

**CITY OF LOUISBURG, KANSAS  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 19, 2021**

The Council of the City of Louisburg, Kansas met at 6:30 p.m. in regular session in the City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Marty Southard presiding. Councilmember Kevin Vohs arrived at 7:07 p.m.

Council Members Steve Town, Donna Cook, Sandy Harris, Kevin Vohs, Scott Margrave  
City Administrator Nathan Law  
City Clerk Traci Storey  
City Attorney Jared Anderson  
Police Chief Tim Bauer  
Fire Chief Gerald Rittinghouse  
Communications Coordinator Jean Carder  
Public Works Supervisor Craig Hufferd  
Visitors Shelby Suther, Gene Schubel, Fred Fendorf

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilmember Sandy Harris led the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Harris asked a question regarding the bills list. Administrator Law explained. Councilmember Donna Cook will talk with City Administrator regarding questions she had concerning the bills. Councilmember Harris moved, seconded by Councilmember Steve Town and carried 4-0, to approve the consent agenda to include adoption of the agenda and approval of the regular meeting minutes April 5, 2021 and the special meeting minutes of April 8, and the bills list.

**VISITORS**

Shelby Suther, Rockville P.E. teacher, spoke to the Council about an upcoming 5K on May 8, 2021. This is a fundraiser for the school. Suther is asking if Rockville Road could be closed from 8:45 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. The route will go through the Rockville Place subdivision across from the school. Police Chief

Bauer said he was contacted and is willing to help but would need volunteers to help with the street closure. City Attorney asked how many volunteers would be needed. Bauer said at least 5, but adjustments can also be made. Councilmember Harris asked if the homeowners would be notified. Suther said she had no plans to talk to the residential area but a school employee lives in that neighborhood and she could talk to that person about alerting the area. Councilmembers said to work with Chief Bauer regarding the traffic.

Gene Schubel representing the Louisburg Library presented information on a proposal from Dry Basement to fix a water issue at the library. After the information was discussed, City Administrator Law said as a good neighbor the City provided funding for the library to put a sump pump in place after the library said the water issues stemmed from the downtown Broadway work. City Attorney Anderson said he has researched this issue and the City paid for the pump and the library signed a statement they would release the City from any additional obligation. Schubel said he was unaware that had happened. He asked if the City could check the retaining wall and possibly add additional drainage as water enters the stairwell from that area. It could be an easy fix, Schubel said. Administrator Law said he will take a look.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Fred Fendorf of 301 Shoreline Drive addressed the Council about the lake maintenance. Administrator Law said the lake has been treated with copper sulfate to help with algae growth and a consultant looked at the lake Saturday and will provide a proposal to potentially rid the lake of the curlyweed.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Police Department:** None

**Public Works:** None

**Fire Department:** Fire Chief Gerald Rittinghouse said the fire department currently has four different styles of SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus), this has created a safety problem for the firefighters using them. They range from 10 years old to over 20 years old.

SCBAs are required to meet standards set by NFPA (National Fire Protection Agency). Over half of the department's SCBAs were currently built to the 1997

NFPA standard or the 2002 NFPA Standard. The SCBAs meeting 2002 standard have issues with depleting the power supply for the PASS device. As well as having issues with the SCBA packs, the air bottles for the SCBAs are either past the age of optimum replacement or nearing that point. Currently none of the SCBAs are compatible with area departments we work with.

Chief Rittinghouse recommends all air packs be upgraded to the Scott X3 Pro SCBA at a cost of \$86,712.66. The money used to purchase would come from the money budgeted to replace the City brush truck. This equipment would be good for the next 15 years. Louisburg is the last department in the area to make this upgrade. Councilmember Cook asked about the cost if it is budgeted. Administrator Law said we would make sure the money is there and this item concerns safety. Councilmember Town moved, seconded by Councilmember Cook and carried 4-0, to approve the \$86,712.66 for the Fire Department to purchase SCBAs. Administrator Law said the brush truck could still be purchased this year or moved to next year. That is a council decision.

Administrator Law said another housing incentive meeting would be coming. City Clerk will get some dates together.

### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

None

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

**Arbor Day Proclamation:** Mayor Marty Southard presented an Arbor Day Proclamation that proclaims April 30, 2021 as Arbor Day. Councilmember Harris moved, seconded by Councilmember Cook and carried 5-0, to authorize Mayor Southard sign the Arbor Day Proclamation. Voting on the Arbor Day posters crafted by some of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Broadmoor Elementary will be done after the meeting.

**Pool Updates:** Mayor Southard asked if Council still wanted to proceed as last year with pool operations as Council instructed Staff at a previous meeting. Councilmembers had discussion and asked Administrator Law to compile a list to discuss at the next meeting.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**Master Planning Review Continued:** Included as part of the administrative goals list is a regular review of master planning projects, goals and objectives. This is the eleventh section of the City Strategic Plan, as found within the Bright Future Comprehensive Plan.

Communicate progress on Comprehensive Plan Implementation:

1. Conduct annual Planning Commission or Council public hearing on Comp Plan implementation progress
2. Publish annual Comp Plan implementation report
3. Identify Comp Plan related actions on the agenda of Council and Planning Commission
4. Share annual reports and implementation success stories with key implementation partners

On the first item, there has been no effort to conduct annual public hearings for progress of the comprehensive plan implementation; however, there is regular staff discussion of implementation and plan items with boards and commissions through ongoing review of the comprehensive plan and other master planning documents. On the second item, staff has not compiled an annual implementation report, but will do so based on Council desire for a formal report. On the third item, staff tries to tie items of discussion at any board or commission to appropriate long-term planning goals where appropriate. On the last item, staff does communicate with appropriate partners to discuss implementation of plan items, which includes discussion of outcomes, effectively meeting this objective. Councilmember Cook asked if there is annual reviews. Mr. Law said yes and it is under the comp plan. Councilmember Harris would like to see an annual implementation. Mr. Law said he will get one. Councilmember Town asked when the last time we had public input. Law said it was around 3-4 years ago.

**Budget Amendment Publication for Hearing:** Mr. Law presented the budget amendment for hearing notice. It must publish 10 days prior to the hearing. Councilmember Cook asked questions, which Law answered. Councilmember Cook moved, seconded by Councilmember Scott Margrave and carried 5-0, to publish the budget amendment in the Miami County Republic.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant – North Access Road Asphalt Consideration:** Mr. Law presented a revised asphalt quote for the service road to the wastewater treatment plant. The new quote is \$51,319 down from the original \$76,077 and sees the overall asphalt thickness reduced from 9 inches to 6 inches as

this is an access road and not an arterial road. Mr. Law said professional opinion and his recommendation is to asphalt due to the slope of the road and the additional cost to upgrade the base to allow for multiple layers of chip-seal.

Hufferd said N. 16<sup>th</sup> has asphalt under the chip and seal. Councilmember Kevin Vohs confirmed the price is reduced by \$24,758. Law said yes the cost reduced since it is going from 9-inch pavement surface to 6-inch. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Town moved, seconded by Councilmember Vohs and carried 4-1 (Cook voting no), to approve the change order for \$51,319.

**Stormwater Concern/Project Update:** Mr. Law said this property had been on the list of stormwater priorities but had been set aside. Most recently this property owner approached Council requesting a meeting to review video and pictures to better explain the stormwater impacts and concerns. Council held a workshop on April 8 for this purpose. While no formal action was provided at the workshop, Mr. Law reached out to Olsson to ask if pipe were possible instead of a swale option. Olsson engineers said in their professional opinion the open swale allows for less energy than going through a pipe. If a pipe is desired, then the area where the water enters the creek would need to be improved. Mr. Law said there is not a good easement to make those improvements. The original estimate from three years ago was \$97,000 and is \$48,000 for a swale and the rough estimate for piping moves the cost back to \$97,000. With the open swale, Mr. Law said the rip rap would be improved at the north end and as long as swale is maintained with grass there should not be an erosion concern. Councilmember Vohs asked the property owner Paul Rogers if the photos and videos that were shown during the workshop were normal or exceptional. Mr. Rogers said normal. His concern is trash and pollutant in a swale. Councilmembers had discussion. Mayor Southard asked what direction the council would like to go. He said this project has been looked at multiple times in the past three years. Councilmember Town said there would likely be damage to the creek if the water is piped to the creek. Council would like to have Staff get some designs from an engineer and bring back to a future meeting. City Attorney Anderson asked what would be the annual maintenance cost. Mr. Law said we don't know that yet. Councilmember Cook thinks it should be piped for the extra \$40,000 and that money can be found to pay for it. Councilmember Vohs would like to get more information so the right decision can be made. Administrator Law will reach out to Olsson for costs and bring back.

