



the Lindsborg City View

Quarterly Newsletter - Issue 64 - FEBRUARY 2023

Called to Service: We Rise By Lifting Others

Spring is near! There is probably still snow yet to fall, but that's okay—we'll hang onto the promise of warm sunshine. With the change of season comes a lot of reasons to celebrate in Lindsborg—the Chocolate Lover's Affair & Art Auction (Feb. 11), new art exhibits & concerts, fikas, Vaffeldagen (March 25), Jazz Walk (March 31), the egg-shell-abration event (April 1), the Messiah Festival of the Arts & Holy Week events, and so much more—and that's just before the next newsletter! All these events take LOTS of people to pull them off, even if from the outside it seems effortless. One of the things that makes Lindsborg so special is that people are always willing to lift others up.



This year we're adding an event to the calendar to spotlight all those people who do the heavy lifting! National Volunteer Month is observed each year in April, and the community is invited to the Sundstrom Conference Center to kick the celebration off with a Volunteer Fair on March 31. Browse through booths to learn about amazing community organizations & events that rely on volunteerism and see if you feel called to add your name to their teams (come on, we know you want to be a waffle!). Even if you don't feel called, that's okay—just come see what they're doing and learn more about this amazing community we call home. Finish the evening off with the Jazz Walk concert at 8 p.m., also at the Sundstrom. We are grateful to the Smoky Valley Community Foundation for their sponsorship of this event.

Giving back to the community and helping others makes us feel empowered, goal-driven, and fulfilled. Our world has been presented with incredible challenges the last few years, and we are grateful for the lifesaving, immeasurable, selfless, and tireless service of volunteers who have helped communities like ours to not only recover—but thrive.

In the following pages, learn how our community has been thriving because of the work of our dedicated team of employees at the city. Browse through each department's points of pride from 2022 (highlights only – we couldn't fit them all in!) and see what's on the horizon for the year ahead. Our team truly does rise by lifting others in our community, and we appreciate your trust in our staff and elected officials to carry this important work forward on your behalf.

By Kristi Northcutt, City Administrator



City Council



Clark Shultz
Mayor
cshultz@lindsborgcity.org



Corey Peterson
WARD 4 - President
cpeterson@lindsborgcity.org



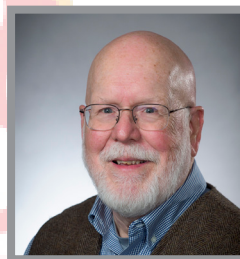
Tanner Corwin
WARD 1
tcorwin@lindsborgcity.org



Rebecca VanDerWege
WARD 1
rvanderwege@lindsborgcity.org



Kirsten Bruce
WARD 2
kbruce@lindsborgcity.org



John Presley
WARD 2
jpresley@lindsborgcity.org



Blaine Heble
WARD 3
bheble@lindsborgcity.org



Andrew Smith
WARD 3
asmith@lindsborgcity.org



Emile Gallant
WARD 4
egallant@lindsborgcity.org

CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DOG DETAILS

Don't forget to renew your dog license(s). \$5 is the cost for spayed/neutered dogs and \$25 if they're not spayed/neutered. Call City Hall to inquire or to set up an appointment to go in and purchase a 2023 license for your pup. A friendly reminder to be courteous to other residents and their dogs and please pick up after your dog when using the dog park.

PAY YOUR BILL ONLINE IN A SNAP

Visit lindsborgcity.org and click the link at the bottom of the page that will take you to the online bill pay center. You can also call City Hall if you have questions.

City Hall
785-227-3355

YEAR IN REVIEW 2022

Community Development

- Updated the Lindsborg Housing Needs Assessment, utilizing this document to apply and eventually be awarded \$600k for new, moderate-income housing at Stockholm Estates.
- Worked to secure 51 easements along Cow Creek and move the first phase of the Cow Creek Maintenance Project forward to protect the health and safety of residents and properties from future flooding events.
- Piloted *Lift Up Lindsborg!* in partnership with the McPherson Housing Coalition and the Kansas Civic Network, completing its first project that repainted a house! (See pg. 6)
- Facilitated the development of a new five-year strategic plan with Ad Hoc in partnership with the Community Development Director at the Old Mill & Swedish Heritage Museum, Caroline de Filippis.
- Welcomed its first intern, Ryan Holt, via the Bethany Pathways program – an exciting partnership with Bethany College!
- Worked with the Planning Commission to help develop the Mobile Food Vending Policy pilot program, allowing the community to host numerous food trucks throughout the year along with the first Food Truck Friday event.
- Developed *Lindsborg.com*, a new website geared towards attracting new families to live in Lindsborg.

