

Council Chambers:

- ROLL CALL: The City Council of Lincoln Center convened in regular session at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Travis Schwerdtfager presiding. Councilmembers present Angela K. Corpstein, Hayden Howard, Elijah Keever, Mark Luce, and Melodee K. Larsen. Official present: Clerk Heather N. Hillegeist. Also, present: Superintendent Jeff Ahring.
- VISITORS: Visitors in attendance for all or portions of the meeting: Carly Errebo, Marcia Kraft, Lisa Feldkamp, Darren Johnson, Laura Keever, Noah Keever, Jonah Keever, Caleb Keever, David Keever and Peter Boyd.
- AGENDA AMENDMENTS: There were no amendments to the council meeting agenda.
- MINUTES: Upon motion by Corpstein, seconded by Luce, minutes of the December 31, 2025, year-end meeting were approved as written.
- ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Council reviewed accounts payable lists containing December invoices in the amount of \$924.36 and January invoices to date totaling \$74,969.06. Upon motion by Keever, seconded by Larsen, all said invoices, in the amount of \$75,893.42, were approved for payment.
- DELINQ. ACCNTS.: Three (3) accounts, totaling \$948.40, were on the list of delinquent utilities reviewed and discussed.
- OATH OF OFFICE: Clerk Hillegeist administered the oath of office to newly elected Mayor and Councilmembers; Travis Schwerdtfager, Elijah Keever and Melodee Larsen.
- PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL: Upon motion by Larsen, seconded by Corpstein, Elijah Keever was elected President of the Council.
- ACTING PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL: Upon motion by Keever, seconded by Luce, Melodee K. Larsen was elected acting President of the Council.
- OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES: Upon motion by Larsen, seconded by Keever, The Bank of Tescott and Citizens State Bank were designated as Official Depositories for City funds. Corpstein abstained.
- APPOINTMENTS/ CITY OFFICIALS: Mayor Schwerdtfager made the following City Official appointments for the ensuing year:
- City Clerk – Heather N. Hillegeist
Deputy City Clerk – Kristin G. Dail
City Treasurer – Kimberly M. Meyer
City Attorney – Jeffrey A. Norris
Fire Chief – Jarrod Heinze
Municipal Judge – Angela R. Hecke
- There followed a motion by Keever, seconded by Corpstein, to confirm the Mayor’s appointments and recommendation. Motion carried.
- LCIC COMMITTEE: Lincoln Center Improvement Committee (LCIC) Member Carly Errebo, reported on the past year’s projects the committee completed. Errebo relayed the committee held fundraisers each quarter for the “Downtown Lighting Project.” The committee continues to recognize nice yards and community volunteers, along with planting flowers in the planters and decorating them for the holiday season. Errebo requested a monetary donation to help with funding of

future projects. Larsen moved to approve a \$1000 monetary donation to the LCIC Committee, seconded by Corpstein, carried.

Errebo presented the City Flag design that had been selected by the community. After discussion, Larsen moved to adopt the flag as the “city official flag,” seconded by Corpstein, carried.

CITY SVC. AWARDS:

Mayor Schwerdtfager announced two (2) City Service Awards for Darren Johnson and Elijah Keever for 10 years of dedicated service to the City of Lincoln Center.

REC COMM RESIGN/APPT.:

Mayor Schwerdtfager made the following appointments to the Lincoln Recreation Commission:

County Representative 2-year term – Kelly Schneider
USD299 Representative 2-year term – Raine Bradshaw
USD298 Representative 2-year term – Sara Larson
City Representative 4-year term – Sara Smith
City Representative Unexpired 4-year term – Cole Zachgo

There followed a motion by Keever, seconded by Larsen, to confirm the Mayor’s appointments. Motion carried.

STO AMENDING ORD 767:

Council reviewed an Ordinance provided by Attorney Norris entitled “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14, SECTION 14-101 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN CENTER, KANSAS, TO ADD LOCAL AMENDMENTS TO THE 2025 STANDARD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE AND REPEALING THE EXISTING SECTION 14-101. Said Ordinance sets a school zone maximum speed limit to twenty (20) mph. Keever moved to pass said Ordinance, seconded by Corpstein. Upon call for vote, the following Councilmembers voted Aye: Corpstein, Howard, Keever, Larsen, and Luce. Nay: None. The Ordinance was declared passed, was approved, and signed by the Mayor, assigned #767 by the City Clerk, and ordered to be published once in the Official City Newspaper.

SCHOOL ZONE ORD 768:

Council reviewed an Ordinance provided by Attorney Norris entitled “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14, OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN CENTER, KANSAS, BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 14-104 TO PROVIDE DESIGNATED SCHOOL ZONES DURING CERTAIN HOURS AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE PLACEMENT OF SCHOOL ZONE SIGNS ALL FOR THE BENEFIT AND PROTECTION OF THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN CENTER, KANSAS. Said Ordinance designates where the school zone is located. Luce moved to pass said Ordinance with the time corrections, seconded by Larsen. Upon call for vote, the following Councilmembers voted Aye: Corpstein, Howard, Keever, Larsen, and Luce. Nay: None. The Ordinance was declared passed, was approved, and signed by the Mayor, assigned #768 by the City Clerk, and ordered to be published once in the Official City Newspaper.

TREE PRUNING ORD 769:

Council reviewed an Ordinance provided by Attorney Norris entitled “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER XIII, ARTICLE 3, SECTION 13-310 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN CENTER, KANSAS, TO AMEND HEIGHT AT WHICH ANY OWNER OF ANY TREE MUST TRIM AND CLEAR SPACE ABOVE THE SURFACE OF ANY STREET OR RIGHT-OF-WAY FROM EIGHT FEET TO FOURTEEN FEET IN THE CITY OF LINCOLN CENTER, KANSAS. Said Ordinance increases the height to fourteen (14) feet that a tree is required be trimmed up to from street and right-of-way. Corpstein moved to pass said Ordinance, seconded by Howard. Upon call for vote, the following

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Councilmembers voted Aye: Corpstein, Howard, Keever, Larsen, and Luce. Nay: None. The Ordinance was declared passed, was approved, and signed by the Mayor, assigned #769 by the City Clerk, and ordered to be published once in the Official City Newspaper

TRANSFER FUNDS: A motion was made by Larsen, seconded by Keever, to transfer \$25,000 from the General Fund to the Recreation Fund for 2026 Rec Appropriation. Motion carried.

TRANSFER FUNDS: A motion was made by Keever, seconded by Corpstein, to transfer \$49,408 from the Light Fund to the Bond and Interest Fund for 2026 GO Bond Payments. Motion carried.

NUISANCES: The Governing Body discussed and reviewed the list of nuisances from 2025 that are unresolved.

UTILITY BILL INSERTS: Clerk Hillegeist requested guidance on the different requests for utility bill inserts. The topic is to be added to the agenda in February.

SUPERINTENDENT RPT: Superintendent Ahring reported he is meeting with South Central Sealing this month to look at South Street for different options for the intersection on 1st and South Street. Ahring has started working on a Comprehensive Street Repair Plan and has made contact on a potential 2000 kW engine for the Power Plant.

ADJOURN: There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

/s/ Heather N. Hillegeist, MMC
City Clerk