



the Lindsborg City View

Quarterly Newsletter - Issue 62 - August 2022

Respecting history, planning for the future

By Kristi Northcutt, City Administrator

This was a CRAZY busy summer; what a great time to be in Lindsborg! I hope you had the opportunity to enjoy Midsummer's, the Old Fashioned Fourth, Christmas in July, Broadway RFD, Storm the Castle, and the many other fun things that took place in our wonderful community. We all know that events, businesses & restaurants make Lindsborg a great place to live and work, but we're also continually recognized as a great place for tourists. Once again, we've been named by Travel Awaits as one of the *Favorite U.S. Small Towns to Visit* and one of the *Favorite U.S. Small Town to Visit at the Holidays!*



This summer, we also welcomed new USD 400 Superintendent Heath Hogan to the community. Mr. Hogan comes to Lindsborg from Garden City, where he served most recently as Deputy Superintendent. He's quickly acclimating and planning for the school year while building on the great foundation laid by Mr. Suppes. It's important that the city develop and maintain a strong, respectful relationship with the school district and Bethany College. I have enjoyed getting to know President Mauch and I am excited to collaborate with Mr. Hogan (photos below). We're brainstorming for the future!

City staff has been busy this summer preparing the 2023 Budget that addresses City Council's priorities. Even amidst inflation and rising prices, we're in excellent financial shape. We've worked diligently to reduce expenses while also recognizing that doing business and keeping up the community comes at a cost. It's also important that we continue to invest in our excellent workforce, without whom our city couldn't operate. On Sept. 6, City Council will adopt a budget after several rounds of study sessions and public meetings, and staff is confident that the final budget will place the city in a strong position for the coming year. By the end of August, residents should receive a notice from the McPherson County Clerk with details of the public hearing and the tax rate/mill levy information for Lindsborg. We tip our hats to those who've come before us and alongside us who have helped to ensure the city's stability.



As you continue to read through this edition of the newsletter, we hope you enjoy a look back at the past few months, and get excited for what's ahead. We also hope that you share our pride in the achievements of the summer, and that as sweater weather approaches once again (it won't be long now!), that you are warmed by all that there is to be proud of in Lindsborg.



Connect with us!

BOXCAST



@CityLindsborgKS



www.facebook.com/LindsborgCity

Visit our City webpage at www.lindsborgcity.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Neighborhood Party Grant

This popular grant provides up to \$200 for a neighborhood party. The City will reimburse party planners for food, paper goods, and other expenses. We enjoyed seeing pictures from last year's parties, and the hope of Council is that this helps to foster neighborliness and the sense of belonging that is so important to our community. www.lindsborgcity.org/NeighborhoodPartyGrantInformation

Online Bill Pay is Available

Please visit www.lindsborgcity.org for more information. There is a link at the bottom of the website's homepage that will take you to the online bill pay center. Please call City Hall at 785-227-3355 if you have any questions regarding online bill paying.

Solar Panels Interconnection Agreement

The Public Works Department will work with residents and their preferred solar companies to ensure that solar on your home or business is the right size and not overgenerating. If you're thinking of adding solar, ask for a copy of the *Parallel Generation Interconnection Application*. Learn more on pg. 4.

Now Hiring: Join Team Lindsborg

The City is or will soon be hiring for the following full-time positions: Police Officer; Communications Director; and Water/Wastewater Operator. We are always recruiting volunteer firefighters to join the Fire Department (see pg. 6). Visit our website or contact Roxie Sjogren for details: roxies@lindsborgcity.org

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Clark Shultz: cshultz@lindsborgcity.org

Rebecca VanDerWege: rvanderwege@lindsborgcity.org

Tanner Corwin: tcorwin@lindsborgcity.org

Kirsten Bruce: kbruce@lindsborgcity.org

John Presley: jpresley@lindsborgcity.org

Blaine Heble: bheble@lindsborgcity.org

Ward 3 Position vacant at press time

Corey Peterson: cpeterson@lindsborgcity.org

Emile Gallant: egallant@lindsborgcity.org



Showing respect for nature



Each May, the Lindsborg Convention & Visitors Bureau has the privilege of working with USD 400 fourth grade students and faculty on a community service project. In the past we have enjoyed workdays at Coronado Heights--picking up trash, planting native Kansas perennial grass and wildflower seed, and finishing the day out with learning more about Lindsborg history and the importance of travel and tourism to our local economy.

