

LINDSBORG CITY COUNCIL
Lindsborg City Hall
November 1, 2021– 6:30 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Becky Anderson, Ed Radatz, Rick Martin, Kirsten Bruce, Blaine Heble, Emile Gallant, Rebecca Van Der Wege, Jodi Duncan

ABSENT:

Mark Friesen

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jeff Waugh, Steve Borell, Allan Anderson, Greg DuMars, Beth Ferguson, Holly Lofton, Chief Davis, David Hay, Lucas Neece, Chris Lindholm

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Becky Anderson followed by the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Pastor Jeff Waugh shared a prayer on behalf of The Associated Churches of Lindsborg (T.A.C.O.L.). Steve Borell thanked Council for considering the recognition of John W. Peterson's 100th birthday.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA: .

No amendments.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Anderson read a proclamation recognizing John W. Peterson and naming November 1, 2021, which would have been his 100th birthday, John W. Peterson day.

Kirsten Bruce moved to approve the proclamation naming November 1, 2021, as John W. Peterson day. Seconded by Blaine Heble and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Tomorrow is election day. There will be 4 council positions and the mayor on the ballot.

City Hall will be closed on November 11 in honor of Veterans Day.

Mayor Anderson congratulated Smoky Valley, the volleyball team took 3rd at State, the boy's cross-country team took third and this was the first time that the boys and girls cross country teams went to State. The mayor thanked the athletes, parents and grandparents who take the time to support these athletes.

CONSENT AGENDA: Kirsten Bruce moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2021, regular council meeting, Payroll Ordinance 5327, and Purchase Order Ordinance 5328. Motion seconded by Rick Martin and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Appointments

No appointments.

Planning and Zoning:

No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Biosolids Pump Repair

In October, the wastewater staff was preparing to haul sludge when they received a seal alarm on the biosolids pump in the loadout tank. After making the appropriate checks to confirm there was not an error, they pulled the pump in for inspection. There were no obvious issues with the pump, so JCI was contacted. They picked the pump up to take in for diagnosis; they found a bad seal on the pump which required a new seal kit. JCI did not have a kit on hand but were able to get one sent express delivery. They disassembled the pump and installed the new seal kit.

There is redundancy with most of the Flygt pumps and mixers throughout the plant, there is only one pump for the loadout tank. With the pump down there is no way to haul liquid sludge. Liquid storage had been limited because staff have not had any fields to haul to for a while because of crop rotations. The filter press can be used but the polymer on hand, which is used to process sludge, was low and lead times for replacement are 6 to 8 weeks out. Per the purchase policy, this pump is an essential item and thus the repair was made, and the invoice is then brought to Council for approval. As a note, this invoice was originally \$300.00 higher, a little relief was negotiated bringing it to \$3,725.00.

Blaine Heble moved to approve invoice 8221758 from JCI Industries for the repair of the holding tank sludge pump for \$3,725.00. Seconded by Emile Gallant and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Sewer Maintenance

Each year as part of the normal sewer maintenance plan, a contractor is hired to come in and clean a given amount of sewer lines in town. The contractor comes to town and staff directs them to clean known problem areas and then they will work on other areas where staff may have had some concern in the past. Lastly, they will clean lines to try and cover a certain area of town or clean a complete length of line from beginning to end. This program was started 24 years ago and has resulted in a drastic reduction of sewer backups. Years ago, it was not uncommon to have 12 to 15 sewer backups each year, today there are maybe 1 to 2 and some years there have been none. This reduction can be directly attributed to the proactive approach to sewer maintenance.

There are not a lot of companies around that do this work. There have been a couple of companies in Wichita that we have dealt with in the past. One of those companies have been in and out of that part of the business and is not responsive when quotes are requested. Mayer Specialty Services has been a very reliable company to deal with and we have dealt with them for many years. Their price per foot has also remained the same the last 5 years.

Emile Gallant moved to approve the quote from Mayer Specialty Services to clean sewers as part of the annual sewer maintenance program for a not to exceed price of \$8,500. Seconded by Rebecca Van Der Wege and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

American Recovery Program Act (ARPA) Funding to EMS

The transition to contracted EMS services was necessitated by the impact of COVID-19 which reduced the number of available volunteers.

While the provision of EMS services in rural America is broadly in crisis, the Lindsborg EMS had generally been able to maintain compliance with state mandated requirements for availability of services. However, due to a combination of an increase in the number of calls due to Covid-19, volunteers quarantined, and employers forbidding their employees from volunteering due to the risk of Covid to their business continuation, over the course of the pandemic it became impossible to continue as a volunteer service.

The Kansas Board of Emergency Services, during their April 1, 2021, meeting found LEMS was in violation of Kansas statutes (K.S.A. 65-6135 and K.A.R. 109-2-6) and recommended assessing a fine against the City of Lindsborg. During the same meeting KBEMS opened a new investigation (21-025) for the same violations.

For these reasons, and to enable the EMS service to continue to provide this necessary public health and safety service in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, City Council approved a contract with AMR to provide EMS services in our service territory. The guidelines of the American Rescue Plan Act and the interim guidance provided on May 17, 2021, state that "eligible uses under this category (Public Health and Economic Impacts) must be in response

to the disease itself or the harmful consequences of the economic disruptions resulting from or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency.”

Motion to approve the expenditure of ARPA funds in the amount of \$187,500 to meet the City’s financial obligations under the contract with AMR to provide EMS services, to respond to the harmful consequences of the economic disruptions exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Ed Radatz moved to approve the expenditure of ARPA funds in the amount of \$187,500 to meet the City’s financial obligations under the contract with AMR to provide EMS services, in order to respond to the harmful consequences of the economic disruptions exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Seconded by Rick Martin and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Fire Run and Honorarium Stipend

Council was provided with a copy of the Fire Service Honorarium Policy. The Honorarium policy has not been updated in approximately 14 years. The new Honorarium policy would increase the run fee stipend from \$15.00 per fire run or training meeting attended to \$20.00 per event. It also increases the service honorarium which is designed to recognize and reward those active members who have consistently responded on calls and attended regular training sessions throughout their years of volunteer service to the Lindsborg Volunteer Fire Department. The service honorarium was also created as a tool to retain experienced firefighting personnel while encouraging others to meet participation requirements.

Blaine Heble moved to approve the amended City of Lindsborg Fire Service Honorarium Policy. Seconded by Emile Gallant and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

2022 Legislative Priorities

The 2022 Legislative Priorities are attached. The following priorities are the same as 2021:

- Home Rule
- High Quality Childcare
- Tourism as an Economic Development Tool
- Internet Sales Tax Collections
- Property Valuation
- Health, Well Being and Quality of Life

Following are the additions for 2022:

- Countywide Sales and Use Taxes
- Library Funding
- Housing
- Tax/Spending Lid
- Energy Spikes
- Filing for Office

Following are deletions from 2021 for 2022:

- Tax Lid Repeal
- Internet Sales Tax Collections
- Budget Timeline
- EMS/Hospital Funding
- Police Reform

Kirsten Bruce moved to approve the 2022 City of Lindsborg Legislative Priorities. Seconded by Emile Gallant and passed unanimously by voice vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Rick Martin moved to go into executive session to discuss matters related to non-elected personnel pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) for 30 minutes. The open meeting will resume at 7:32 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Seconded by Emile Gallant and passed unanimously by voice vote.

No action was taken. Rick Martin moved that Council go back to the regular Council session. Seconded by Blaine Heble and passed unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Kirsten Bruce. Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Roxie Sjogren
City Clerk