

Council Chambers:

ROLL CALL:

The City Council of Lincoln Center convened in regular session at 7:30 p.m. with Mayor Travis Schwerdtfager presiding. Councilmembers present: Angela K. Corpstein, Elijah Keever, Mark Luce and Melodee K. Larsen. Councilmember absent: Brennan Johnson. Officials present: Attorney Jeffrey A. Norris, Clerk Heather N. Hillegeist. Also present: Superintendent Jeff Ahring.

VISITORS:

Visitors in attendance for all or portions of the meeting: Kathie Crispin, Nikki Flinn, Robert Loveless, Bri Beck, Ramon Gil, Clay Haring and Tim Meier.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

There were no amendments to the agenda.

MINUTES:

Upon motion by Keever, seconded by Corpstein, Minutes of the January 9, 2023, regular meeting were approved as written. Larsen made a motion to approve Minutes of the January 13, 2023 special meeting, seconded by Corpstein.

PAYROLL VOUCHER:

Payroll Voucher No. 23-01, for January wages and salaries in the amount of \$66,861.73, was presented. A motion by Keever, seconded by Corpstein, to approve said Payroll Voucher, carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Accounts Payable lists were reviewed, including prepaid invoices in the amount of \$112,048.92, and unpaid invoices totaling \$245,215.46. Upon motion by Larsen, seconded by Keever, all said invoices in the amount of \$357,264.38, were approved for payment.

DELINQ. ACCNTS.:

Four (4) accounts, totaling \$1,388.13, were on the list of delinquent utilities reviewed.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Clerk Hillegeist administered the oath of office to newly-appointed Councilmember Mark Luce.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

Kathie Crispin representing the Lincoln County Historical Society (LCHS), explained that they are applying for a State Park Revitalization & Investment in Notable Tourism (SPRINT) grant to expand the museum by adding a basement. The project would allow more space for meetings, events, displays and provide a storm shelter to the community. The project is estimated at \$600,000 and Crispin requested the City of Lincoln write a letter of support. Keever moved for the City of Lincoln to write a letter of support for the LCHS SPRINT grant application. Seconded by Corpstein, carried.

USD298 WATER LEAK:

Principal Nikki Flinn requested the Governing Body forgive the USD298 Fieldhouse water portion of the bill due to a leak in the building. After discussion, Keever made a motion to deny the request, seconded by Luce. Vote tied 2/2. Mayor voted nay to break the tie. Corpstein moved to approve the request to credit USD298 the amount above the minimum water bill, seconded by Larsen. Vote tied 2/2. Mayor voted yah to break the tie.

NUISANCE COMPLAINT:

Robert Loveless questioned the Governing Body on what plans are in effect to handle the increasing nuisance properties and vehicles in town. Loveless was informed that has been an agenda topic for the last few months.

CITY PARK RESTROOMS:

Clerk Hillegeist reviewed her findings on the cost projections for the City Park restroom facility and the two options she was presented with from Schwab-Eaton and North Central Regional Planning Commission (NCRPC). After discussion, neither of the locations presented were feasible locations to resolve the soccer field restroom issue due to the new flood plain map. Hillegeist was asked to call Schwab-Eaton and see if updating and expanding the pool restrooms was an option and put it on the agenda for March.

CDBG CLOSE OUT HEARING: Mayor Schwerdtfager opened the final performance public hearing to receive comments for the purpose of evaluating the performance of Grant No. 20-PF-029 which was for improvements to the City's water distribution system. Bri Beck, NCRPC grant administrator reported the 1-year warranty start date was November 17, 2022 and the total project cost was \$1,728,288.50 which included \$600,000 in grant funds, \$22,327.50 city funds and \$1,105,961 in KDHE loan funds. The final project consisted of the following: installation of approximately 23,154 linear feet of new PVC water mains, 59 valves, 25 fire hydrants, 249 service connections, 56 water meters with pit, 58 connections to existing waterline, 985 linear feet – 3/4" HDPE service line, 7,718 square yards of street repair, and associated appurtenances. Related services included mobilization, design, construction observation, and grant administration. No public comment was received. Larsen moved to certify the completion of the CDBG Water Distribution project, 20-PF-029, on the city's water distribution system. Motion seconded by Corpstein, carried.