Last year we enjoyed a new type of project, planting a pollinators garden along several small sections of the north spur of the Välkommen Trail. We encourage you to take a walk and see for yourself the fruits of our labor. Right now, there are multiple kinds of native Kansas wildflowers blooming and the milkweed is plentiful, providing food for Monarch butterflies and their pupae as they

make their annual trek across the United States from Mexico. We feel that these types of projects teach the students to respect our community assets, helping them understand the need to preserve them for the next generation...at least that is one of our main goals as we spend time planning and carrying out these annual projects.

This year, we were able to partner with several granting agencies to provide funds to plant an additional pollinators garden along the Meadowlark Trail. Thanks to local volunteers, staff, and K-State Research & Extension, we were able to provide three different educational components for students to learn more about water conservation, the importance of bees, and the life cycle of the Monarch butterfly and the species' importance to pollination. After a fun time of hands-on learning in Riverside Park, we took busses to the planting site, located on the second mile of the Meadowlark Trail. Students and faculty scattered multiple pounds of wildflower seed and planted more than 200 milkweed plants. We ended the day with conversation about the things we love about our community and how we can share this "news" with others, helping grow the number of visitors enjoying Lindsborg throughout the year. We were pleasantly surprised at how many students were able to quickly list a variety of things they LOVE about where they live!

We encourage you to take a walk along the Meadowlark Trail next summer to see how this project blooms in its first season! Thanks to USD 400, City of Lindsborg Parks Staff, Monarch Watch, K-State Research & Extension, McPherson County Conservation District, and Saline County Uplanders; Pheasants Forever/ Quail Forever for your generous contributions to this project.



K-State Research & Extension speaks with students.

Powering the city; respecting the grid

Ordinance 5331: Breaking it Down

This ordinance, which went into effect July 1, adopts new *Interconnection Standards for Installation of Parallel Operation of Customer-Owned Renewable Electric Generation Facilities*.

- The original Interconnection standards (Ord. 4552) were adopted in 2008. Ord. 5331 adopts the current standards for interconnections which address safety and reliability for both customers and utilities.
- Ord. 5331 also changes how a customer is credited for excess energy delivered back to the utility. Previously, under the net-metering policy (Ord. 4788), owners of renewable generation facilities would be charged for the net kWh of what was delivered by the utility and what was delivered back to the utility from the customer's system. As explained in Ord. 5332 (pg. 5), customers with Renewable Generation Systems will now be credited back for 150% of the utility's avoided energy cost. Customers will be responsible for any energy delivered from the utility as well as any distribution charges from energy delivered from the utility and for the distribution charges for energy delivered back to the utility grid for excess energy their system produces.



This ordinance helps the city to better align with today's current standards of energy charges and more accurately reflect the costs associated with electric service. The electric industry has changed dramatically over the last decade and **making this change helps the city to ensure rates are structured best to deliver reliable electricity to your home and business.**

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ADD SOLAR...

1. Complete and submit to the Public Works Department the *Renewable Energy Parallel Generation Application for Service*. This is available by request from the city.
2. The customer must pay a \$250 non-refundable processing fee with the application.
3. The application must include information about the solar company/contractor/engineer, as well as a one-line diagram of the generation facility and site layout (samples are provided to assist with this step).
4. The Utility will notify the customer of any costs necessary to connect the Generation Facility to the Electric Distribution System.
5. After review and if approved by the Utility, the customer must agree to the terms and conditions of the *Interconnection Standards*.
6. After installation of solar, the customer must return the *Certificate of Completion* prior to the commencement of operation of the generation facility.

