

LINDSBORG CITY COUNCIL
Lindsborg City Hall
February 3, 2025–6:30 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kirsten Bruce

OTHERS PRESENT: Kristi Northcutt, Roxie Sjogren, Holly Lofton, Milton Collins, Lauren Doak, David Hay, Noah Flores, Chief Terry Reed, Marcus Petty, Denny Walker, Jeff Holste, Scott Bontz

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:

Tonight was the first of three presidential candidates at Bethany College. The other candidates will be on campus Feb. 11 and 13.

Jay Allan Richardson's photography is on display at Smoky Valley Arts and Folk Life Center.

Ron Michael is being honored as the 2025 Artist of the Year for the Lindsborg Arts Council and will be recognized at the 31st Annual Art Lovers Affair and Auction on Saturday evening, Feb. 8.

Mayor Shultz read a proclamation regarding Fran Cochran's "Swedes: The Way they Were" project.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Andrew Smith moved to approve the minutes from the January 21, 2025, regular Council meeting, Payroll Ordinance 5520, Purchase Order Ordinance 5521, and the water tower maintenance invoice. Motion seconded by Councilmember Rebecca Van Der Wege and passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

INFORMATIONAL HEARING

Diversion Channel

After a 2013 flood impacted several neighborhoods in the City of Lindsborg, a Post-Flood Study was completed by Wilson & Co. engineers in 2015 to recommend action items that would reduce impacts of future storms. Since that time, a wide drainage channel through a field adjacent to a vulnerable area (Garfield), restrictor plates to help manage the flow of water under Coronado Road, and the north half of the Cow Creek dredging project have been achieved to help manage the movement of stormwater.

While these projects offer benefits and some measure of protection, they are not recognized by FEMA as floodplain projects when it comes to the mapping process; the Diversion Channel, however, would be. The Diversion Channel would be largest planned project to meet the recommendations of the study, and to provide the greatest safety measures for the City.

The Diversion Channel Project is located within a current FEMA Zone A floodplain west of Coronado Road. The capacity of the Diversion Channel was exceeded by runoff in the 2013 storm event. The intent of the project is to increase conveyance along the channel to re-route stormwater to the Smoky Hill River and away from residences within the City of Lindsborg. These improvements would result in changes to the floodplain in areas along the channel corridor and adjacent downstream areas (see FEMA proposed map from Jan. 6, 2025, Study Session). The objective of the project is grading to facilitate expansion of the existing channel & improvements to the box culvert crossing at K-4.

Staff is looking to City Council for input regarding next steps for the project, with consideration given to the fact that FEMA expects the mapping to be complete in the next 18 months. Options include: 1) status quo; 2) begin the project with intent to complete or nearly complete the project before the final mapping; 3) delay the project, with knowledge that a CLOMR/LOMR process would be required as part of mapping process (est. \$100,000+).

Staff presented a Study Session on this topic, with background, next steps, funding options, etc., on January 6, 2025. At the February 3, 2025, meeting, Wilson & Co. engineer Jeff Holste was present to answer questions and concerns from City Council about the technical aspects of the project.

No action was requested or expected of City Council at this meeting. For discussion and informational purposes only.

APPOINTMENTS:

City Officers

Per Lindsborg City Code Section 2-108, the mayor (with the City Council's consent) annually appoints a City Administrator, City Treasurer, Fire Chief, Chief of Police, Director of Public Safety, City Clerk, City Attorney, Municipal Judge, Public Works Director, and Parks & Recreation Director (however, these are two separate positions) and may appoint such other officers as may be deemed necessary.

Per Ordinance 5407, adopted by City Council on Jan. 17, 2023, these appointments shall occur at the first regular meeting of the governing body in February of each year.

- **City Administrator:** Kristi Northcutt
- **City Treasurer:** David Hay
- **Fire Chief:** Matt Clark
- **Chief of Police/Public Safety Director:** Terry Reed (interim)
- **Public Works Director:** Denny Walker (interim)
- **Municipal Judge:** Gary Price
- **City Clerk:** Roxie Sjogren
- **City Attorney:** Zachary Strella
- **Parks Director:** Noah Flores
- **Recreation Director:** Lauren Doak

The Public Works Director and Chief of Police/Public Safety Director were appointed at the December 16, 2024, City Council meeting following the retirements of the previous directors in those roles. Lindsborg City Code Sec. 2-111. – Vacancy states, “Whenever a vacancy occurs in any appointive office for whatever reason, the vacancy shall be filled by the mayor's appointment with the governing body's consent. Any person appointed to fill such vacancy shall serve only until the next regular time for appointment.” Therefore, even though these two positions were appointed in December, they are included again at this meeting.

Councilmember Rebecca Van Der Wege moved to approve the slate of City Officer appointments as presented. Seconded by Councilmember John Presley and passed 7-0 by voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no committee reports.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Workers Compensation Insurance

At the last City Council meeting, Council approved a continuation of workers compensation insurance with KMIT, with the knowledge that staff has been evaluating bids from other providers and may recommend a change (which would require a 60-day written notice to KMIT). This process has occurred to keep the current provider competitive with their premiums. The City has not had any issues with KMIT and are satisfied with the service and products that they have provided.

Staff reviewed a quote from Mike Drier with Fuqua Insurance. The quote was received from EMC, who holds all other municipal insurance for the City. After reviewing the quote, staff asked several questions about how processes and policies work with EMC, to compare to KMIT. The City of Hesston provided a reference and there were no complaints about the level of service that EMC has provided to them.

The quote from EMC is \$27,877.00, based off the same salaries that KMIT used for their rate setting. The quote from EMC is \$6,754.00 lower than the \$34,631.00 cost for KMIT in 2025 (which Council approved on Jan. 21, 2025). As with KMIT, an audit will be performed at the end of the year and the City will either receive a refund or pay additional premiums depending on final salary numbers.

EMC's Workers Compensation participates in the dividend program like the other insurance products and will provide a payout to the City based off profitability of the company. Last year, the dividend check to the City was just over \$10,000.

Councilmember Andrew Smith moved to approve staff to provide KMIT with a 60-day notice of termination for workers compensation insurance. Seconded by Councilmember Blaine Heble and passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

Councilmember Andrew Smith moved to approve EMC as the City of Lindsborg's Workers Compensation Insurance provider at a total cost of \$27,877.00 in 2025. Seconded by Councilmember Tanner Corwin and passed 7-0 by roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Joshua Swanson moved for adjournment, seconded by Councilmember Andrew Smith, and passed 7-0 by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Roxie Sjogren, MMC
City Clerk