



# the Lindsborg City View

Quarterly Newsletter - Issue 70 - SEPTEMBER 2024

## ***Lasso on Lindsborg: "Be curious, not judgmental."***

*By Kristi Northcutt, City Administrator*

By now, nearly the whole world has watched the Apple+ series *Ted Lasso*. If you haven't yet, I'll try not to give too much away here, but there are some important ideas that come from this series that apply to our community that I think are worth noting. I can't take credit for all of this – I took some inspiration from a few books already written on the topic, but I'll do my best to apply some of the Lasso lessons to Lindsborg.

***Lean into vulnerability.*** As City staff and Council work to solve issues and plan for the future, there's no way we can see around every corner and understand how everything around us will affect the community. Saying, "I don't know, but I'm willing to work on it and figure out the best way forward" is a response that indicates strength, not weakness.

***Be open to good ideas that come from anywhere.*** Seeing the strengths of people around us and accepting suggestions and ideas from others makes us all better. Collaboration and mobilizing people to get involved is key to our community's vitality. Join a committee or board, volunteer, and stay engaged!

***Be a goldfish.*** The short-memored fish is one of the happiest animals in the world because it doesn't hold grudges or stay in the past. It's ready to take on the next adventure (i.e. open to change). It isn't always easy, but if goldfish can do it, so can we.

***Inspire confidence in those around you.*** Ted's infectious joy and unrelenting support spreads confidence around the locker room. Let's spread that same joy and support around our city by lifting each other up and being willing to do so out loud.

***Doing the right thing is never the wrong thing.*** Lasso puts his beliefs and morals at top of mind, and that mantra extends to those around him. Spurning personal gain for the greater good is always a good choice. We work hard to make decisions that are in the best interest of the community and all those we serve.

***Never stop learning:*** We live in a place that inspires learners of all ages. From the Lindsborg Child Development Center to Soderstrom, SVMS to the Charter School and SVHS, and then to Bethany College, everyone can learn here. And when people continue to learn, they continue to grow and see the world through a different, wider lens.

It's hard to think of an area of life that wouldn't be better if we all committed to thinking the best of people as our default. If we could be curious, not judgmental, our social media spaces, political spheres, and even neighborhoods, would be altered by this way of thinking.

Yes, it's the power of Ted Lasso—but even more so, I believe it's the power of Lindsborg.





# City Council

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



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## Election Year 2024

The general election takes place on Nov. 5 and it's important to know the ins and outs of the election process. The McPherson County Clerk oversees elections, so if you have questions please visit [mcpersoncountys.us/946/Elections](http://mcpersoncountys.us/946/Elections). There are also protocols for election signage and how/where it can be displayed. Signage may not be posted in a public right-of-way. For more details, including city ordinances dealing with this topic, visit [Lindsborgcity.org](http://Lindsborgcity.org).

## Lindsborg Voting Sites

Voting/polling locations for Lindsborg based on your ward:  
 Ward 1: Villa Ro, 421 E. Saline  
 Ward 2: Bethany Cottages Community Room, 404 W. State  
 Ward 3: Lindsborg Senior Center, 116 S. Main  
 Ward 4: Sundstrom Conference Center, 102 N. Main

## Continued professional development highlights staff work

Considering the speed and drastic nature of change, lifelong learning is not only desirable, but also necessary for all in local government to keep pace with the growing demands and changing needs of the citizens we serve.

**Roxie Sjogren, City Clerk**, has earned the designation of Master Municipal Clerk (MMC), which is awarded by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC), Inc. IIMC grants the MMC designation only to municipal clerks who complete demanding education requirements and have a record of significant contributions to their local government, community, and state.