Public Works

- Water Superintendent Lynn Johnson retired after 26.5 years with the city. Thank you, Lynn!
- Continued the sewer line maintenance program cleaning 10,000 linear feet of sanitary sewer lines.
- Began the upgrade of the wastewater SCADA system combined with a new integrated water telemetry system to form an all-in-one control system.
- Began working with Wichita State University and KDHE personnel on a wastewater treatment process study to enhance the nutrient removal process.
- Began the process of adding a second transformer to the electric substation to provide additional capacity as well as added redundancy. Project slated for completion mid-2023.
- Completed 60% of the changeout of electric meters and conversion to AMI system.
- Completed the first year of chip seal/FOG seal completing 17 blocks or 19,535 sq/yds.
- Poured 400 feet of new cart path along hole number one at the golf course.
- Worked with Wilson & Co. on a Contract Services Agreement and Taks Orders to help assist with funding options for street maintenance projects.

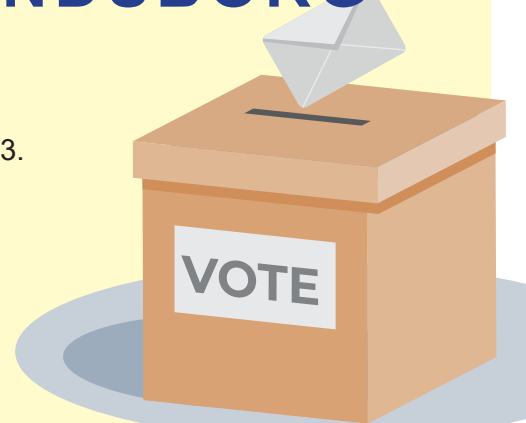
ELECTION SEASON IN LINDSBORG

Deadline for candidates to file is June 1 at noon

Interested in running for office and having a say in your community?

Lindsborg has four Council seats and the mayor position up for election in 2023.

Those interested in running for local office must file with the County Clerk in McPherson by noon on June 1. Visit lkm.org for more info and details on how to run and what to know as you contemplate public service.



YEAR
IN
REVIEW

2022

Convention & Visitors Bureau

- Appeared in numerous online and print articles highlighting Lindsborg.
- Billboards outside the Oklahoma City Metro area generated more than 900k impressions helping in driving visitors to Lindsborg.
- CVB received six grants, totaling more than \$20,000, in 2022 all to help promote our community.
- 2022 was busy with special projects: Soderstrom 4th grade Community Service Day, Search for the Wild Dala, Smart watch faces (see pg. 8), Coronado Heights Kite Fly, and more.
- CVB worked with the Kansas Department of Tourism on a project to make Kansas the first state in the Union to map their gravel bicycling routes. The project will continue into 2023.
- The Transient Guest Tax (TGT) is paid by visitors staying 21 nights or less in a lodging establishment. The CVB, working with local lodging to help promote overnight stays in Lindsborg, finished 2022 with four record-breaking quarters of TGT marking the highest total since the city began tracking in 2005.
- Sundstrom Conference Center hosted 65 events and welcomed 3,498 guests through its doors.

Public Safety

- Lindsborg Police Department (LPD) responded to 1,444 calls for service in 2022.
- Took part in D.A.R.E graduation ceremony, Coffee with a Cop program, recognition from MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) for efforts towards making the community safe. (See pg. 9)
- Welcomed three new members to the LPD team and three new fire personnel.
- Lindsborg Volunteer Fire Department responded to 186 calls for service.
- Lindsborg EMS responded to 508 calls for service.

Parks Department

- The Tree Board, Parks Department, and Community Development worked in conjunction to digitally map all the parks and downtown street trees. This will allow us to create a tree inventory and collect critical tree data.
- Lindsborg was awarded \$7,000 from the Kansas Creative Arts Commission to replace mural panels in Swensson Park. (See pg. 10)
- A Lindsborg USD 400 student was chosen the district winner in the annual Kansas Forest Service poster contest. The Parks Dept., USD 400, & Tree Board made it possible by helping young people understand the importance of trees and the environment.