Following these simple steps ensures the "right sizing" of your system, and prevents pushing too much power back onto the city's grid, which could result in excess fees and affect others' power supply.

READING YOUR ELECTRIC BILL

Two new ordinances address electric rate classes and rate structure and interconnection standards for those homeowners who have or are thinking about renewable energy. The first, Ord. 5331, was outlined on pg. 4.

Ordinance 5332, which took effect Jan. 1, amended the customer classes by dividing commercial into separate classes. Now, there are residential, small commercial (up to 80,000 kWhs annually), and large commercial (greater than 80,000 kWhs annually) classes.

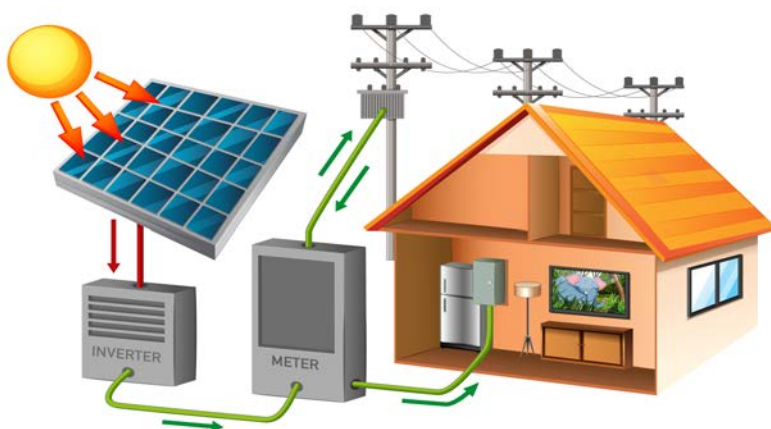
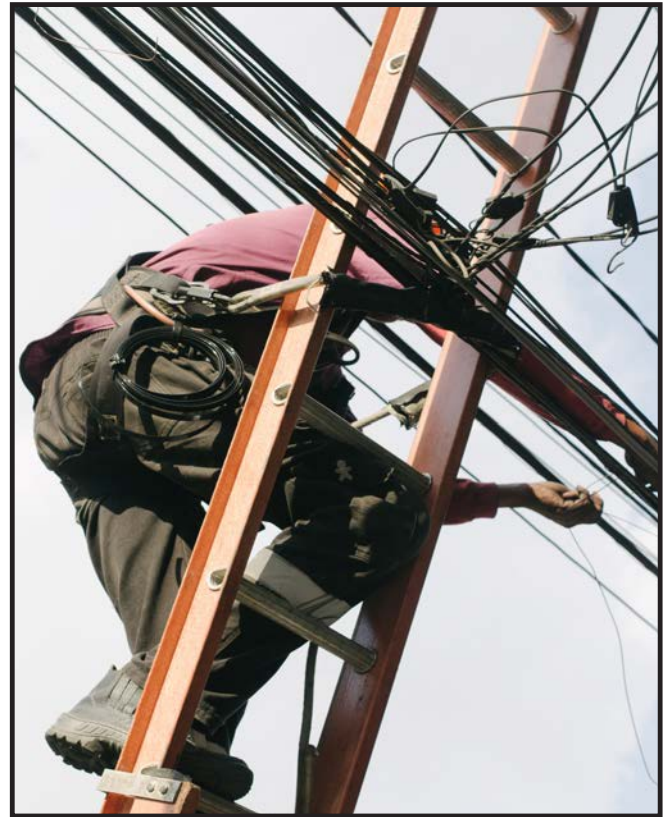
This ordinance also changes the rate structure and separates or unbundles charges. Instead of one blended kWh rate, the rates are unbundled to cover distribution and energy separately.

The monthly electric bill, under Ord. 5332, shall be calculated by adding the following:

1. Monthly customer service charge; and
2. Distribution charge; and
3. Energy charge, and
4. Rate riders, which can also be included in the rate schedule for a Power Cost Adjustment and Energy Efficiency Adder.