**Sgt. Terry Reed, Lindsborg Police Department**, has been named a Rising Star Scholar by the Kansas Association of City/County Management. The scholarship was a competitive process and required a letter of intent and career plan from Sgt. Reed and a recommendation letter from City Administrator Kristi Northcutt. Reed was presented with his scholarship at a recent Public Policy Management Center conference at Wichita State University. Sgt. Reed is attending the Certified Public Managers (CPM) program at the University of Kansas this year, and is enrolled at Kansas Wesleyan University, where he is completing his bachelor's degree on a grant for law enforcement officers.

**Kristi Northcutt, City Administrator**, was selected by the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency to receive a full scholarship to attend the American Public Power Association Fall Institute in Seattle, WA in September. After completing a week of full-day classes, she will earn a Public Power Manager certification. With ever-increasing pressures and challenges on utilities, changing regulations, technology advances, and a changing workforce, this program helps those who lead and manage public power utilities to be equipped with the knowledge and skills to create an effective and sustainable organization with engaged, skilled and committed employees.

**Lt. Scott Wolf, Lindsborg Police Department** celebrates his 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the Lindsborg Police Department on Nov. 2. The City is grateful to Scott for dedicating the last two decades to the public safety of Lindsborg citizens.

**Cody Hoffman** joins the City of Lindsborg staff as a Streets Maintenance Worker in the Public Works Department. Cody is a Lindsborg local & Smoky Valley graduate, and brings experience from Johns Manville, Great Plains Manufacturing, and Viega to his role.

## Final 2025 Operating Budget will be presented Sept. 16

Each year, in late spring and summer, City staff prepares an operating budget for the next fiscal year and presents this budget during a series of meetings with City Council to obtain feedback and direction. These meetings are open meetings and are posted on the City's website in compliance with the Kansas Open Meetings Act.

In preparing the draft budget, Department Directors met during two rounds with Finance Director David Hay and City Administrator Kristi Northcutt to prepare department budgets and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) items that were presented to City Council at a May 13, 2024, Working Session at the Sundstrom Conference Center. From there, Kristi and David worked with the County-provided Revenue Neutral rate (or RNR, made available to the City on June 15, 2024) and anticipated revenues and expenditures to determine the mill levy needed to achieve a stable budget.

On July 15, 2024, following a study session discussion and regular meeting discussion, City Council voted to file a Notice of Intent to Exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate to McPherson County. The final budget can come in under the 55.000 mill levy that was provided to McPherson County but cannot be not over once a rate is posted.

The term "revenue neutral" means the same property tax revenue as the previous year. It is essentially the cost of doing business; it assumes no increases in costs, such as health insurance, property & casualty insurance, staff compensation increases, or EMS funding, nor does it factor in addressing deferred maintenance issues or other project.

On Aug. 12, staff met again with the governing body during an open budget working session at the Sundstrom to review a revised draft of the budget, incorporating feedback from the previous meetings and work sessions.

### What happens next?

Taxpayers in Lindsborg will receive a notice from the McPherson County Clerk, at least 10 days ahead of the Revenue Neutral Rate and Budget Hearing, both of which are set for Sept. 16 at 6 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers (second floor). City Council will also accept public input on the revenue neutral rate on Tuesday, Sept. 3 at 6:30 p.m. during the regular City Council meeting (held on Tuesday due to Labor Day on Monday, Sept. 2).

The notice will state a proposed mill levy of 55.000, based on the governing body's July 15, 2024, vote. However, since that time, staff have worked towards the goal of a revenue neutral budget at 53.676 mills. Again, the final budget that will be approved by City Council can come in under the 55.000 mill levy that was provided to McPherson County but cannot be over 55.000 mills.

Visit [LindsborgCity.org](http://LindsborgCity.org) and view the calendar on the home page to access meeting dates, times, locations, and agendas.

## Love, Kansas invites former Kansans to come home

The Kansas Department of Commerce unveiled the *Love, Kansas* campaign earlier this summer and Lindsborg is one of 48 communities that is taking part in the program. The goal of *Love, Kansas* is to attract former Kansans living out of the state (known as "boomerangs") to move back home to the Sunflower State. The city will receive a \$5,000 grant that will be used in the efforts to attract Kansans to come back home.