YEAR
IN
REVIEW

2022

Recreation

- All 24 lifeguards and managers became Starguard Elite Guards, a certification that enhances knowledge and skills to better prepare our guards for safety at the Lindsborg Swimming Pool.
- Over 250 participants in swim lesson classes in 2022; opened extra sessions for local daycare centers.
- Taught four sessions of Safe Sitter classes in partnership with the Lindsborg Community Hospital (LCH). This helps 5th-8th grade students learn the importance of babysitting, along with basic CPR.
- Partnered with LCH to build the Fredrickson Family Fitness Park, located at the south trailhead parking lot. A grand opening will take place in Spring 2023.
- Continued to grow in every sport category in 2022, with help from the Mid Kansas League.
- Golf course membership continues to grow. Fairway, greens and cart path improvements continued, too.

Finance

- Modified the credit card reconciliation process to comply with an audit recommendation, to have a tighter checks-and-balances system, and that also is paperless.
- Implemented a reduction in the amount of paper storage. We have moved to a digital archive, versus having paper, which has resulted in the quicker retrieval of documents needed, and a reduction in the amount of space required to house paper documents.
- Assisted in the implementation of a new camera system. This is used by the Police Department to assist in solving crimes, and to ensure the safety of our employees.
- Updated the process of our invoice processing. Someone that enters the invoices, a different person prints and signs the checks, and then a third person stuffs and mails all checks.
- Tightened controls of signature stamps. They are now in the possession of the person whose signature is on the stamp, and only used in emergency situations after approval has been obtained.
- The budget process has been changed to include all department heads throughout the entire process. Most notably would be that they collaborate in the process of setting the budget for their department.
- InCode 10 upgrade will enable staff to be more productive and have better capabilities when it comes to reporting. This software is used by the finance department, utility billing, and court.
- A server upgrade was performed for the continued security of the network. A newer version of Microsoft Sever was installed that also includes added security. Finally, it provided some needed upgrades that InCode 10 required.
- Recognized with a KMIT 5-star rating.
- Upgraded by Moody's Investors from A2 to A1.



On the horizon in 2023

Community Development has an even busier year ahead in 2023 (and 2022 was packed!), including working on the following items:

- Lindsborg Rec Center research, planning and development
- Comprehensive Housing Strategy development
- Transportation infrastructure improvements — Safe Streets & Roads for All grant
- *Lift Up Lindsborg!* program update and expansion (see more below)
- Cow Creek maintenance project Phase 1 completion
- Service improvements: Online access maps, permit applications, inspection services and proactive code compliance policy.
- Downtown Appearance Guidelines development with Planning Commission, Design Review Board, and residents.



Substation transformer project update

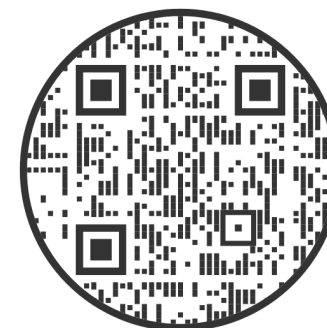
This project started after the Mother's Day outage in 2021 and led staff to try and find solutions to prevent the same situation from repeating. The current transformer is a 1967 model unit and at peak loads, the transformer is about at its capacity. Replacing the unit with a single larger unit helps with capacity; however, that still leaves Lindsborg vulnerable to an entire town outage. The addition of a second similar-sized unit provides for the needed added capacity while also addressing the concerns regarding redundancy.

In March of 2022, the City Council approved a Master Service Agreement with KMEA Mid-States and Task Order #1 for preliminary engineering for the addition of a second substation transformer. In August of 2022, the City Council approved the quote to purchase a second substation transformer along with Task Order No. 2 through KMEA Mid-States for all work related to and including the installation of the second transformer. The transformer was ordered and is going through the engineering and approval process with production starting this late spring.

Due to long lead times, many of the new components required for the project, such as breakers and switches, were also ordered to ensure a viable delivery date. Last fall, crews began trenching and placing some of the underground conduits and formed and poured a new base for the new tiebreaker which will be connected to the new transformer. A fence company also extended the fence to allow for the expansion and addition of the second transformer. City staff has been working in coordination with KMEA Mid-States on preparing the site and removing old items. As the weather improves in the spring, crews will return and begin the process of building a foundation for the new transformer and work on installing equipment as it comes in. The goal is to have all the prep work complete prior to the delivery of the new unit and then when it is delivered, it can be set in its location and then connected, tested, and brought online in a more expedient manner. With a second transformer in place, the city will be much better prepared for a growth in population as well as better able to handle a failure within the current 55-year-old transformer should one occur.

