

Village of Chauncey Council

July 24, 2025 Special Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Tamara Hawk call the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: The pledge was observed by all in attendance.

ROLL CALL: Taken by Tamara Hawk

Seat 1 – Connaught Cullen, Late

Seat 2 – Debbie Gibson, Present

Seat 3 – Karla Dellinger, Present

Seat 4 – Evelyn Nagy, Present

Seat 5 – Mike Kraus, Present

Seat 6 – Dylan Skees, Absent

Mayor – Tamara Hawk, President Pro Tem, Present

Village Administrator – Present

Village Solicitor – Present

Evelyn Nagy made the motion to excuse Dylan Skees, seconded by Mike Kraus. AIF

We are here for this special meeting for Mr. Liming dispute a hang tag he was giving to him for no payment December

Mike Krause would like to make the motion for a 3-part hearing, 10 minutes for Mr. Liming, 15 minutes for the village and then 5 minutes for Mr. Liming to have the last say. Debbie Seconded. AIF

Mr. Liming stated that he is not disputing his water bill, he disputing the hang tag fee of \$20.00 that he as charged on his bill. Mr. Liming handed out documentation as supporting his claim and his bankruptcy. As you can see, he stated, that his bill has always been paid. The only item we are talking about is the hang tag fee. As you can see on your hang tag that states that I can request a hearing within 5 days of the hearing. I came in requested a hearing but the village administrator was busy and would let him know. In January, I submitted a written request for the hearing. Again, in February I requested a hearing once again. In March, I sent the information to my attorney. He put a letter together and sent it to the village and did not receive a reply. I continue to pay my bill and my water and sewer is up to date. I circle the hang tag fee and state that it is still under dispute. According to your hang tag, you have 5 days for the hearing and an additional 2 day for a decision. Nowhere on the hang tag does it say in front of the village council, it does state that it will be in front of village administrator. Let's assume that you made the decision last council meeting the grant me a hearing, that meeting was 14 days ago and does not fall within the days.

Mr. Robe: Mr. Liming when did you file for bankruptcy? Mr. Liming, 8/16/2020, hang tag was in December of 2024. Mr. Robe: That is all my questions.

Roxanne: "I received a complaint on December stating that he received a hang tag and he does not feel he should have received on. When communication was started, all he stated that he was disputing the charge. When he stated that, I sent Chris a text due to Chris was working on a water leak. I gave Chris his information. Chris called me and talked about it. Chris determined that we was not going to waive the hang tag fee due to there was roughly 40 people received hang tags that day. Due to the miscommunication between Chris and Roxanne, Mr. Liming was not contacted about the dispute. In January, he gave me a note about his charge. I called him and walked him through the decision. On January 13th I called Mr. Liming and explained the decision to him. He began to be disrespectful to me. I told him that I was not going to be talk to that way and he continued to be disrespectful, so I hung up on him. In February I received a two-page letter. The village policy for paying the bill states that the bill is due by the 10th. He had two hang tags in 2023 and two hang tags in 2024 and he paid both of them with no issue. When a customer pays a bill and it is not paid in full, it goes back to the oldest charge. So, when Mr. Liming paid his January bill; the hang tag was paid. The interest he is being charged for actually water and sewer charges, not the hang tag.

Mr. Robe: You mention some prior hang tags Roxanne, what was the dates of those. Feb 2023, November 2023, February 2024, December 2024.

Mr. Liming: My question from before, if I keep disputing the charge, shouldn't something have been done differently.

Mr. Robe: So how does the system work? Roxanne: I put the hang tag in manually. When I put in the payment, it applies it to the oldest charges. Mr. Robe: Is there a way you can override a charge. Roxanne: The only thing I can do is an adjustment.

Chris (Village Admin): Roxanne and I had a discussion and decided that we could not make an exception. She did send me his information but did not feel it required a call because at that time a hearing was not requested. Mr. Liming: You do pass these out correct Chris? Yes, I do. Mr. Liming: Do you read these? Chris: I do not, Roxanne fills them out and I hand them out. Mr. Liming: If I am asking to talk to Chris, would you not think I was wanting a hearing. Also, the hang tag states that you have 5 days for a hearing and 2 days to make a decision.

Mr.: Robe: When was you aware that he filed bankruptcy Chris? No, I did not know he had filled bankruptcy until we received a letter in February. Mr. Liming: The mayor stated last meeting that she did not receive anything regarding the bankruptcy. Now that you have seen that bankruptcy does that refresh your memory.

Karla Dellinger: According to the papers, you filed bankruptcy 2023, it does not stat who the debtors was. Mr. Liming: I do not recall. Karla Dellinger: Why is this hang tag different then any other hang tag you received that you paid. Mr. Liming: I want to credit Chris for everything he does because he has always been there when I had a water leak.

Mr. Liming: I finally read the back of the hang tag fee until the hang tag in December. I want to exercise my rights. I did not let anyone know I was in bankruptcy because I planned on telling Chris during my hearing.

Evelyn Nagy: In May we received the information regard this water bill, we did not have the bankruptcy paper because if we did, I would have referred it to the village solicitor. We had a utility committee meeting. We had 3 others we talked about. At that time we decided for the hang tag to stay in place. When I look at all the information I have seen, it was not clear to me that you wanted a hearing and not a dispute.

Tammy Hawk: I feel as he did not present evidence on the hang tag being waived.

Mr. Liming: The hang tag states that I must receive a hearing within 5 days, which I did not.

Mr. Hawk: Does it say anywhere on the hang tag that if you do not get a hearing, it is automatically waived? Mr. Liming, It does not.

Mr. Liming: I feel as I am protected by my bankruptcy and I was not granted a hearing.

Evelyn Nagy: I guess I am still not hearing why you are disputing it. Mr. Liming: Because of my bankruptcy.

Mr. Robe: Did Mr. Liming follow the timeline for the hearing? Did the village admin grant the hearing? Did his bankruptcy include the village? Does the council wish to waive the fees?

Mr. Liming: I think my attorney's letter is stated clearly. You are not allowed to turn my water off. You can send my bills to my bankruptcy attorney. The federal stay is supposed to protect me from late fees. I am only responsible for the charges for the water and sewer bill. My rights are to request a hearing and I did.

Karla Dellinger: I'll make a motion since you filed bankruptcy in 2022, I motion to waive the late fees but the \$20 of hang tag is still due. Connaught Cullen Seconded,

Mike Kraus: Yes

Debbie Gibson: Yes

Karla Dellinger: Yes

Evelyn Nagy: No

Connaught Cullen: Yes

Debbie Gibson: Made the motion to reconsider. Mike Kraus seconded.

Mike would like to make a motion to table, seconded by Debbie Gibson:

Mike: Yes

Debbie: Yes

Karla: No

Evelyn: No

Connaught: Yes

Mr. Robe: This can be brought back up next meeting, if you don't revisit it, the motion you just made stays.

Mr. Liming: Who defends the village council members?

Mr. Robe: I represent all council members and village employees.

ADJOURN MEETING:

Karla Dellinger made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Evelyn Nagy. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.



Evelyn Nagy
Council President



Karla Dellinger
Fiscal Officer