[LoveKansas.com](http://LoveKansas.com) has more information about the project, including data comparing Kansas to other states in important areas such as Cost of Living, utility costs, housing affordability, and more. The program is slated to run through 2026. With questions about Lindsborg's role in this initiative, contact Communications Director Marcus Petty at [marcuspetty@lindsborgcity.org](mailto:marcuspetty@lindsborgcity.org).

## Public Works Director Chris Lindholm to retire

After 26 years of dedicated service to the City of Lindsborg, Public Works Director Chris Lindholm will retire at the end of the year.

Lindholm started with the City of Lindsborg as a wastewater operator, ultimately working up to superintendent before taking on his director role in 2017. During more than two decades with the City, Chris has seen major changes, among them the upgrade at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the buildout of Stockholm Estates and the Lindsborg Child Development Center, countless street projects, the renovation of City Hall, the demolition and reconstruction of the Sundstrom Conference Center, the recent addition of another substation transformer, the K-4 overpass project award through KDOT (*right*), and the aftermath of the 2013 flood – which led to the Garfield Channel, Cow Creek dredging, and upcoming Diversion Channel projects – and so much more. In recent years, Chris also served on the task force that oversaw the development of the Distributed Generation Toolkit for Kansas Municipal Utilities and has served on the Board and Executive Committee of Kansas Municipal Energy Agency.

In his role as Public Works Director, Chris has overseen Streets, Electric, Water, and Wastewater departments, with his longest serving employees including Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Denny Walker (25 years), Streets Superintendent Jeff Peters (19 years), and Electric Lineworker Matt Lloyd (16 years).

“It has been a pleasure working with Chris over the years. His attention to detail, dedication, and knowledge is really second to none, and our community was lucky to have him for more than 20 years,” said Peters.

“Chris is the definition of a public servant,” said Kristi Northcutt, City Administrator. “More than 25 years of impactful work, with increasing responsibility, is a rare achievement in today’s world, but Chris has always risen to the challenges set before him, to the benefit of the City of Lindsborg.”

A public reception to honor Chris will be announced later this year via the City’s website and Facebook page. Recruiting efforts are well underway to attract candidates for the Public Works Director position. More information can be found at [LindsborgCity.org/jobs](http://LindsborgCity.org/jobs).



## Important Boneyard and Recycling Center info

The dumping of unacceptable material at the Boneyard continues to be an issue. Items such as construction lumber, old cabinets, plywood and other such debris are being left there on a regular basis. Please do your part and do not leave these items there or if you see someone doing so, please make them aware that these items are not allowed. To not have this facility to dispose of yard waste and tree limbs would create a real issue for residents in Lindsborg but the State of Kansas can shut the facility down if they find these items while doing an inspection.

Overall, most of the items that are disposed of at the Recycling Center do fit the requirements of what is allowed. However, there are times where trash, furniture, and other non-recyclable items are left. This causes City staff to spend time pulling those items to dispose of properly and also takes up space that other residents could use to throw out accepted items. Recently, a camera was installed to help with enforcement of proper disposal. There are illegal dumping city ordinances and state statues that prohibit the disposal of non-recyclable materials in this area. Thank you to everyone for helping keep our community clean!



## Working together for Public Works

**WATER:** The conservation of water during times of drought and heat can be critical to help maintain the water supply for all citizens. How to help, pay attention to what is going on in your home. Do you have water faucets that drip, how about a toilet that seems to run when it hasn't been flushed. These simple things can add up to hundreds and even thousands of gallons of water wasted each month. If you have an irrigation system, take time to make sure it is spraying in the correct areas and not spraying water out into the street and running down the gutters? Look at your controller, can you reduce the number of days or the amount of time the system runs? Residential irrigation systems can take water consumption during the nonirrigating season from less than 2,000 gallons a month to 30,000, 40,000, and even as high as 50,000 gallons a month. Making sure your irrigation system is optimized and using the least amount of water possible is important to help maintain a water supply.