LEAD & COPPER SURVEY REMINDER

Just a reminder that if you have not already done so, please take time to complete and submit the Lead & Copper Survey. This survey will help the Water Department collect data that is required by the EPA and the Kansas Department of Health & Environment as part of the Revised Lead & Copper Rule. These changes have come about because of the events that occurred in Flint, Michigan in 2014. The survey was sent out in the December 2022 utility bills, and it can also be found online at lindsborgcity.org/water. Thank you for your assistance.



Scan the QR code to access the one-page survey. Fill out and return to City Hall at your convenience. Thank you for your input and time!

WATER SUPERINTENDENT LYNN JOHNSON RETIREMENT

Lynn Johnson started his career with the city in September of 1996 and after a few years of working in the street department, he transferred to the water department where he spent the rest of his career. Lynn worked alongside Jere Ellis for 10 years until his retirement. Then Lynn trained and worked with a few other operators for the next 13 years. Lynn has been instrumental in numerous water projects throughout his career replacing and installing several thousands of feet of water lines and water meters. Lynn's knowledge of the water system, his attention to detail, and his "get it done" work ethic have been instrumental to always keeping the department moving forward.



Pictured: Lynn Johnson (left) with Mayor Shultz on his last day.

The first house in the LUL! program was completed last December. In partnership with McPherson Housing Coalition and the Kansas Civic Network, LUL! aims to assist local residents improve the exteriors of their homes through matching grants, volunteer-led painting of homes and lawn maintenance.

More is in store for 2023 — keep an eye out!



Pictured right: The LUL! program's first completed home in Lindsborg.



"Be a star in someone's dark sky." — M. Dhiwayo

Posten keeps locals & tourists plugged in

The Lindsborg Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) creates an electronic newsletter that shares topics of interest to locals and potential visitors. The newsletter is sent to anyone who requests information about Lindsborg and is also shared on social media. Additional news releases were sent out in 2022 to cover events that were not announced to the CVB before the Posten release date each month. Email the CVB office if you'd like to be added to the distribution list: travelinfo@lindsborgcity.org.



DALA ON THE GO!



In December of 2022, CVB staff created Lindsborg smart watch faces for visitors and residents to enjoy and help remind them of their love for Lindsborg on a daily basis. Watch faces can be downloaded, for free, from the Facer App, available in the Apple and Google App stores, and will work on multiple smart watch platforms.

SEARCH FOR THE WILD DALA

In partnership with a young artist from Hutchinson, the CVB launched Search for the Wild Dala last year. These suncatchers were hidden throughout the community in places visitors and residents would hopefully explore. Each suncatcher was unique, numbered and dated for tracking by CVB staff. The lucky finders were encouraged to share their discovery on social media and got to keep the Dala as a keepsake. This project proved wildly popular, and it will continue through 2023.



"I had been trying to find one for awhile and saw the hint about history, so I immediately went to a few places. I got to the cemetery and saw the directory building and thought that was a good spot to look. I didn't find anything and almost left but luckily thought maybe I could open this one container that was there and sure enough it was hidden inside the container!" — from Christina, who found the dala pictured middle at Elmwood Cemetery.

"The happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more." – H. Jackson Brown Jr.

Lindsborg Police Department impacting our community

Throughout the year, officers and staff make an impact in various ways.

Officer Eric Kruckenberg emceed the graduation ceremony for our local D.A.R.E. program where he educated the entire sixth-grade class on the dangers associated with alcohol and drug use and abuse.

The Lindsborg Police Department, along with the McPherson County Sheriff's Department hosted one Coffee with a Cop event at the White Peacock. Coffee with a Cop brings police officers and deputies together with members of our community over coffee to discuss issues, ask questions and learn more about each other.

Officer Derek Bartlett, who recently moved to Colorado, was recognized by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers) for his tireless efforts towards making our community safer through his DUI and drug enforcement efforts. Derek was also one of only two officers in McPherson County who was a recognized drug recognition expert.

