

Council Meeting

July 8, 2024

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, Melodee K. Larsen, and Mark Luce. Officials present: Attorney Jeffrey A. Norris, and Clerk Heather N. Hillegeist. Also present: Superintendent Jeff Ahring.
- VISITORS: Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting: Nikki Flinn, Vicky Hook, Shelby Errebo, Carly Errebo, and Kelly Gourley.
- AGENDA AMENDMENTS: There were no amendments to the council meeting agenda.
- MINUTES: Upon motion by Larsen, seconded by Corpstein, Minutes of the June 10, 2024, meeting were approved as written.
- PAYROLL VOUCHER: Payroll Voucher No. 24-06, for June wages and salaries in the amount of \$78,591.97, was presented. A motion by Keever, seconded by Corpstein, to approve said Payroll Voucher, carried.
- ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Accounts Payable lists were reviewed. Invoices prepaid in June totaled \$33,646.02, and unpaid invoices received to date totaled \$135,994.92. Upon motion by Corpstein, seconded by Keever, all said invoices in the amount of \$169,640.94, were approved for payment.
- DELINQ. ACCNTS.: The Governing Body reviewed a list of eight (8) delinquent utility accounts totaling \$4,332.46.
- MUNICIPAL POOL USE: USD298 LJSHS Superintendent, Nikki Flinn asked if USD298 could use the Municipal Pool the first six days of school. Corpstein moved to authorize USD298 to use the Municipal Pool for physical education classes for six days after the pool closes to the public, from August 23rd to August 30th and August 13th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for a back-to-school party, with future requested dates to be relayed by Clerk Hillegeist. Motion was seconded by Larsen, carried.
- BASE GRANT AGREEMENT: Clerk Hillegeist presented the Governing Body with the Building A Stronger Economy (BASE) Grant agreement. This agreement is between the Kansas Department of Commerce and the City for renovations of a downtown building at 127 W. Lincoln Avenue. This project will use the vacant property and remodel it into office suites for small business startups. Keever moved to approve Mayor Schwerdtfager to sign The Kansas Department of Commerce Building a Stronger Economy (BASE) Grant Agreement on behalf of the City of Lincoln Center. Motion was seconded by Corpstein, carried.
- Attorney Norris presented the Governing Body with an agreement between the City and Lincoln County Economic Development Foundation (LCEDF) regarding the BASE Grant funding. Said agreement would make LCEDF responsible for completion of the project, matching funds, and default of the grant agreement. Keever moved for the Mayor to sign the agreement on behalf of the City of Lincoln Center, seconded by Larsen. Motion carried.
- LC IMPROVEMENT COMM: Lincoln Center Improvement Committee (LCIC) Member Carly Errebo, relayed they had completed the musical park instruments and were wanting to replace the walking bridge in the park for their next project. The council encouraged LCIC to contact Schwab-Eaton to get an understanding of what all would be necessary for the project. The city park is now located

in the flood plain area. The Governing Body is in support of the project but wants LCIC to be aware of the potential cost.

WATER LINES ORD #750: Attorney Norris presented “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER XV, AMENDING ARTICLE 2, SECTION 15-206 AND SECTION 15-211 TO THE CITY CODE OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN CENTER, KANSAS TO AMEND THE SAME TO DEMARCATATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE PROPERTY OWNER RELATED TO INSTALLATION OF SERVICE LINES AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SAME, AND FOR THE LOCATION OF METERS WITHIN THE CITY OF LINCOLN CENTER” Said ordinance amends Article 2, sections 15-206 and 15-211 of the city code in regards to owner/city responsibility for maintenance and installation and location of meters. Keever moved to pass said Ordinance, seconded by Larsen. Upon call for vote, the following Councilmembers voted Aye: Corpstein, Howard, Keever, Larsen, and Luce. Councilmembers voting Nay: None. The Ordinance was declared passed, was approved, and signed by the Mayor, assigned #750 by the City Clerk, and ordered to be published once in the Official City Newspaper

CITY HALL SIDEWALK BIDS: Superintendent Ahring presented the Governing Body with three (3) bids for replacing the damaged sidewalk in front of City Hall. After discussion, Keever moved to accept the bid from Ron Eberle Construction in the amount of \$15,733 with the city hauling off the old concrete, seconded by Luce. Motion carried.

POWER PLANT ENGINES: Superintendent Ahring updated the governing Body on what he had learned when researching bids for a new engine. Caterpillar no longer makes a 2000 kW Tier IV engine due to the emission standards. Ahring was instructed to have someone from Caterpillar attend the next council meeting for discussion.

ELECTRIC RATES: The Governing Body reviewed a list of neighboring cities’ current electric rates.

EQUIPMENT-BUCKET TRK: Superintendent Ahring relayed he received a call from Altec regarding bucket truck availability. After discussion, the Governing Body declined to purchase a new bucket truck at this time.

POOL: Superintendent Ahring reported he had decided to close the pool on Mondays to allow for maintenance and additional cleaning to be performed. Clerk Hillegeist was asked to contact Jyll Phillips to see about writing an article about the city pool in the future. The council requested to have a draft of the pool personnel policy draft available at the next meeting for review.

PERSONNEL: Clerk Hillegeist informed the Governing Body that Kansas Municipal Insurance Trust (KMIT) the city’s work comp carrier is recommending all their clients start utilizing the Post Offer Employment Testing (POET) program. Clerk Hillegeist said that KMIT shares the expense of the testing with the city to help reduce future work comp claims.

NUISANCE PROPERTIES: The Governing Body reviewed a list of nuisance properties that were mailed or served by law enforcement. Clerk Hillegeist reported all notices mailed were from complaints received at City Hall. Mayor Schwerdtfager was asked to contact law enforcement regarding the public officer position.

LAND SALE/CLOSING: Attorney Norris reported the sale contract was completed on June 24th and sent to Security 1st Title Company. The closing is to be held no later than 60 days from that date, the closing date should not extend past August 24, 2024.

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- DEMOLITION BID: Attorney Norris reported that the Invitation for Bid would be published in the newspaper July 10th with bids accepted at City Hall until August 9th at 10 a.m. Bids would be opened and awarded at the August 12th council meeting.
- FLOODPLAIN PERMITS: Clerk Hillegeist discussed recent communications received regarding permits in a floodplain area. After discussion, Hillegeist was instructed to contact Brett Wilkenson, Kirkham & Michael and ask if he would attend the August council meeting for discussion of contracting his services.
- BUDGET: Clerk Hillegeist prepared a report of 2025 budgeted items for the Governing Body’s review and requested input. The list consisted of items that have been discussed this year for future planning.
- STREET IMPROVEMENTS: Superintendent Ahring reported he has made contact with contractors for street work and is currently waiting on prices estimates. Ahring was requested to present the estimates to the Governing Body when he receives them.
- ADJOURN: There being no further business, Keever moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Larsen, carried. Council adjourned at 8:30p.m.

/s/ Heather N. Hillegeist, MMC
City Clerk