

Council Meeting

May 12, 2025

City Hall 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 for all or portions of the meeting: Angela K. Corpstein, Hayden Howard, Melodee K. Larsen, and Mark Luce. Councilmember absent: Elijah Keever. Officials present: Attorney Jeffrey A. Norris and Clerk Heather N. Hillegeist. Also, present: Foreman Austin Biggs.
- VISITORS: Visitors in attendance for all or portions of the meeting: Dana Walters, Jeannie Jorgensen, April Coover, Jamie Cunningham, Lisa Simmons, Fire Chief Jarrod Heinze, Sheriff Duston Florence, and Public Officer Glen Mallam.
- AGENDA AMENDMENTS: Swimming Lesson Instructor was added to the agenda.
- MINUTES: Upon motion by Corpstein, seconded by Larsen, Minutes of the April 14, 2025, regular meeting were approved as written.
- PAYROLL VOUCHER: Payroll Voucher No. 25-04, for April wages and salaries in the amount of \$80,667.38 was presented. A motion by Larsen, seconded by Corpstein, to approve said Payroll Voucher, carried.
- ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Accounts Payable lists were reviewed. Invoices prepaid in April totaled \$11,370.32. The list of unpaid invoices received to date totaled \$80,674.82. Upon motion by Larsen, seconded by Corpstein, all said invoices in the amount of \$92,045.14, were approved for payment.
- DELINQ. ACCNTS.: Seven (7) accounts, totaling \$2,804.26, were on the list of delinquent utilities reviewed.
- FRA TREASURER BOND: Upon motion by Larsen, seconded by Corpstein, the Treasurer's bond for the Lincoln Firefighters Relief Association, in the amount of \$15,000.00, was approved.
- ARTS COMM. APPNTS.: Mayor Schwerdtfager appointed Kathryne Perney and Ben Knight to three-year terms as members of the Lincoln Arts and Humanities Commission. Corpstein moved to confirm the Mayor's appointment, seconded by Luce. Motion carried.
- PORT AUTH. APPNTS.: Mayor Schwerdtfager appointed Dale Romesburg to a four-year term on the Lincoln Port Authority Board. Larsen moved to confirm the Mayor's appointment, seconded by Corpstein.
- LHA/APPOINTMENT: Mayor Schwerdtfager appointed Marci Metz to a four-year term as a member of the Lincoln Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. Corpstein moved to confirm the Mayor's appointment, seconded by Larsen. Motion carried.
- HIST. SOCIETY PARADE: Lincoln County Historical Society Director Dana Walters requested permission to have a Fourth of July parade celebrating the City of Lincoln Center as the birthplace of Hazel Avery, who designed the first Kansas flag, which was first flown at an Independence Day parade in Lincoln Center. The parade will begin at the Courthouse at 10:00 a.m. on Lincoln Avenue and continue to the Art Center, where the proclamation will be read. The parade will end at the Topsy School house. Walters was requesting permission for a portion of Lincoln Avenue to be closed during the parade and for barricades to be provided by the city. The council had no objection to the event and agreed to provide barricades for volunteers to place prior to the parade.
- STREET VACATION: Jeannie Jorgensen inquired if west Bowland Avenue could be vacated from the alley to Hwy 14. It was determined the city has electric utilities in the proposed vacated street and would need to have

access. Following discussion, Attorney Norris was requested to draft an Ordinance for the June council meeting to vacate west Bowland Avenue from the alley behind 5th Street to Highway 14.

CURB REMOVAL:

April Coover requested permission to remove a portion of the curb in front of her property at 413 E. Court to put in a driveway which would include a cement valley gutter. Coover was granted permission following the City Code for the required replacement valley gutter/apron from the street to the property.

LAW ENFORCEMENT:

Sheriff Florence addressed the Governing Body, asking for consideration of a 10% increase in the Law Enforcement Contract between the City of Lincoln Center and Lincoln County. He produced documentation on the cost of providing three (3) employees, dedicated to the City of Lincoln. Larsen moved to approve the 10% increase in the contract in the amount of \$15,708, effective January 2026 with the contract to be drawn up by the County and presented at a later date to the Governing Body. Motion was seconded by Corpstein, carried.

KEYLESS ENTRY:

Jamie Cunningham, INAalert, reviewed the different keyless entry quotes for the two (2) City Shops and Power Plant with a five year contract. After discussion, Larsen moved to accept the proposal for the Power Plant for two (2) doors and the new City Shop for three (3) doors to have keyless entry access in the total amount of \$16,560.90. Seconded by Corpstein, carried.

FLOODPLAIN MAP REPEAL
ORD #758:

City Attorney Norris presented an Ordinance entitled “**AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER IV, ARTICLE 9, SECTIONS 4-901 THROUGH 4-906 OF THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN CENTER, KANSAS, AND HEREBY WITHDRAWING FROM PARTICIPATION FROM THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM AND EFFECTIVELY REPEALING THE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS FOR THE CITY OF LINCOLN CENTER, KANSAS.**” Corpstein moved to pass said Ordinance, seconded by Larsen. Upon call for vote, the following Councilmembers voted Aye: Corpstein, Larsen, Luce, and Howard. Nay: None. The Ordinance was declared passed, was approved and signed by the Mayor, assigned #758 by the City Clerk, and ordered to be published once in the Official City Newspaper.

NUISANCES:

Public Officer, Glen Mallam reported on the nuisance list. Clerk Hillegeist was instructed to send a letter to the property owners of the five (5) dangerous and unfit structures giving them notice. Foreman Biggs was instructed to replace the slab of sidewalk where the tree was removed at 203 N 3rd Street. The Resolutions were tabled until June Council meeting.

FIREWORKS CHANGES:

The State of Kansas changed state statutes extending the time for discharge and the sales of fireworks. The Governing Body was not inclined to change the city code regarding the discharge of fireworks or sales.

AMR/AMI WATER METERS:

Clerk Hillegeist was encouraged to look for sources of funding for the automatic meter reading (AMR) project. Hillegeist and Foreman Biggs were instructed to obtain more than one bid for the project.

PERSONNEL:

Upon motion by Larsen, seconded by Luce , the employment of Taegen Meier, as the Swimming Lesson Instructor at \$35/participant, setting swimming lessons at \$45/week, with the understanding she would pay any additional help she needed, city will pay for lifeguard to be on duty during lessons, effective for the 2025 season.

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2026 BUDGET:

Clerk Hillegeist inquired if any of the Council had any projects in mind for the 2026 budget.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

/s/ Heather N. Hillegeist, MMC
City Clerk