**Meeting Livestream Considerations:** Staff presented costs for additional equipment to livestream council meetings as requested at a previous meeting. Costs for new microphones and a camcorder are \$4,671. Councilmember Donna

Cook asked if we use Boxcast now. Law said we purchased access to it last year when figuring out broadcasting options for meetings. Councilmember Harris is concerned the video camera might not be the quality that would be needed. Mr. Law said a test using a camcorder was done at a previous meeting and Staff could provide Council a sample.

**Lewis-Young Park Ballfields Consideration:** Councilmember Cook asked if the school board had put this on a bond issue. Mr. Law said not for this project as this is on city property, but the school did have ballfields on a bond issue that failed and removed from the second bond issue. Mr. Law said this is a separate conversation. Councilmember Cook asked if the community should vote on this. Mr. Law said if the project progresses that it would be a bond issue and likely a ballot initiative. He suggests a committee be formed to see if there is interest to pursue this idea. Mayor Southard said this is a fact-finding mission and is looking for two volunteers to serve on a committee. Councilmember Vohs would be happy to be on this board as he is the council liaison to LRC. Councilmember Cook said as the liaison to Park & Tree Board it would make sense for her to also be on the committee. Mr. Law said this item is on the LRC agenda for their meeting the next evening and he would report to them.

**2021 Concrete Bids:** Staff received two bids for concrete work, which were opened during a public bid opening April 2.

Concrete Bids:

1. Pavement Management \$174,117.75
2. G-B Construction \$16,635.00

This work covers sidewalk repair on Broadmoor Cove and curb work at various locations throughout town. It also includes the future pavilion slab at Lewis-Young Park. As a reminder the work at LYP is part of the grant received through Kansas Parks, Wildlife and Tourism and will be reimbursed at 50 percent. Councilmember Town moved, seconded by Councilmember Margrave and carried 5-0, to use G-B Construction for the concrete work.

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Councilmember Town:** Councilmember Town asked if the Fishing Derby was still planned. Administrator Law said Park and Tree Board are still planning it. Councilmembers all agreed it was a great community event.

Town inquired about the Freedom Fest. Town is looking at electronic fireworks for safety issues. Councilmember Vohs agreed that would be much safer than hand lighting.

**Councilmember Margrave:** None

**Councilmember Cook:** Councilmember Cook asked if we have taken any loads of leaves to Osawatomie. Hufferd said they take a load here and there as time allows.

Cook was asked about the possibility of having a dog park at L-Y Park. Administrator Law said at an earlier time the Council was not interested in pursuing one. He suggested the person come to a Park and Tree Board meeting to discuss.

Cook asked if we have any kind of incentives for businesses. Law said currently no incentives are outright offered to new businesses, but there is an economic development policy online that provides for the incentive tools available in Louisburg based on new jobs created and the like.

**Councilmember Harris:** Councilmember Harris asked when Casey's General Store would start their building. Mr. Law said soon as we have received the permit fee. Councilmember Harris thanked Mr. Fendorf for coming talking about the lake. Law said there are still varmints that need to be removed.

**Councilmember Vohs:** Councilmember Vohs asked about the burn site issues. Administrator Law said there is no additional information. With all the health concerns, his opinion is to close it. That would likely lead to more burning on Fridays and Saturdays in town, which would lead to additional concerns. Councilmember Cook asked about the cost of the air blanket. Law said it has to be licensed, permitted and an annual inspection must be done and the company that had one the City could use does not hold the permit and license.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:20 p.m. Councilmember Harris moved, seconded by Councilmember Vohs and carried 5-0, to adjourn the meeting.

Approved:

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Marty Southard, Mayor

Attest:

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Traci Storey, City Clerk