

LINDSBORG CITY COUNCIL
Lindsborg City Hall
November 17, 2025–6:30 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Clark Shultz, Corey Peterson, Rebecca Van Der Wege, Kirsten Bruce, Blaine Heble, Joshua Swanson, John Presley, Tanner Corwin, Larry Lysell

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tanner Faust, Roxie Sjogren, Holly Lofton, Denny Walker, Chief Terry Reed, David Hay, Milton Collins, Noah Flores, Scott Bontz, Erica Kruckenberg, Suzanna Swenson, Jamie Samson

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

PUBLIC INPUT:

Jamie Samson spoke on his concern regarding smart meters and how they affect those with medical issues.

Lindsborg Library Director Suzanna Swenson invited Council to attend the Library Phase One Grand Opening on Saturday, November 22, 2025.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

There was one amendment to the agenda; Aubrey Wheeler was no longer able to attend to give her update on the Old Mill.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Shultz shared his condolences on the passing of previous Lindsborg mayor John Magnuson.

Trystan and Joshua Swanson have coordinated a swap meet for Saturday, November 22, 2025, from 10am-1pm at Soderstrom Elementary School.

Tonight is the last meeting for Councilmembers Presley, Bruce, Corwin and Peterson. Mayor Shultz thanked them for their service to the City.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Kirsten Bruce moved to approve the minutes from the November 3, 2025, regular Council meeting, Payroll Ordinance 5562 and Purchase Order Ordinance 5563. Motion seconded by Councilmember Larry Lysell and passed 8-0 by roll call vote.

APPOINTMENTS:

There were no appointments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no committee reports.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sewer Line Maintenance

Each year as part of the normal sewer maintenance plan, a contractor will clean a given number of sewer lines in town based on the amount budgeted. Typically, a crew will come in, and staff will direct them to clean known problem areas, and then they will work on other areas where staff may have had some concerns in the past. Lastly, they will clean lines to try to cover a certain area of town or clean a complete length of line from beginning to end. This program was started 28 years ago and has resulted in a drastic reduction in sewer backups. Years ago, it was not uncommon to have 12 to 15 sewer backups each year, today there are maybe 1 or 2, and the last couple years there have been none. This reduction can be directly attributed to the proactive approach to sewer line maintenance and keeping ahead of problems.

There are a limited number of companies that do sewer maintenance cleaning and no one local. Mayer Specialty Service from Goddard, KS has been doing the work in Lindsborg for many years. This year staff contacted Mayer and also Johnson Service Company from Kearney, NE. Mayer was the only one to respond with a quote for this year's maintenance.

This work is quoted as a not to exceed price for the amount budgeted for the year. Staff will plan out the work needed to fit within the amount of funds budgeted. This year there is \$15,000 Budgeted and this should allow for approximately 16,000 linear feet of sewer line to be cleaned.

Councilmember Tanner Corwin moved to approve the quote from Mayer Specialty Services to clean sanitary sewers as part of the annual sewer maintenance program, not to exceed the budgeted price of \$15,000.00. Seconded by Councilmember John Presley and passed 8-0 by roll call vote.

Dog Park Improvements

The Scentral Bark Dog Park, established in 2019 through community donations, has become a beloved gathering place for the public and their dogs. Its success reflects the strong community spirit and shared love for pets within our area.

Recently, a generous donor with ties to our community expressed interest in contributing further to the park's development. After touring the park and discussing potential improvements, the donor has agreed to fund several additions, including new benches, a pergola, additional trees, and an additional dog pen.

To move this project forward, I have reached out to multiple fence builders and construction contractors to obtain pricing quotes for these enhancements.

I received quotes from the following:

RJ Fencing- Fence Construction \$ 26,196

Advanced Fence- Fence Construction \$ 19,000

Seek First- Fence Construction \$ 12,840.95

Coy Construction- Fence Construction \$ 23,400

Mid Kansas Construction- 2 benches and 1 Pergola \$3,840.99

Councilmember Kirsten Bruce moved to accept the bid from Advanced Fence to construct one dog pen fence for \$19,000, and a bid from Mid Kansas Construction to construct 2 benches and 1 pergola for \$3,840.99 for a total of \$22,840.99. Seconded by Councilmember Rebecca Van Der Wege and passed 8-0 by roll call vote.