Flow data from July shows that 14,776,000 gallons of water entered the city limits. 6,932,000 gallons of water was treated at the wastewater treatment plant. This means that over 7.5 million gallons of water was used mainly for the watering of yards in the month of July. There was more water used to water yards than there was for our daily personal needs. Looking at how we use water and making some changes will be critical to the long-term supply of water for future generations.

**WASTEWATER:** To flush or not to flush, today there are so many products on the market that are labeled flushable. While this may be true in the fact that they can be flushed, they do not break down in the sewer system. Flushable is merely a marketing tactic used today. These "flushable" items are causing a significant problem for wastewater operators and are causing municipalities thousands of dollars in maintenance and repairs. These items get into the system and can get hung up and then start collecting until the point they cause a sewer backup. They also collect in sewer lift stations and pump stations at sewer plants and plug up wastewater pumps. Please be observant to what you flush down the toilet. The only items that should be flushed are human waste and toilet paper, nothing else.



## Substation transformer project update

After 18 months of work and preparation, the new second substation transformer was energized and brought online in the first part of May. The new transformer is powering the central and west circuits while the old transformer is powering the east and Mid Kansas Coop circuits. The addition of this transformer has provided the community with some redundancy should the either transformer need work or have a failure. The addition of the second transformer doubles the amount of electricity that can be provided to the community and has removed a monthly fee from Eversource for the operation of the old transformer.



Crews from Kansas Municipal Energy Agency Mid-States located in Salina handled much of the work and the Lindsborg Electric Department provided a significant amount of assistance throughout the project. Later this fall after the weather cools and the loads are reduced, the circuits will all be combined and shifted to the new transformer so that the old unit can be taken offline so that some maintenance work can be performed on the unit.



## Proactive code compliance

The City of Lindsborg adopted the Code Compliance Policy Manual in April of 2023. Proactive Code Compliance may be a new term to most. It's very different than Code Enforcement. The former suggests a positive, proactive approach to neighborhood vitality whereas the latter has a negative, reactive, and almost disciplinary tone. Most towns and cities practice complaint-based code enforcement and for the most part, Lindsborg has been no exception to this approach. However, the goal of a Proactive Code Compliance model is to set standards and motivate compliance among our community rather than living within a culture of complaints and penalties.

Our neighborhoods are the environment in which we live and raise our families. So, a quality code compliance program should provide resources for financial assistance as well as steps to remediate issues that devalue, detract, and degrade the quality of these neighborhoods. Community engagement will allow residents to work alongside the city to create the framework for a community that is safe and appealing, with steady or growing property values, the ability to attract businesses to the community, and positive attitudes of citizens towards the local government.



The purpose of proactive code compliance is to build community engagement and pride in order to have neighbors work together to correct code compliance issues.

**Top 5 Most Common Code Compliance Issues:**

1. Grass/Weeds/Yard
2. Dead Trees/Tree Limbs
3. Blight; unfit conditions
4. Health Violations; trash/debris
5. Improper land/building use according to zoning

## Compliance Q & A

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Q</b> What is the purpose of proactive code compliance?</p> | <p><b>A</b> To one day be known as the 'Most Beautiful Community' in the State of Kansas.</p> <p>The Strategy for successfully implementing the vision of becoming Kansas' Most Beautiful Community includes a three-year process for developing a culture of proactive and voluntary code compliance through education and outreach, developing a robust volunteer network, thoughtful and equitable programming, and by facilitating new connections between neighbors and neighborhoods.</p> |
| <p><b>Q</b> How do we plan to implement this?</p>                 | <p><b>A</b> Some of the goals include developing a culture of proactive and voluntary code compliance, increase community pride, and develop programs and resources for residents in need.</p>  |
| <p><b>Q</b> What goals do you want to achieve by doing this?</p>  | <p><b>A</b> Some of the goals include developing a culture of proactive and voluntary code compliance, increase community pride, and develop programs and resources for residents in need.</p>  |