The *distribution charge* is calculated by multiplying the distribution charge by the sum of monthly billed energy (kWh) consumed by the Customer and monthly billed energy (kWh) sent (exported) to the Utility (if a customer installs Renewable Parallel Generation).

The *energy charge* will be calculated by multiplying the energy charge by the monthly billed energy (kWh) consumed by the Customer.



Note to Solar Customers

Energy generated by Renewable Parallel Generation, in excess of customer load, will be credited at 150% of the Utility's monthly system average cost of energy per kWh. Excess energy that exceeds the energy used by the customer's load over a 12-month period shall not be compensated.

See pg. 4 for more information.

Volunteering shows respect for community

by David Hay, Finance Manager and Volunteer Firefighter

When I first moved to this community in 2006, I could tell that it was a very busy and vibrant place to live and work. I also knew that it didn't all happen without help from volunteers.

I was eager to get involved because I wanted to give back. One of my favorite parts of volunteering is being able to do and try things that are different from what I do every day. I am proud to serve as a volunteer firefighter for the city, in addition to my "day job" as the Finance Manager. Doing so allows me to use more of the physical versus the mental side of my brain and body than I use most days.

Volunteering as a firefighter gives me a sense of belonging and makes me proud when I see how successful things can be when everyone pitches in. I feel accomplished knowing I give back to the community that I love and do my part to keep the good things going. It's a way that I can respect & preserve the tradition this city has of hardworking, volunteer service.

Without volunteers, this community would not be what it is today, and I'm proud to play a small part in that. Join me!



An ISO rating is a score provided to fire departments and insurance companies by the Insurance Services Office. The score reflects how prepared a community is for fires. This year, the LFD earned a "Class 4"; this high rating demonstrates Lindsborg's commitment to excellence for public safety and is a strong reflection of your fire department's performance.

JOIN THE TEAM!

We're always recruiting willing and able residents to join the Volunteer Fire Department (pay-per-run).

The more we expand and diversify the team, the better it is for our community! In the coming year, there will be additional opportunities for training and development. PLUS...you get a cool t-shirt, City of Lindsborg recreation benefits for mind & body wellness, and priceless camaraderie with your peers.

Email psa@lindsborgcity.org



Back-to-School Safety

Back-to-school time is exciting for kindergarteners to college students, parents and school staff. Back to school is also an exciting time for pesty crooks who like to exploit unsuspecting victims as our streets fill up with students carrying valuables, and parking lots fill up with vehicles.

Here are tips to help make your school year a safe one:

- Be sure your child(ren) know their home phone number (including area code) address, your work number, the number of another trusted adult, and how to use 911.
- Plan a walking route to school or the bus stop. Choose the most direct way with the fewest street crossings. If you can, test the route with your child. Tell them to stay away from vacant lots, fields, and other places where there aren't many people around.
- Teach children to obey all traffic signals, signs, and crosswalks. Remember, drivers have had a few months without kids walking regularly and may not be paying attention the first couple of weeks.
- If possible, make sure they walk to and from school with others.
- When carpooling, drop off and pick up children as close to school as safely possible. Don't leave until they have entered the school yard or building. **DO NOT** park in violation of "no parking signs."
- Teach your child never to talk to strangers or accept rides or gifts from strangers. Remember, a stranger is someone you or your children don't know or trust.
- If your child is home alone for a few hours after school:
 1. Set up rules for locking doors and windows, answering the door or telephone.
 2. Talk about what activities your child can and cannot do while home alone.
 3. Make sure they check in with you or a neighbor immediately after school.
 4. Agree on rules for inviting friends over and for going to a friend's house when no adult is home.
- Take time to listen carefully to children's fears and feelings about people or places that scare them or make them feel uneasy. Tell them to trust their instincts. Take complaints about bullies and other concerns seriously.
- Teach your kids to stay alert when they walk to and from school. This means refraining from listening to music in both ears and always watching for suspicious persons or vehicles.
- If you choose to send your kids to school with valuables such as iPods, iPads, laptops, smartphones, etc., ask them to keep the items hidden in a backpack as they travel to and from school. They should also keep a close eye on their property throughout the day.
- If you park your vehicle at school, make sure the alarm is on, all doors are locked, and all valuables are removed from plain view.

