

Council Meeting

December 12, 2022

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, Brennan Johnson and Elijah Keever. Councilmember absent: Melodee K. Larsen. Officials present: Attorney Jeffrey A. Norris, Clerk Heather N. Hillegeist and Deputy Kristin Dail. Also, present: Superintendent Jesse C. Meyer.

VISITORS:

Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting: Tony Lamia, Bethany Pingel, Vance Kelley, Brianne Beck, Jeff Ahring, Laura Keever and Jim Metz.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

There were no amendments to the council meeting agenda.

MINUTES:

Upon motion by Keever, seconded by Corpstein, minutes of the November 14, 2022, regular meeting were approved as written.

PAYROLL VOUCHER:

Payroll Voucher No. 22-11, for November wages and salaries in the amount of \$56,657.51, was presented. A motion by Johnson, seconded by Corpstein, to approve said Payroll Voucher, carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Accounts Payable lists were reviewed. Invoices prepaid in November totaled \$82,550.31. Unpaid invoices received to date, totaled \$165,416.44. Upon motion by Keever, seconded by Corpstein, all said invoices in the amount of \$247,966.75, were approved for payment.

DELINQ. ACCOUNTS:

Clerk Hillegeist requested approval to write off, for bookkeeping purposes only, four (4) of the accounts totaling \$1,525.35. Upon motion by Keever, seconded by Corpstein, said request was approved.

UTILITY BILLING:

The Governing Body reviewed a letter received from Anthony Hopkins in his absence regarding a water leak at the State Farm building. After discussion, the Governing Body did not approve any adjustments to the account at 153 W Court Street for the water leak.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
CITY HALL DESIGN:

Bethany Pingel, TreanorHL presented the Governing Body with copies of the construction documents for final review by the Governing Body. Mayor Schwerdtfager asked for a month to review the documents. Pingel informed the Governing Body the next step would be deciding if they want to move forward with the project.

SLECHTA ENTERPRISES:

Tony Lamia owner of Slechta Enterprises introduced himself to the Governing Body. He welcomed any questions from the Governing Body.

INDY PARK LEASE BIDS:

No bids were received. Clerk Hillegeist was instructed to advertise the Industrial Park building available for lease in the newspaper, on the city and live lincoln county websites with the amount of \$1,800.00 a month.

CDBG WATER PROJECT:

Grant Administrator Brianne Beck, North Central Regional Planning commission (NCRPC) informed the Governing Body that the final inspection meeting for the CDBG waterline project was held on November 29, 2022. Beck presented the meeting notes and explained the substantial completion date was November 17<sup>th</sup> and that would start the 1-year warranty work. The remaining items, asphalt street patches and concrete apron patches would be completed in this time. The grant close-out deadline is December 14, 2022, Beck has contacted CDBG and January would be the earliest for closeout monitoring due to personnel constraints. Beck

warned the city may need to have a special meeting in February to meet all the necessary deadlines for the close-out hearing.

WBP IMPROVEMENTS:

Lincoln Recreation board contracted with Schwab-Eaton for engineering design for west ball park improvements. Mayor Schwerdtfager, Superintendent Meyer, Clerk Hillegeist, Rec Director Darcy Couse, and board member Jim Metz had met late in November to discuss the project and drainage issues. Hillegeist reported that Schwab-Eaton confirmed drainage wasn't addressed with the design presented to the recreation board. Hillegeist said she asked Jesse Benedick from Schwab-Eaton to attend the January meeting for discussion on a drainage study.

UTIL.BILLING ORD. #740:

There was next presented an Ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 15-105 OF ARTICLE 1; SECTION 15-215 OF ARTICLE 2 AND SECTION 15-305 OF ARTICLE 3 OF CHAPTER XV OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN CENTER, KANSAS, RELATING TO UTILITY DEPOSITS INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR DEPOSIT REQUIRED BY CERTAIN CUSTOMERS; PROVIDING FOR TRIP CHARGES; AND REPEALING EXISTING PROVISIONS." Said Ordinance encompassed the utility deposit, reconnection and trip charge increases approved at the City Council Meeting. Keever moved to pass said Ordinance, seconded by Corpstein. Upon call for vote, the following Councilmembers voted Aye: Corpstein, Johnson and Keever. Nays: None. The Ordinance was declared passed, was approved and signed by the Mayor, assigned #740 by the City Clerk, and ordered to be published once in the official city newspaper.

AIRPORT OPERATING LEASE:

Clerk Hillegeist presented the Governing Body with the information she obtained from other city's with municipal airports and their procedures. The item was tabled until a later time.

CITY SVC. AWARDS:

Following discussion, Keever moved to give city employees \$100 a year for each year of service, starting with 10 years in 5-year increments thereafter during the January Council meeting or employee appreciation dinner starting in 2023. Motion seconded by Johnson, carried.

PERSONNEL/2023 WAGES:

After discussion, Keever moved that all full time hourly and salaried employees be granted a \$5.00 per hour COLA increase, excluding the Rec Director position and the starting wage increase to \$18.75 per hour, and give merit raises as recommended of \$2.00 per hour to Darren Johnson, Kristin Dail and Heather Hillegeist effective with the January, 2023 payroll. Motion seconded by Johnson, carried.

APPRECIATION DINNER:

In lieu of an appreciation dinner, Johnson moved to give employees an additional holiday off with pay on December 23, 2022, seconded by Corpstein. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL:

Superintendent Meyer reported the city had recently received some applications for the Lineman position on indeed. Meyer and Power Plant Foreman Jeff Ahring were instructed to set up an interview with the applicant.

PERSONNEL POLICY:

Clerk Hillegeist asked the Governing Body to allow her to work with Attorney Norris to clear up some verbiage in the City Personnel Policy for presentation at the January meeting.

NUISANCES:

Superintendent Meyer reported on the list of nuisances.

US TOWERS CORRESP:

Attorney Norris reported on his initial response to the correspondence received from US Towers declaring the city billed them in error from 2003-2006. Superintendent Meyer and Clerk Hillegeist had researched the claim and discovered the multiplier was changed due to CT

and PT replacement and the billing was correct. Attorney Norris agreed to send a letter to US Towers regarding the findings.

YEAR-END MEETING:

The year-end City Council meeting was set for December 29, 2022, at 7:30 a.m.

DOG IMPOUND:

Deputy Clerk Dail reported on two dogs in the pound that had been there for a significant amount of time. Dail reported the owner called two times regarding the animals but has never paid or picked them up. Lincoln Area Humane Society (LAHS) was asking guidance from the Governing Body and Attorney on the situation. After discussion, LAHS was granted permission to move forward with rehoming the animals in accordance with the City code.

LAND PURCHASE:

Mayor Schwerdtfager reported he had been approached by Terry Stertz again about the property adjacent to his and the option to purchase. Schwerdtfager agreed to talk to the current lessee about the property.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, Corpstein moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Johnson, carried. Council adjourned at 10:12 p.m.

/s/ Heather N. Hillegeist  
City Clerk