## BIKE SHARE ANNUAL UPDATE:

The 2023 Numbers:			The 2024 Numbers:			Locations:
Lindsborg	Salina	Concordia	Lindsborg	Salina	Concordia	
July: 59	115	29	Jan: 19	2	9	
Aug: 221	100	39	Feb: 87	10	8	
Sept: 184	93	46	March: 73	43	8	
Oct: 131	78	18	April: 59	28	7	
Nov: 119	60	32	May: 191	331	4	
Dec: 45	58	30	June: 97	79	5	
			July: 52	25	3	

**Program Sponsors:**

**How to Use The Movatic App:**

1. **Download** Movatic App in app store & create an account!
2. **Unlock** by scanning the QR code on the bike!
3. **Ride** and be careful to follow all rules of the road!
4. **Return & Lock** and end your rental!

Since its debut in 2023, the Lindsborg bike share program has been extremely popular, evidenced by the growing number of rides each month. In fact, Lindsborg often out-paces most of the other communities in its region, Salina included. There are three bike stations located around town: Near Bethany College adjacent to Valkommen Trail, next to City Hall, and on the south part of town in the Fredrickson Family Fitness Park.

If you haven't rented a bike yet, it's a simple and easy process to get started. From your smartphone, download the Movatic app, set up a profile in just a few moments, and check out a bike. You can rent by the hour or purchase an annual pass.

## Safety is the top priority when it comes to back to school

Back-to-school season brings excitement for everyone from kindergartners to college students, introducing many new people to our community as we get ready for the new school year. However, it's also a time when opportunistic individuals may take advantage of the increased activity, with students carrying valuables and parking lots becoming crowded. To help ensure a safe school year for you and your child, here are some helpful tips to keep in mind as you prepare for the new academic year:

- Ensure your child knows their home phone number (including area code), address, your work number, a trusted adult's number, and how to call 911 in emergencies.
- Plan a safe route for walking to school or to the bus stop. Opt for the most direct path with the fewest street crossings.
- Teach children to follow all traffic signals, signs, and use crosswalks, whether they are walking, biking, or taking the bus. Remind them to exercise extra caution in rainy conditions.
- Whenever possible, encourage your child to walk to and from school with others, such as a friend, neighbor, sibling, or family member.
- Instruct your child to avoid talking to strangers or accepting rides or gifts from them. Emphasize the importance of staying alert while traveling to and from school.
- If your child carries valuables like iPods, iPads, laptops, smartphones, or expensive jewelry, advise them to keep these items concealed in a backpack and to keep a close watch on their belongings throughout the day.
- When parking at school, ensure your vehicle's alarm is activated, all doors are locked, and no valuables are visible.



Please keep these parking tips listed below in mind when dropping off your children at their school. Some of our streets are narrow and when parking is done incorrectly, we do not want illegally parked vehicles to interfere with the safe flow of traffic, cause accidents or put our students at risk:

- Avoid stopping or parking on the roadway side of any vehicle when dropping off kids.
- Do not park within 30 feet of an intersection or a stop/yield sign.
- Do not park on or within 30 feet of a crosswalk.
- Avoid parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant.
- Do not block driveways, alleys, or private roads.
- Do not park in spaces designated for individuals with disabilities unless you have a valid disabled placard or license plate.
- Do not park in areas marked with "No Parking" signs.

Finally, many of us take for granted that we live in a safe and peaceful community where people respect each other and their property. However, there are always a few out there who look to take advantage of those who are unsuspecting of their surroundings.

If you realize that you have been the victim of a crime, contact the Lindsborg Police Department immediately at (785) 227-2988 or stop by the Lindsborg Police Department located at 102 S. First St., Lindsborg, KS. 67456.



