

KECHI CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Speer called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Council present: Mayor John Speer, Brian Adams, Matt Brewer, Richard Haddock, and Margaret McCormick.

City staff present: Kamme Sroufe, City Administrator; Andrew Kovar, City Attorney; Theresa Morlan, City Clerk; Jessie Woodrow, Chief of Police; and Joseph Trumbull, Police Lieutenant (7:38pm).

Guests present: Ashley Velasquez, Connor Hampton, Dorothy Mason, and Taylor Messick.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Speer.

B. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Brian Adams to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Matt Brewer, the motion carried 4-0-0.

Consent Agenda

1. Meeting Minutes August 12, 2021

C. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Brian Adams to approve agenda with removing item IV.B.3 from current agenda and adding to the meeting on September 23, 2021. The motion was seconded by Margaret McCormick and carried 4-0-0.

II. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Public Forum – Dorothy Mason, owner of James Mason Enterprises, expressed her gratitude to the city for the ease in moving the business to Kechi. She is excited to be a part of Kechi.

B. Kechi Civic Groups – None

III. PRESENTATION OF THE 2022 RECOMMENDED BUDGET – City Administrator (CA)

Kamme Sroufe presented the balanced general fund cash budget. The budget included a projected 6.5% COLA due to inflations, 2% merit increase, 15% increase potential for health benefits, one FTE administrative position, one FTE police officer, and 1 FTE public works operator.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Revenue Neutral Rate

1. Open Public Hearing to Exceed the 2022 Revenue Neutral Rate – Mayor Speer opened the hearing at 7:21pm. There was no public comment.

2. Close Public Hearing – Mayor Speer closed the public hearing at 7:22pm.

3. Adopt Resolution 21-733 to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate – A Resolution of the City of Kechi, Kansas to levy property taxes exceeding the revenue neutral rate. C.A. Sroufe presented the resolution which would allow the City to exceed the current revenue neutral rate, but not exceed a rate of 36.76 mils.

Motion by Richard Haddock to adopt Resolution 21-733. The motion was seconded by Matt Brewer and carried 4-0-0.

B. 2022 Recommended Budget

1. **Open Public Hearing for the Proposed 2022 City Budget** – Mayor Speer opened the public hearing at 7:23pm.
Ashley Velazquez, 309 N Shawnee Dr, stated that CA Sroufe has done a great job with the budget, there has been wonderful discussion, and she believes the council should approve the budget presented.
2. **Close Public Hearing** – Mayor Speer closed the public hearing at 7:24pm.

V. OLD BUSINESS - None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Covid Leave Personnel Policy Extension** – CA Sroufe recommended extending the covid leave policy from September 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 as new variants emerge, virus can still infect those vaccinated, and quarantine is still required. There are no state directives, and the policy is currently working to keep those who need to be absent due to exposure without being misused. The request would not add additional leave time, only to extend the time that it is available to be used.

Motion by Matt Brewer to extend the covid leave through December 31, 2021. The motion was seconded by Richard Haddock and carried 4-0-0.

- B. Kite Festival – Special Event Permit** – CA Sroufe the request, as it would be held on city owned property, the permit requires the approval of the council. The festival would be held at the field on South Anderson on September 18th from 10am to 2pm. Lynanne, Chamber of Commerce president, has requested that the city supply the port-a-pots and trash carts as it has done previously for the festival. The application fee does need to be paid. The chamber will need to have volunteers to ensure traffic flow.

Motion by Richard Haddock to approve the Special Event Permit for the Kite Festival with the property on South Anderson to be used from 9am to 3pm. Seconded by Margaret McCormick, the motion carried 4-0-0.

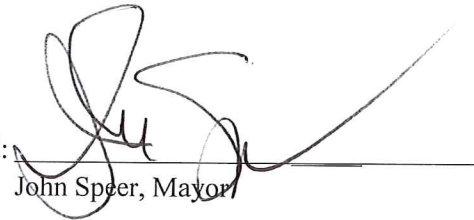
VII. INTERACTIVE DIALOG

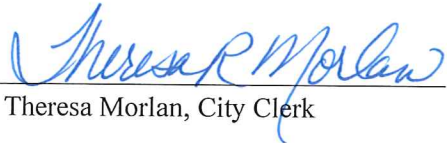
- A. OLD CITY HALL** – CA Sroufe stated that there is not majority support to lease or sell the old city hall. If we suspect there is asbestos, there is potential for liability. The Chamber of Commerce desires to use it as well. The asbestos needs to be abated, and everything needs to be moved out of the building, prior to samples being taken. Council directed staff to notify the potential renter that the city plans not to sell or lease the building.
- B. Cillissen Utility Easement** – CA Sroufe informed the council of the need to extend the utility easement to the north of the current building across the vacated road to allow for utilities to be extended to their proposed building. There is a process that the city will need to approve due to the city being the owner of record, because of the IRB.

C. **Motions and Substitute Motions** – Andrew answered questions regarding when substitute (amended) motions can be used and the proper procedure for approving them.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Brian Adams to adjourn, and it was seconded by Margaret McCormick. The motion carried 4-0-0. The time of adjournment was 7:50pm.

Signed: 
John Speer, Mayor

Attest: 
Theresa Morlan, City Clerk