

Council Meeting

October 14, 2024

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: Angela K. Corpstein, Hayden Howard, Elijah Keever, Mark Luce, and Melodee K. Larsen. Officials present: Attorney Jeffrey A. Norris, City Clerk Heather N. Hillegeist. Also present: Superintendent Jeff Ahring.
- VISITORS: Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting: Kara Serrien, Kris Heinze, Steve Hlad, Lisa Feldkamp, Vicki Hook, Lois Horner, Scott Day, Nancy Walter, and Glen Mallam.
- AGENDA AMENDMENTS: There were no amendments to the council meeting agenda.
- MINUTES: Upon motion by Corpstein, seconded by Keever, Minutes of the September 9, 2024, regular meeting were approved as written.
- PAYROLL VOUCHER: Payroll Voucher No. 24-09, for September wages and salaries in the amount of \$77,852.85, was presented. A motion by Keever, seconded by Larsen, to approve said Payroll Voucher, carried.
- ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Accounts Payable lists were reviewed. Invoices prepaid in September totaled \$53,805.37, and unpaid invoices received to date totaled \$732,980.94. This includes a \$564,103.02 payment to South Central Sealing LLC for the milling and asphalt overlay per the proposal for Lincoln Avenue and a block North and South on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Streets in the amount of \$596,071.02. Upon motion by Keever, seconded by Corpstein, all invoices, in the amount of \$786,786.31, were approved for payment.
- DELINQ. ACCNTS: The Governing Body reviewed a list of fourteen (14) delinquent utility accounts totaling \$7,506.72.
- ANIMAL PERMIT HEARING: Mayor Schwerdtfager opened a hearing to hear comments regarding Kara Serrien's application for an animal permit for fourteen (14) chickens, three (3) ducks and one (1) horse on the property located at 502 E. South Street. All property owners within two hundred feet of the property lines were notified of the hearing as specified by the city code. Nancy Walter was in attendance in opposition to the animal permit due to the property being in the floodplain area with drainage flowing to her yard. Mayor Schwerdtfager closed the hearing. The animal permit was denied.
- CHAMBER BUSINESS BOO: Chamber manager Kris Heinze asked the Governing Body for permission to block Lincoln Avenue from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to the Rec Building, on North 4<sup>th</sup> to the alley as have been done in past years on October 31, 2024, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Governing Body had no objections to the annual Business Boo.
- CHAMBER XMAS PARADE: Chamber manager Kris Heinze requested the approval for use of barricades and street closure on December 14, 2024, for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual lighted Christmas parade. Heinze presented a list of barricades requested to block Lincoln Avenue from 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to 5<sup>th</sup> Street at 6 p.m. for the Christmas parade. The Governing Body had no opposition to the annual Christmas Parade requests.
- NUISANCE PROPERTY: Steve Hlad questioned if the Governing Body would be willing to leave one of the outbuildings on the nuisance property located at 306 E. Park that is in process of abatement.

After discussion, the council was unable to grant his request. The property is scheduled to be cleared by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

CITY FLAG: Lincoln Community Improvement Committee (LCIC) members Lisa Feldkamp and Vicki Hook asked the Governing Body if they would be in support of a project to create a “city flag.” There was no opposition to the idea. LCIC was encouraged to present their design proposals at a future meeting.

CURB & GUTTER REMOVAL: Lisa Feldkamp presented the Governing Body with pictures of her curb and gutter that she was requesting to remove to build a new garage. Feldkamp was approved to remove the existing curb and gutter, with the understanding that it would need to be replaced at the owner’s expense.

HEALTH INSURANCE: The Governing Body was presented with a Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan (MERP) for the city employees from Scott Day, Day Insurance Solutions, LLC. The proposal included that the umbrella plan would still be through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas (BCBS) with a \$6,000 deductible. However, the city would contract with Freedom Claims Management (FCMI) and use MERP claims funds to pay the difference from the \$6,000 deductible down to the \$3,500 deductible/coinsurance amount. There is potential for the city to save money if we have a healthier group, if all employees had a major health issue the city would be liable for \$42,500 for the current employee population. Following discussion, Keever moved to accept the proposal with Day Insurance Solutions, LLC for the Kansas Municipal Insurance Trust (KMIT) health insurance group plan year beginning January 1, 2025. Motion seconded by Luce, carried.

LIBRARY BOARD REQUESTS: The library board submitted a request to make a change to the restriction of city residency of all board members. The library board consists of seven (7) members, and they would like to have the flexibility to have two (2) members be Lincoln County residents if they could not find city residents to fill the positions. Attorney Norris was requested to present a Charter Ordinance for review and consideration at the November meeting.

AGENDA CHANGES: No changes were made to the agenda structure.

ANIMAL PERMITS/VIOLATIONS: Attorney Norris reported his findings to the Governing Body regarding other cities’ codes for animal permit violations. After discussion, Norris was asked to prepare necessary documents and Ordinances for review and consideration for the November meeting.

NUISANCES: Public Officer Glen Mallam reported on the nuisance list presented to the Governing Body.

TRANSFER FUNDS: Upon motion by Larsen, seconded by Corpstein, the transfer of \$30,000 from the Water Fund, \$150,000.00 from the Electric Fund, \$15,000.00 from the Sewer Fund and \$3,000.00 from the Solid Waste Fund to the City’s General Fund, was approved.

POOL HANDBOOK: Clerk Hillegeist presented the pool handbook for review and discussion. Following discussion, Keever moved to adopt the “Swimming Pool Handbook” with the requested changes sent to the Council for approval, seconded by Larsen. Motion carried. Hillegeist was given permission to start advertising for a pool manager for the 2025 pool season.

COURT: Attorney Norris was contacted by the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office regarding the curfew ordinance. Norris is working on an ordinance to update our Municipal Court Ordinances.

FLOODPLAIN PERMIT FEE: Clerk Hillegeist updated the Governing Body on the meeting with Brett Wilkinson, Kirkham Michael. Wilkinson had indicated his hourly wages beginning in 2025 will be \$200/hour for

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all floodplain reviews. Larsen moved for Attorney Norris to prepare an Ordinance to update our code book to reflect a \$200 floodplain application fee and update the building permit fee ordinance. Motion seconded by Luce, carried.

SUPERINTENDENT RPT: Superintendent Ahring reported on the street work project and discussion was had on selling millings.

ADJOURN: There being no further business, Corpstein moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Larsen, carried. Council adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

/s/ Heather N. Hillegeist, MMC  
City Clerk