# Legislative Changes to the Standard Traffic Ordinance

The Legislature made several changes to statutes affecting the Standard Traffic Ordinance (STO) and the Uniform Public Offense Code (UPOC). This article describes those changes.



## Changes to the STO

*Section 23. Accident Involving Death or Personal Injuries; Duties of Drivers, Reports; Penalties.*

Previously, drivers involved in an accident with more than \$1,000 of property damage that did not remain at the scene of an accident were subject to a penalty of up to one year of imprisonment and/or a fine up to \$2,500. HB 2665 amended the property damage amount to clarify the penalty applies to any property damage of \$1,000 or more.

*Section 114.5. Unlawful Operation of a Work-Site Utility Vehicle.*

The League discovered the references to all-terrain vehicles in subsection (c) were incorrect and updated the section with the correct references to work-site utility vehicles.

*Section 201.1. Failure to Comply with a Traffic Citation.*

This section has been updated to sunset at 11:59 p.m., on December 31, 2024. Upon its sunset, new section 20.1.2 will take effect.

*Section 201.2. Failure to Comply with a Traffic Citation.*

This section takes effect on January 1, 2025, and reflects changes made by SB 500 regarding the failure to comply with a traffic citation. Previously, an individual violated this provision if they did not appear before municipal court and pay their fine and court costs in full. Now, a violation occurs when an individual does not appear in municipal court and pay their fine and court costs as ordered by the court. In addition, municipal courts can no longer seek the suspension of an individual's license for failing to comply with the following traffic citations:

- Sec. 18. Interference with Official Traffic-Control Devices or Railroad Signs or Signals;
- Sec. 63. Pedestrians; Obedience to Traffic-Control Devices and Regulations;
- Sec. 65. Crossing at Other Than Crosswalks; Jaywalking;
- Sec. 67. Pedestrians to Use Right Half of Crosswalks;
- Sec. 68. Pedestrians on Highways;
- Sec. 69. Pedestrians Soliciting Rides or Business;
- Sec. 74. Pedestrian Under Influence of Alcohol Drugs
- Sec. 18. Interference with Official Traffic-Control Devices or Railroad Signs or Signals;
- Sec. 63. Pedestrians; Obedience to Traffic-Control Devices and Regulations;
- Sec. 65. Crossing at Other Than Crosswalks; Jaywalking;
- Sec. 67. Pedestrians to Use Right Half of Crosswalks;
- Sec. 68. Pedestrians on Highways;
- Sec. 69. Pedestrians Soliciting Rides or Business;
- Sec. 74. Pedestrian Under Influence of Alcohol Drugs;
- Sec. 83. Stopping, Standing or Parking Outside Business or Residence Districts;
- Sec. 85. Stopping, Standing or Parking Prohibited in Specified Places;



- Sec. 86. Stopping or Parking on Roadways;
- Sec. 107. Unattended Motor Vehicle; Ignition; Key and Brakes;
- Sec. 112. Putting Glass, Etc. on Highway Prohibited;
- Sec. 112.1. Littering from a Motor Vehicle;
- Sec. 114. Snowmobile Operation Limited;
- Sec. 114.4. Unlawful Operation of a Golf Cart;
- Sec. 115. Unlawful Riding on Vehicles; Persons 14 Years of Age and Older;
- Sec. 124. Riding in House Trailer or Mobile or Manufactured Home Prohibited;
- Sec. 127. Effect of Regulations;
- Sec. 129. Riding on Bicycles; Seats; Riders Limited
- Sec. 130. Clinging to Vehicles;
- Sec. 131. Riding on Roadways and Bicycle Paths;
- Sec. 132. Carrying Articles;
- Sec. 133. Lamps and Other Equipment on Bicycles;
- Sec. 135.1. Electric Assisted Scooters, Traffic Law Application; and
- Sec. 182.2. Unlawful Riding on Vehicles; Persons Under Age 14.

