

**LINDSBORG CITY COUNCIL**  
**Lindsborg City Hall**  
**November 18, 2024–6:30 p.m.**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Clark Shultz, Corey Peterson, Rebecca Van Der Wege, Kirsten Bruce, Blaine Heble, Joshua Swanson, John Presley, Andrew Smith

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Tanner Corwin

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Kristi Northcutt, Zachary Strella, Roxie Sjogren, David Hay, Chris Lindholm, Holly Lofton, Lauren Doak, Noah Flores, Chief Davis, Chief Matt Clark, Marcus Petty, Milton Collins, Scott Bontz, Adam Northcutt, Paul Mahlberg, Julie McClure, Debbie Johnson

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

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

There was no public input.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Council President Corey Peterson presented to the Wichita Swedish Association and to the American Scandinavian Association in Lindsborg about the Hemslojd, the Hemslojd's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and Lindsborg.

The group working on the downtown Christmas lights have been able to order more and they should be here this week.

Mayor Shultz thanked the CVB staff, Jim Richardson and all those involved in making Starry, Starry Night a success.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Councilmember Kirsten Bruce moved to approve the minutes from the November 4, 2024, regular Council meeting, Payroll Ordinance 5509, and Purchase Order Ordinance 5510. Motion seconded by Councilmember Anrew Smith and passed 7-0 by roll call vote.**

**APPOINTMENTS:**

There were no appointments.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The Board of Zoning Appeals met on Tuesday, November 12, 2024. Case #03-24 was a request to reduce the variance on a fence setback of McKinley and State Street. The property owners would like to enclose more of their property. It is not in the way of sight triangles. Case #04-24 was a variance request to reduce the setbacks for a property line. The property owners were asking to reduce the distance for a structure from the property line from six feet to three feet.

Both requests were approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS:****Region G Hazard Mitigation Plan-Resolution 08-2024**

Mitigation is commonly defined as “sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and their property from hazards and their effects.” Hazard mitigation planning provides communities with a roadmap to aid in the creation and revision of policies and procedures, the use of available resources, and to provide long-term, tangible benefits to the community. A well-designed hazard mitigation plan (HMP) provides communities with realistic actions that can be taken to reduce potential vulnerability and exposure to identified hazards.

The Kansas Region G Hazard Mitigation Plan, a multi-jurisdictional plan, documents Kansas Region G and its participating jurisdictions’ planning process, and identifies applicable hazards, vulnerabilities, and hazard mitigation strategies. This plan serves to direct available community and regional resources towards creating policies and actions that provide long-term benefits to the community. Local and regional officials can refer to the plan when making decisions regarding regulations and ordinances, granting permits, and in funding capital improvements, and other community initiatives.

Specifically, this hazard mitigation plan was developed to:

- Update the 2019 HMP
- Build for a safer future for all citizens
- Foster cooperation for planning and resiliency
- Identify, prioritize, and mitigate against hazards (see Lindsborg list attached)
- Assist with sensible and effective planning and budgeting
- Educate citizens about hazards, mitigation, and preparedness
- Comply with relevant federal requirements
- Exist as a living document that will evolve to reflect changes, correct any omissions, and constantly strive to ensure the safety of all citizens.

The 786-page document is located here: [Regional-Mitigation-Plan---Region-G](#). Each jurisdiction is asked to adopt the Plan, and doing so is a requirement if the jurisdiction is to be considered eligible for FEMA grant applications and funding. The City is considering applying for a Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant for the Diversion Channel project and must adopt this plan formally to be eligible.

The City of Lindsborg is involved in the Local Emergency Planning Committee through the McPherson County Department of Emergency Management, represented by the Director of Public Safety and the City Administrator. The Community Development Director serves as the City’s floodplain administrator. McPherson County Emergency Management Director Julie McClure attended the meeting to provide additional information and address questions.

**Councilmember John Presley moved to approve the adoption of the Region G Hazard Mitigation Plan with Resolution 08-2024, as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Kirsten Bruce and passed 7-0 by roll call vote.**

**KMEA Large Scale Solar Agreement – Resolution 09-2024**

At the May 13, 2024, Budget Working Session focused on the Capital Improvement Program, staff gave City Council an update of the City of Lindsborg’s purchased power portfolio and began a conversation about the future of the fixed energy market. Then, on Aug. 5, 2024, the City Council held a Study Session during which the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency (KMEA) presented an overview of Lindsborg’s energy portfolio (purchased power agreements, or PPAs). During this meeting, KMEA representatives shared that it is expected that 2026 will

be the beginning of significant increases in the market with capacity purchases increasing, coal generation decreasing, load growth increasing, and penetration of renewables coming online.

To remain proactive and reduce the city's risk in the open market, City of Lindsborg and KMEA staff have been evaluating options to address the cost of capacity and the city's exposure to long-term fixed energy prices. One option that has been thoughtfully considered and thoroughly vetted is to enter into an agreement to purchase power from a large-scale solar project being built by NextEra near Pratt, Kansas. This 200 MW facility will include 90 MW for KMEA member cities. A PPA would be a 30-year commitment, which is like Lindsborg's other PPAs through KMEA. Lindsborg would purchase 3 MW from this project to further diversify the city's energy portfolio.

KMEA General Manager Paul Mahlberg attended the City Council meeting and presented an in-depth overview of the project.

**Councilmember Andrew Smith moved to allow City Administrator Kristi Northcutt to execute a purchased power agreement with Kansas Municipal Energy Agency for the purchase of three (3) megawatts of the NextEra Large-Scale solar project, with terms and conditions as outlined and with adoption of Resolution 09-2024. Seconded by Councilmember Rebecca Van Der Wege and passed 7-0 by roll call vote.**

#### **Rural Fire District Agreement**

The agreement between the City of Lindsborg and Rural Fire District No. 8 is reviewed and updated annually. This agreement states that the City provides services and vehicle storage for the rural fire district, as well as the payment to volunteer firefighters for rural fire runs. In return, the rural fire district pays a fee to the City for these services plus a set amount for the fire runs.

Proposed in the 2025 agreement is a three percent (3%) increase in the fee for City-provided services and vehicle storage.

This agreement will be presented to Rural Fire District No. 8 at their December meeting.

**Councilmember Rebecca Van Der Wege moved to approve the 2025 agreement between the City of Lindsborg and Rural Fire District No. 8. Seconded by Councilmember Kirsten Bruce and passed 7-0 by roll call vote.**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Councilmember Joshua Swanson moved to go into executive session for 30 minutes to discuss personnel matters related to nonelected personnel and to include City Council and the mayor and return at 7:47 p.m.**

**Councilmember Rebecca Van Der Wege recommended amending the motion to include the City Attorney. Mayor Shultz gave Councilmember Swanson the opportunity to amend the motion. Councilmember Swanson amended the motion to include the City Clerk. Seconded by Council President Peterson and passed 6-1 by voice vote with Councilmembers Swanson, Peterson, Smith, Bruce, Heble, and Presley voting aye and Councilmember Van Der Wege voting no. Mayor Shultz said Council would return at 7:50 p.m. to conclude the meeting.**

**The City Council returned to Council Chambers at 7:50 p.m.; no action was taken.**

City Administrator Northcutt reminded City Council of the proper procedures when calling an executive session; in particular, making sure that the state statute for the subject being discussed is included in the motion, as well as where Council will be returning to after the executive session concludes.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

**Councilmember Kirsten Bruce moved for adjournment, seconded by Councilmember Andrew Smith, and passed 7-0 by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roxie Sjogren". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the "n".

Roxie Sjogren, MMC  
City Clerk