The Lindsborg Police Department continues to partner with the Kansas Narcotics Officers Association to sponsor various training sessions at the Sundstrom Conference Center for Kansas law enforcement officers throughout the county. This training continues to be coordinated by Sgt. Terry Reed and used experts in the field of narcotics and other related law enforcement curriculum to train law enforcement professionals.

The Department continues to participate in the Blue Santa program. The mission of the Blue Santa program is to provide toys to families in need during the holiday season. This year we served about 21 kids who attend school in the Smoky Valley School District area.

In fourth quarter of 2023 and into the first quarter of 2024, the Public Safety Center will undergo a renovation project. The phased project will begin with a full interior renovation, followed by an exterior façade update. The current facility, built in the mid-1980s, is in dire need of safety and technology updates, as well as updated infrastructure that will allow both the public and the police/fire departments to function more efficiently. This project is funded in the budget as a capital improvement project with no additional burden to taxpayers. As the time approaches to begin the project, more details about how the public will be impacted during the construction phase will be shared.



Winners of the 2023 Kansas Forest Service Arbor Day Poster Contest have been selected

The Tree Board has completed their annual selection of winners from the fifth-grade students from USD 400. This poster contest is sponsored by the Kansas Forest Service and is used to incorporate understanding and appreciation of the environment for students. Information about the state regional winners will be released in April by the Kansas Forest Service.

Way to go to everyone who participated! The winners are featured below.



1st place
Brooklyn Ebert



2nd place
Abigail Hlad



3rd place
Maxxum Hitt

Viking Valley Mural Art Project Update

January marked the mid-point in the project time line, which makes for an appropriate update on the project. All artists are currently working on their prospective piece. One artist has submitted their finished work; it is currently stored while a digital reproduction is made. The reproduction will consist of a corrugated aluminum backing.

A vinyl wrap with a reproduction of the original artwork will be fixed to the aluminum panel. The reproduction piece will hang at the park and will fit into the old frames along the fence line of the playground.

Thanks to all the donors that helped complete this project. This project was also funded by the Kansas Creative Art Commission Industries.



Fredrickson Family Fitness Park set to open this spring

The Lindsborg Community Health Care Foundation and The City of Lindsborg are excited to announce The Fredrickson Family Fitness Park partnership project! This joint effort is located next to the south trail head of Valkommen Trail.

The project is designed to positively contribute to the overall state of wellness for all users physically, socially, and mentally, and will provide a dedicated space for outdoor fitness and exercise. Residents of all abilities can enjoy a sense of community while improving their strength, agility, and flexibility.

The park is named to celebrate the life of Dr. Duane Fredrickson—beloved Lindsborg family physician, exercise enthusiast, historian, and community volunteer. This project was 100% fundraised through grants and donors to the project and we are so thankful that we are able to complete this wonderful addition to the Lindsborg community.

There will be a Grand Opening taking place in the Spring; please plan to join us to celebrate this wonderful, finished accomplishment.



Progress photos from the site.

REC: What's on tap!

Youth soccer registration:	Feb. 9-March 9
Baseball/softball registration:	March 28-April 21
Egg Shellabration:	April 1
Golf Course opens:	April 3
Family Fun Run event: <i>time TBD at time of print</i>	April 22

Visit lindsborgrec.org for more details & to register.





The City of Lindsborg
101 S. Main
PO Box 70
Lindsborg, KS 67456

PRSRRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
LINDSBORG, KS
PERMIT #1

ECRWSS

Local
Postal Customer

UPCOMING EVENTS

www.visitlindsborg.com/lindsborg-calendar-of-events
www.lindsborgcity.org

City Council Meetings: Feb. 6 & 20, March 6 & 20, April 3 & 17; 6:30 p.m. at City Hall
Meetings are streamed on our Facebook and YouTube channels.

City Offices Closed: April 7 (Good Friday)

Planning Commission & Design Review Board Meeting: Feb. 28, March 28 & April 25
6 p.m. at City Hall

Tree Board Meeting: Feb. 21, March 21 & April 18; 8:30 a.m. at City Hall

Family Fun Run event: April 22 (Details TBA)

Recycling Center: Open 24/7; please be considerate with noise levels.



Scheduled events are subject to change.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Police, Fire and Ambulance:	911 or 785.227.2988 (non-emergency)
Water, Sewer, Electric, Streets:	785.227.3428
Water, Sewer, Electric, Streets:	785.227.3469 (after hours, weekends and holidays)