Many people take for granted that we live in a safe and peaceful community where folks respect each other and their property. However, there are always a few people out there who look to take advantage of those who are unsuspecting of their surroundings. Use these tips to help prevent you or a loved one from becoming a victim.





NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS

arts.gov

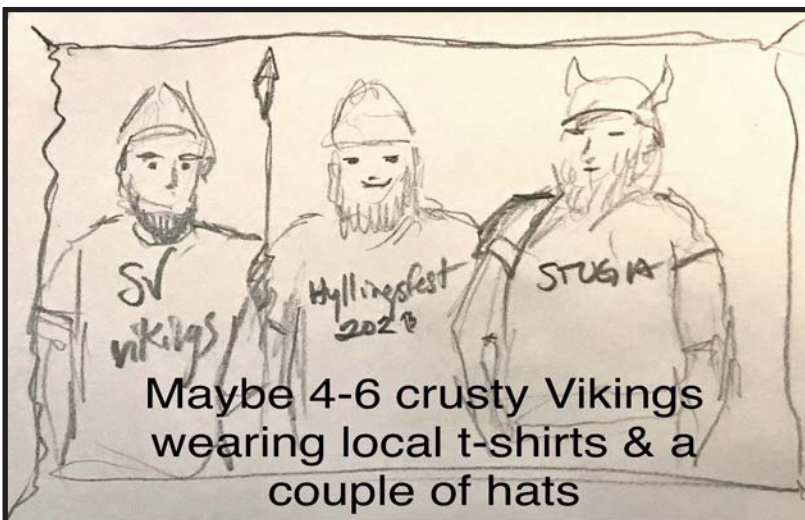
A newly funded project has begun at Swensson Park: the murals at Viking Valley are expected to be replaced within a year. These murals, located on the fence that borders the playground, have been part of the playground since it was constructed in 2004, originally created by local artists and school children. The murals represent a community effort in building a vibrant and friendly place to raise a family.

Unfortunately, due to time and the environment, the murals have fallen into disrepair. After inspection, it was concluded that something needed to be done to replace the artwork. The Parks Department, with help from generous members of the community, has collected donations for new artwork. This money allowed for possible matching grant opportunities; and after applying for grants, one has been awarded from the National Endowment for the Arts in association with the Kansas Department of Commerce to fully fund the rest of the project.

The department reached out to local artists with the help of the Convention & Visitors Bureau. As a result, we have committed artists for all the panels: Cal McNichols, Angela Rider, Patricia Pender, Jenny Davis, Channing Wall, and Jennifer Krob.

The subject matter follows the loose idea of the previous panels depicted. The project specified that local artists would create community-themed artwork. The art is to represent a sense of community and the local area. The artists will create a panel in their own style and portray ideas of what it means to them.

The Parks Department is happy to take on this project in conjunction with local artists, and to pay respects to both our past panels and the future of the mural space. The response from the community has been outstanding and truly shows the pride that Lindsborg has for its community.



Artist Spotlight: Pat Pender

“My planning is done in my head, and I need to look at a reference photo to create detailed subject matter. I make changes to make it fit into the scenery. My personal work is abstract, with depths of color and gels layered on. I have developed ways to speed up working outdoors and I am always experimenting with techniques. I am most prolific when I have a project to do, and I love seeing another public artwork wherever I go. I am glad to be a part of this community art project.”

CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY

Does your house need a brush-up? Does someone you know need help with yard work? Lindsborg Community Development is seeking to match volunteers with community members in need. If you or someone you know would like help, please nominate a project using the following form:

<https://lindsborgcd.typeform.com/paintnyardwork>

RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS

The Planning & Zoning Commission (P&Z) is seeking two members to fill vacant positions. P&Z is a nine-member board that helps to develop and recommend policy to City Council. Meetings are held every fourth Tuesday of the month at City Hall at 6 p.m. If you are interested in public service, enjoy working as a team, and are excited about the opportunity to impact the future development and prosperity of Lindsborg, please let us know by filling out an Expression of Interest form, located at:

<https://www.lindsborgcity.org/citizen-boards-commissions>

NEW SIGHTING: FOOD TRUCKS!