SB 500 mandates that the Kansas Department of Revenue Division of Vehicles restrict, rather than suspend, an individual's license if they meet specific eligibility criteria. SB 500 also requires municipal courts:

- assess a license reinstatement fee of \$100 ead of \$100 for each charge;
- provide a form for any individual seeking to tition the court to waive fines or fees; and
- consider waivers and alternatives to restricting or spending a license.

### Changes to the UPOC

#### Section 9.1. *Disorderly Conduct.*

In March, the Kansas Supreme Court determined that “. . . Wichita's Municipal Code of Ordinances (W.M.O.) §5.24.010(c) criminalizing 'noisy conduct tending to reasonably arouse alarm, anger or resentment in others' [was] unconstitutionally overbroad under the First Amendment.” *City of Wichita v. Griffie*, 318 Kan. 510, 511 (2024) The same language found unconstitutional in the W.M.O. was present in this section. Consequently, the League removed that language from this section.

#### Section 9.9.1. *Unlawful Possession of Marijuana and Tetrahydrocannabinols*, Section 9.9.2 *Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Certain Drug Precursors*, and Section 9.9.4 *Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substances.*

The League amended these sections to add provisions from Sub for SB 41. This bill provides that a law enforcement officer shall not take an individual into custody for violations of section 9.9.1, 9.9.2(a), and 9.9.4 when the individual seeks medical assistance for themselves or others because of the use of a controlled substance. Individuals are also immune from prosecution unless the quantity of controlled substances found is sufficient to create a rebuttable presumption that there is an intent to distribute. Immunity does not apply if medical assistance is sought during the execution of an arrest or search warrant, or if prosecution is based on evidence from an independent source. The bill also provides that a person cannot initiate or maintain legal action against a law enforcement officer or their employee because of the officer's compliance or failure to comply with this section. The bill also protects officers from liability for arresting individuals who are later found to be immune from prosecution, unless the officer's actions involved reckless or intentional misconduct.

## The Kansas Forest Service and the community

The Kansas Forest Service provides valuable resources to our community and the State of Kansas. The Agency serves rural landowners, communities, rural fire districts, forest and arboriculture industries, and citizens of the state through its Conservation Tree and Shrub Planting, Fire Management, Community Forestry, Rural Forestry, Marketing and Utilization, and Forest Health programs.

Specifically, the Kansas Forest Service has worked and continues to work with the City of Lindsborg on several occasions. Over the last two years our community forester has prepared a presentation on the education of trees for the fourth grade education day. This event consists of three different educational groups that explain different aspects of the environment. There has also been a hands-on component that the Parks Department prepares. In the past, the department and Tree Board have helped beautify the Valkommen Trail and start a pollinator garden on the northern end of Valkommen Trail.

The Kansas Forest Service also promotes the Arbor Day Poster contest. This contest allows the USD400 5<sup>th</sup> graders to learn about trees in a prepared lesson plan presented by the teacher. The result is the children expressing what they have learned in a creative themed poster. The City of Lindsborg has had three regional winners in the last five years. Thanks to the 5th grade teachers and the Kansas Forest Service for promoting the contest. We are working together to continually educate our children on trees and the environment.

Another function the Kansas Forest Service has provided has been the inventory of street trees within the community. A street tree is a tree that falls between the sidewalk and the street. A technical team visited Lindsborg in May to record and document all the street trees in the community. The main fields of data collected were species, condition, DBH or size of trunk, and approximate height. This important data can be used to determine trends in urban the canopy and make plans to diversify and plant the appropriate trees. This information can also be compared to the inventory taken in 2015.

### Our new community forester

After 25 years of service, Tim McDonnell has retired, and a new replacement was announced in May. Kody Kramer (*right*) serves the south-central region of the state as the new community forester. He has worked for the city of McPherson, and Lindsborg's Parks Director Noah Flores has been an acquaintance for several years. He spoke at the June Tree Board meeting to answer any questions and introduce himself. We welcome Tim as the new community forester.