NUISANCE TIME EXTENSION: Ramon Gil asked for an additional extension for cleaning up the property at 103 N 1<sup>st</sup>. He explained he has a date set for May 15<sup>th</sup> for an auction to sell the property. Keever moved to approved the time extension to May 15<sup>th</sup> pending continued efforts are made to the property. Seconded by Corpstein, carried.

PERSONNEL: Upon motion by Keever, seconded by Corpstein, the employment of; Robin Wolf, power plant operator \$18.75/hour, effective February 6, 2023, Ethan Curnutt, maintenance worker \$18.75/hour, effective February 13, 2023, Vincent Martin, maintenance worker \$25/hour effective February 14, 2023, was approved. Hillegeist was asked to put Personnel on the agenda in May.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:25 p.m., Larsen moved to recess to executive session pursuant to justification (b)(1) of K.S.A. 75-4319 with City Attorney Norris, Superintendent Ahring and City Clerk Hillegeist present, for a period of ten (10) minutes for discussion of personnel matters of nonelected personnel. Motion seconded by Corpstein, carried. The City Council returned to regular session at 8:35 p.m.

INDY PARK: The Governing Body reviewed a proposal for bid from Craig Stertz on behalf of Lincoln Farm to lease the Indy Park Building. The proposal was to lease the building for one year at the requested rate of \$1,800/month with first option to renew, in lieu of 2 months rent after possession they would use their resources to remove existing machinery and clean the facility. After discussion, Keever moved to accept the proposal for lease as presented with the exception of the start date of the lease. Motion seconded by Larsen, carried.

LAND PURCHASE: Mayor Schwerdtfager reminded the Governing Body that Terry Stertz had inquired about purchasing a small strip of land adjacent to his property last year in January. The property Stertz wanted to purchase has been staked out. Following discussion, Larsen moved to offer the property to Stertz for \$1676.88/acre and he would be responsible for the survey expense, deed recording and closing fees. Motion seconded by Corpstein, carried.

CASH RENT SEALED BIDS: Mayor Schwerdtfager opened and read aloud the cash rent bids received. After discussion and tabulation of the bids three motions ensued awarding tracts to the highest bidder.

Keever moved to accept the bid from Tim Meier for \$36.34/acre for Tracts 3, 4 & 5 – three tracts of land planted to brome grass (16.51 acres). Motion seconded by Corpstein, carried.

Larsen moved to accept the bid from Clay Haring for \$91/acre for Tracts 6, 7 & 8 – three tracts of farmland (122.01 acres). Motion seconded by Corpstein, carried.

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Keever moved to accept the bid from Duane Helus for \$90/acre for Tracts 1, 2 & 9 – three tracts of farmland (32.11 acres). Motion seconded by Corpstein, carried.

PAYROLL SOFTWARE: Clerk Hillegeist went over two proposals from Computer Information Concepts (CIC) for Timeclock Plus and an Employee Portal. After discussion, both items were tabled until March council meeting.

SHOP COMPUTER & IT: After discussion, the matter was tabled until March council meeting.

COUNCIL MTG TIME CHG: Council member Corpstein asked the fellow Governing Body members to consider moving the council meeting time to earlier in the evening. Clerk Hillegeist informed the Governing Body this would require an ordinance to make this change. After discussion, Attorney Norris was requested to draft an ordinance to change the council meeting time to 6:30 p.m. for consideration at the next council meeting.

NUISANCES: Mayor Schwerdtfager was going to make contact with an individual regarding the public officer position.

POOL: Clerk Hillegeist was instructed to start advertising for pool managers and lifeguards.

EDUCATION: Clerk Hillegeist advised she would be attending the City Clerk's Conference being held in Manhattan on March 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>.

ADJOURN: There being no further business, Larsen moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Corpstein, carried. Council adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

/s/ Heather N. Hillegeist  
City Clerk