

Cherry Valley City Council Meeting
Cherry Valley City Hall
166 Highway 1B
Cherry Valley, AR 72324
December 10, 2024, at 6:00 pm

Roll Call

Mayor Earnest Meredith	Absent
Council Member Thomas Wilson	Present
Council Member James DeWitt	Present
Council Member Ricky Lace	Present
Council Member Dennis Stephens	Present

Others Present:

Recorder Treasurer Stacey Bennett
Police Chief Jamie Walls
Water Manager A.W. Curtis

Visitors: William White

The meeting was opened with prayer by Council Member James DeWitt.

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes

Council Member Wilson made a motion to approve November 12, 2024, city council minutes as presented; Council Member DeWitt seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Council Member Lace made a motion to approve November 21, 2024, city council minutes as presented; Council Member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Financials

Council Member Wilson made a motion to approve the November 2024 financials; Council Member DeWitt seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Streets

The John Deere tractor has required a lot of repairs. The council discussed possible replacing the tractor due to the costly repairs.

Superintendent Nathan Morris met with Chief Walls and requested decorative lighting for Thunderbird Lane. Mr. Morris stated with the bill of assurance that has been placed on the lots, the decorative lighting would look best. The decorative lighting cost starts at \$11.23 - \$26.25 per light per month depending on which level of HPS is chosen. Streetlights throughout the city now cost \$7.68 per light per month.

Council Member DeWitt made a motion to stay consistent with the streetlights that are currently being provided to the other citizens within the city and not the decorative lights, Council Member DeWitt seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Food Truck Lot

The parking lot needs some chat to fill in some areas. The chat is approximately \$475.00 a load.

Council Member Stephens made a motion to approve the purchase of four (4) loads of chat; Council Member DeWitt seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Baseball/Softball Fields

Dirt work will start on the fields in the first week of January. Once the fields are complete, the remaining steps should move quickly. The council has also discussed a concession stand with storage.

Emergency Connection with Vanndale Birdeye Water

J. Harmon received the signed easement and will have it recorded.

2025 Fiscal Year Budget 2nd reading

The 2nd reading of the 2025 fiscal year budget was presented. The council asked if the current budget had any raises included for the employees and what changes were made. No raises or changes were made.

Water Audit

The water audit for the June 30, 2024, period was presented with no findings.

Food Truck Lot Electricity Invoice

An invoice in the amount of \$4,290.53 was presented for Cross County Irrigation and Power. The invoice was for labor and material and installing 2 poles with 50 amp and 20-amp breakers.

Council Member DeWitt made a motion to approve and pay the invoice as presented, Council Member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Prosecutors Resignation

A resignation from David Biondolillo as prosecutor for the City of Cherry Valley as of December 31, 2024. The council has no objection to the resignation.

Prosecutor

Chief Walls, presented to the council Kevin Watts, was interested in filling the prosecutor's position for the city. The previous prosecutor received an annual salary of \$3,000.00 and Mr. Watts was requesting \$6,000.00 annually.

Council Member Lace made a motion to hire Kevin Watts effective January 1, 2025, as presented, Council Member DeWitt seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Court Clerks' Software

A letter was presented on the increase in the Virtual Justice monthly fees. The current monthly fee is \$348.08 and will increase to \$375.70 per month.

Court Clerks Resignation

A resignation from Terrie Hess as the court clerk effective December 31, 2024, was presented. The council had no objections to the resignation.

Cherry Fest Lease

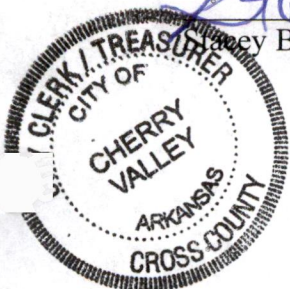
The lease between the city and Cherry Fest was presented.

Council Member Stephens made a motion to approve the lease as presented, with Council Member DeWitt signing on behalf of the city and the president of Cherry Fest signing, Council Member Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

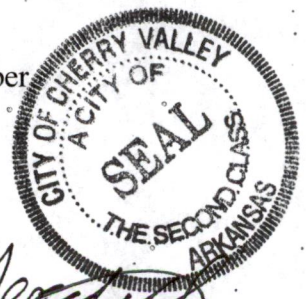
Adjournment

Council Member Wilson made a motion to adjourn at 8:19 pm; Council Member Stephens seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Next regular meeting will be January 14, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.



DeWitt Bennett, Recorder Treasurer



Earnest Meredith, Appointed Mayor

Minutes approved on this 14 day of January, 2025.