we can justify it since it hasn't been adjusted in so long. Motion was made by Ron Whitledge to raise the storm water fee to \$6.50, second by Cheryl Amos. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos yes, Kim Burnett no, Sandy Elder yes, Tonya Wester yes, Ron Whitledge yes. Motion carried. Josh mentioned a second reading will be needed. Tonya closed the public hearing and resumed the regular meeting.

Town Attorney: Josh presented Ordinance 2022-05. He explained that he drafted the ordinance due to discussions from the council about shifting elections to even years. Elections for districts 2 and 4 would remain the same, but districts 1 and 3, at large, and clerk-treasurer would be changed to a 1-year term next election and resume the 4-year cycle afterwards. Tonya mentioned she felt this would be good for the long haul since we'll only have to pay for elections 2 out of every 4 years and we may get better turnout. Ron believes it should have been done sooner. Cheryl mentioned that was their intention when the election cycle was initially changed. Motion was made by Cheryl Amos to approve Ordinance 2022-05 on first reading, second by Tonya Wester. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos yes, Kim Burnett yes, Sandy Elder yes, Tonya Wester yes, Ron Whitledge yes. Motion carried.

Josh brought up redistricting for discussion. District 1 has 19% of the population, district 2 has 29%, district 3 has 24%, and district 4 has 28%. The districts must be compact and concise so we will need to rebalance, but there's no precise definition to use. Tonya said districts 2 and 4 are likely larger due to the annexations. Cheryl suggested moving district 3 south and district 1 east. Tonya mentioned she thinks 23-27% per district would be acceptable and asked Brian to send them annexation population data. Tonya brought up changing all positions to at large. Josh mentioned it's possible but added that we are unusual in the fact that a town our size prohibits people outside a district from voting on that district's council member. Tonya asked if the council would have any objections to allowing people to vote in every council district and received none. Ray told the council that he was involved in the decision to restrict voters to their districts, and it was done to ensure that the person representing a district had the support of the residents of that district. Josh mentioned it could work the other way and a person disliked by the majority of the town could hold an elected position if they had enough support in their district with the current system. Tonya says that the change would mean every elected official could represent you and it may help increase participation in elections. Josh will draft an ordinance.

Josh submitted Ordinance 2022-06: Sign Permit Fee Schedule. Josh explained that it simplifies our schedule using Evansville's as basis. There's a \$25 fee for an application for signs over 32 sq ft and an additional fee of \$75 fee for non-electric signs, \$150 for electric, and \$1 per sq ft. Motion was made by Kim Burnett to approve Ordinance 2022-06 on first reading, second by Ron Whitledge. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos yes, Kim Burnett yes, Sandy Elder yes, Tonya Wester yes, Ron Whitledge yes. Motion carried.

Josh submitted Ordinance 2022-07, an ordinance amending zoning standards, for a second reading. Motion was made by Ron Whitledge to approve Ordinance 2022-07, second by Sandy Elder. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos yes, Kim Burnett yes, Sandy Elder yes, Tonya Wester yes, Ron Whitledge yes. Motion carried.

Police Chief: Report emailed.

Fire Chief: Report emailed. Tonya updated the council, the truck is still not in.

Director of Public Services: Report emailed. Rob left pay app #5 for the Phosphorous Removal Project to be paid to Ragle in the net amount of \$105,840. Motion was made by Ron Whitledge to approve pay app #5, second by Kim Burnett. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos yes, Kim Burnett yes, Sandy Elder yes, Tonya Wester yes, Ron Whitledge yes. Motion carried.

Tonya asked if everyone has had a chance to review the recruiters recommended by Josh. Tonya mentioned that one of them charges a fee and the other charges a percent and she is leaning toward Jeff Smith. Cheryl mentioned she would be OK starting with them. Tonya said she'll schedule a call and get more information. Sandy mentioned that she wasn't ready to make a decision yet.

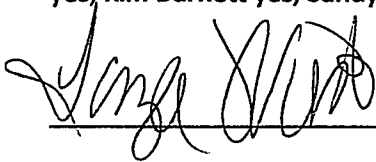
Utility Administrator: Report emailed. Tonya mentioned rental concerns left by Misty but tabled it due to the weather warning that was just issued.

Clerk Treasurer: Report emailed. Brian submitted invoices for the pumptrack and signage. Tonya suggested tabling the signage again but approving the invoice for the remaining 10% of the large pumptrack. Motion was made by Cheryl Amos to approve the invoice from Trelcru for \$2,475, second by Ron Whitledge. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos yes, Kim Burnett yes, Sandy Elder yes, Tonya Wester yes, Ron Whitledge yes. Motion carried.

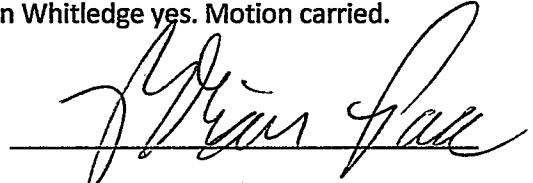
Environmental Manager: Report emailed. Michael mentioned a September 2 deadline for a grant application with the county and needs to know if the town can commit any funds. Tonya said they will after they have an executive meeting to discuss ideas and asked the council to email their availability and would like to get it schedule by August 11.

Claims: Cheryl Amos made a motion to approve claims as presented in the amount of \$555,388.70, second by Kim Burnett. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos yes, Kim Burnett yes, Sandy Elder yes, Tonya Wester yes, Ron Whitledge yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Cheryl Amos to recess the meeting, second by Sandy Elder. **Roll call:** Cheryl Amos yes, Kim Burnett yes, Sandy Elder yes, Tonya Wester yes, Ron Whitledge yes. Motion carried.



Tonya Wester, Council President



Brian Pace, Clerk Treasurer