Transformers

After an incident involving our utility pole and 3 phase bank being hit by a Dollar General delivery truck, it was recommended to me by staff to order 3 new transformers for the replacement. We currently have 3- 50 KVA transformers in stock, but their impedance will not allow them to work together. Purchasing 3 more allowed us to shorten the outage for our customer and gives us existing transformers to be moved to stock for this kind of situation in the future.

At the July 7th council meeting, it was approved to purchase a 150KVA 120/240 transformer for the price of \$15,235.00. This was needed to replace a failed transformer. This caused a widespread outage on the east circuit. After further research it was determined that a 100KVA transformer would be sufficient, so we purchased the 100KVA transformer at a cost of \$7,807.35 saving \$7427.65.

After the October 24th incident involving our utility pole, I approved staff to purchase 3-50KVA 7200/12470Y-120/240 transformers from Midwest Transformer Service at a cost of \$11,070.45. With money saved on the 100KVA transformer this would leave a remaining balance of \$3642.80.

Councilmember Tanner Corwin moved to approve an additional \$3,642.80 for the purchase of 3-50KVA Transformers from Midwest Transformer Service that totaled \$11,070.45. Seconded by Larry Lysell and passed 8-0 by roll call vote.

SCKEDD Grant Writing: Housing Rehabilitation

The Council welcomed Megan Unruh and Stephanie Marsh of the South-Central Kansas Economic Development District (SCKEDD) during a study session to share details about the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Rehabilitation Grant. This grant awards cities up to \$300,000 in funding for eligible housing projects, including housing rehabilitation or demolition of residential structures. The program can be applied to either a targeted area or implemented citywide. Unlike other CDBG grants, there is a “direct benefit” to low-income residents which eliminates the City’s requirement to meet the LMI (Low-Moderate Income) threshold to qualify for funding. This distinction makes the program more accessible and flexible for communities seeking to improve local housing conditions.

If awarded, the grant will serve as a replacement for the “Lift Up Lindsborg” program, continuing the City’s efforts to preserve and enhance housing quality for residents. Eligible improvements under the grant include insulation, siding, roofing, HVAC systems, windows, and other essential repairs or upgrades that improve safety, efficiency, and livability.

City staff have met with SCKEDD representatives and have developed a clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of both parties to ensure effective administration and successful implementation of the program.

Councilmember Kisten Bruce moved to approve the grant writing contract with SCKEDD in the amount of \$3,000. Seconded by Councilmember John Presley and passed 8-0 by roll call vote.

Federico/Duerst Consulting Agreement

Since 2018, the City has maintained a relationship with Federico/Duerst Consulting for advocacy services to help build and enhance relationships with state legislators, executives, and agencies within the state.

Attached is a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for Council’s consideration. In exchange for services, the city will agree to pay \$2,500 a month (\$30,000 per annum). The term of this contract will be 1 (one) calendar year and begin on January 1, 2026.

As stated in the agreement, Federico Duerst offers the following services.

"In an effort to comply with this Agreement and specific requests of LKS for work to be performed in Kansas, FD agrees to monitor and lobby the Kansas Legislature. FD also agrees, when asked in writing by Lindsborg, to assist in the planning, development, and implementation of strategic plans that will help Lindsborg achieve its specifically stated objectives. Additionally, FD further agrees to assist in the preparation and presentation of testimony offered on Lindsborg's behalf when requested in writing by Lindsborg. FD will make a good faith effort to keep Lindsborg and/or its designees informed on a timely basis in a manner acceptable to Lindsborg and said preferred manner conveyed in writing to FD".

The "Meet in the Middle" rural summit has been hosted in Lindsborg since 2019. This past year there were 93 registered attendees. The purpose of this event is to bring legislators, community leaders, and economic development professionals in from across the state to discuss the happenings of legislature as well as what problems face rural Kansas.

Federico/Duerst also provides daily committee reports and weekly recaps during the legislative session, as well as calls, virtual and in-person meetings, and talking points on bills that potentially or directly impact Lindsborg.

Councilmember Blaine Heble moved to approve the MOA at a cost of \$2,500 a month as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Rebecca Van Der Wege and passed 8-0 by roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Joshua Swanson moved for adjournment, seconded by Councilmember John Presley, and passed 8-0 by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Roxie Sjogren, MMC
City Clerk