City Council established the Mobile Food Vending Pilot Program in March. Since then, 10 food trucks have applied to become vendors, including exciting food options like Tibetan-style dumplings, Smashburgers, onion blossoms, and more! As a reminder, all mobile food vendors are now required to apply for a permit to operate in Lindsborg, regardless of whether they intend to operate on public or private property.

Permits are free of charge during the Mobile Food Vending Pilot Program, which runs through July 2023.

If you are interested in hosting a food truck for an event, you can reach out to Lindsborg Community Development at lindsborgcd@lindsborgcity.org. We can put you in touch with all permitted food trucks in Lindsborg, and any vendor with a food vendor license in the state!

If you are interested in applying for a Mobile Food Vending Permit or providing feedback about your experience with food trucks in Lindsborg, you can go to the City website Community Development page to fill out online application or feedback form or use the following links:

Food Truck Application: <https://lindsborgcd.typeform.com/foodtruckapp>

Feedback Form: <https://lindsborgcd.typeform.com/foodtrucksurvey>



HIGH FIVES! Lindsborg Rec celebrates a packed summer

Recreation Director Beth Ferguson
785-227-3333 | www.lindsborgrec.org

Youth Softball



Summer fun was a WIN!

We had a busy few months in Lindsborg Recreation. It has been filled with T-Ball, Coach Pitch, Youth Baseball/Softball, Princess Camp, Outdoor Camps, Tennis, Wavemakers, and more!

Thank you to everyone who helped make this summer one to remember. Time to gear up for the fall season!

Visit www.lindsborgrec.org for all things recreation in Lindsborg.

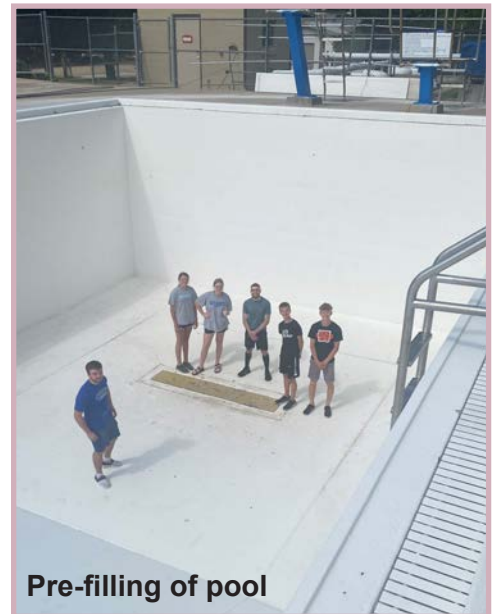


Coach Pitch Softball



Outdoor Camp

RECREATION - AUGUST 2022



Visit the Lindsborg Golf Course

8 & 8 on Mondays! Play a round (18 holes)
and get a cart for \$8 & green fees for \$8!
50% off green fees on Wednesdays!

1541 Svensk Road • www.golflindsborg.com
785-227-2244 • bethf@lindsborgcity.org
www.facebook.com/Lindsborg-Golf-Course





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

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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

City Council Meetings: Aug. 15; Sept. 6 & 19; 6:30 p.m. at City Hall

**Sept. 6 at 6 p.m.: Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing prior to Regular Meeting*

Meetings are streamed on our Facebook and YouTube channels.

Tree Board: Aug. 16, 8:30 a.m. at City Hall

Community Water Fight: Aug. 19, 5:30 p.m., Swensson Park

Downtown Street Dance & BBQ Competition: Aug. 20

Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting: Aug. 23 & Sept. 27, 6 p.m. at City Hall

Makers Street: Sept. 9, 5-8 p.m., Downtown

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)