### Downtown tree plan update

The downtown tree plan has been continuing and would like to proceed with an update on its progress.

The following items have been done this year:

- Three trees were removed; three new trees have been planted;
- Tree grates have been moved so that the size of tree corresponds with the correct sized grate; and
- Tree grates have been modified to fit were necessary.

The following will be conducted into the next year:

- Two more trees will be removed (Redbud at Anderson Boutique, Shatung Maple at Ol Stuga);
- Three tree replacements will be planted;
- Tree grates will be modified; and
- Electrical boxes will be moved.

## Rec recap: A busy summer on the fields, pool, & course

We had a great summer sports season for baseball and softball. Lindsborg Recreation continues to play in the Mid Kansas League (MKL) against surrounding towns including Burrton, Halstead, Newton, Haven, Canton-Galva, Hesston, Inman, Lyons, Moundridge, and Sedgwick. By playing in this league, we can begin teaching our younger generation knowledge about sports as well as skills such as teamwork, courage, and sportsmanship. This year we had over 60 kids participate in boys baseball and over 40 participants for girls softball. Thank you to the coaches, parents, umpires, and others who help make home games run smoothly! Tennis was our largest program this summer with 103 participants ranging from 3 years old to 8<sup>th</sup> grade.



There was only one single day the whole pool season that was not rented for a private party from 6-8 p.m. These fill up fast! Be sure to set reminders for April if you plan to have a party during the 2025 season. The golf course continues to see growing numbers of members and overall use. We had an incredible 132 memberships this summer. Attendance is high for our weekly Men's Night and Ladies Socials, and tournaments remain popular.

## Recreation snapshot 2024



### Mark your calendar: Upcoming rec programming

**Movie Night:** Last year's movie was *Polar Express*; this year's movie is TBD. Tentative date is Saturday, Dec. 7, 6 p.m., at the Sundstrom.

**Indoor Adult Pickleball League:** December through March. More details to come as the date draws closer.

**Ties & Tiaras Dance:** Saturday, Jan. 18, 6:30-8 p.m., at the Sundstrom.

Visit [Lindsborgrec.org](http://Lindsborgrec.org) for all event/program details.

(Top left) As usual, the pool was a popular spot to beat the summer heat. (Top right) Chalk Day debuted in Riverside Park this summer and will return in 2025! (Bottom) The golf course was busy all summer long with golfers of all ages.



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

[www.visitlindsborg.com/lindsborg-calendar-of-events](http://www.visitlindsborg.com/lindsborg-calendar-of-events)  
[www.lindsborgcity.org](http://www.lindsborgcity.org)

**City Council Meetings:** Sept. 3 & 16, Oct. 7 & 21, Nov. 4 & 18, Dec. 2 & 16; 6:30 p.m. at City Hall  
*Meetings are streamed on our Facebook and YouTube channels.*

**City Offices Closed:** Sept. 2 (Labor Day), Nov. 28 & 29 (Thanksgiving), Dec. 24 & 25 (Christmas), & Jan. 1, 2025 (New Years Day).

**Holiday events calendar:** Nov. 9 Holiday Open House; Nov. 9 Starry, Starry Night at Coronado Heights; Nov. 30 Small Business Saturday; Dec. 7 Snowflake Parade; Dec. 7 Artists' Studio Open House; Dec. 14 St. Lucia Festival; Dec. 14 Heritage Christmas at the Old Mill; Dec. 15 Holiday Home Tour; Dec. 21 Cookies with Claus; Dec. 25 Julotta; & Dec. 26 Annandag Jul

**VisitLindsborg.com** has more details on holiday events; ***scheduled events are subject to change.***  
Visit **Lindsborgcity.org** for city-related news, committee meeting info, online bill pay, and more.



## 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)