

**CITY OF LOUISBURG, KANSAS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
JULY 6, 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.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Steve Town led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmembers Donna Cook and Scott Margrave asked questions regarding the bills list. Administrator Law explained. Councilmember Sandy Harris moved, seconded by Councilmember Kevin Vohs and carried 5-0, to approve the consent agenda to include adoption of the agenda and approval of the regular meeting minutes June 21, 2021 and the bills list.

PUBLIC HEARING CDBG-CV CLOSE OUT

Mayor Southard opened the CDBG-CV Close Out public hearing at 6:34 p.m. There were no public comments. Councilmember Cook asked if there was a list of where the money was spent. Administrator Law said it is the same list that was approved last year. He can send it to her again.

VISITORS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Fire Department: Fire Chief Gerald Rittinghouse thanked all who helped with the 4th of July fireworks. Special thanks to firefighters Steve Town and Arlen Thompson and public works employee Don Benthusen who set them all up.

He reported the radio conversion is to take place July 13.

The city trucks will be pump tested this week.

Police Department: Police Chief Tim Bauer gave a hiring update to the Council. They have had a couple of applicants they have received positive feedback on. He is hoping to bring them back for hiring. Bauer has received good reports from the Academy regarding Officer Hamamy. He seems to be really enjoying it and is ready to take on the roll once graduated.

Public Works: Public Works Supervisor Craig Hufferd said there have been some personnel changes at the water plant which will result in replacing a position at the water plant instead of in public works.

There will be several items going to the Purple Wave Auction. Those items include a 1999 fire truck, 2007 zero turn Kubota and five old wooden picnic tables. Councilmember Cook asked if those tables could be used anywhere else. Hufferd said they are rotted out and that the wood would all have to be replaced. Councilmember Harris asked if someone could have a plaque put on the new picnic tables if they purchased one. Jean Carder said that isn't possible as the tables were purchased with grant money that had specific requirements tied to them. Councilmember Cook asked when things would be on Purple Wave. Mr. Hufferd said they would be on next week.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Master Planning Review Continued: Mr. Law said this is an extensive item and asked Council if anyone would like to discuss any section in particular. Councilmember Cook asked about the inventory database and asked if this could be used for other items than just parks. Mr. Law said those items of value would be in the database. She also asked about the dark sky preserve. Mr. Law said that has also been discussed in the past but if the observatory goes ahead with their planned move east of town such a preserve may not be necessary. She also asked about a spot for a sledding hill. Mr. Law said this is in the master parks plan to be located near where the old water treatment plant was located in the southwest corner of Ron Weers Park. He said some modifications would need to be made but with just a few changes it could become a sledding hill. She also asked about the historic downtown area and whether a district is planned for that area. Mr. Law explained the Historic Preservation Commission will request the existing boundaries expand to include all of Louisburg, but that any property would have to opt in. There is currently no plan to create an overlay district as that can significantly limit property owner ability to make additions or modifications.

Councilmember Harris asked about a dog park. Mr. Law and Jean Carder both addressed this item. A grant application has been submitted. Once more information is available staff will let the Council know.

Councilmember Margrave asked about the Farmers Market pavilion. Mr. Law said this has been discussed previously with a potential location in the open area directly east of Fox Hall. Councilmember Harris previously suggested having it at the current location at S. Second & Mulberry.

Downtown Parking Consideration: Administrator Law said he would like to table this item for another meeting when Kiersten Allen could attend.

Expanded CMB and Alcoholic Liquor Sales Hours: At the last meeting Council requested Staff to return information in regards to adjusting the allowed time for Sunday alcohol sales as recently approved by the State Legislature. Mr. Law said there are some steps the City would need to follow to allow for the earlier sale of alcohol including a protest timeframe. Mayor Southard confirmed this action would change the allowed time for Sunday alcohol sales from noon to 9 a.m. Councilmember Cook moved and Councilmember Vohs seconded to approve Ordinance 1140 amending City Code to expand cereal malt beverage and alcoholic liquor sales hours as a result of HB 2137. Councilmember Harris asked City Attorney Anderson if he had reviewed the ordinance. He said he had. Motion carried 5-0.

KDOT Utility Agreements: Mr. Law said KDOT is requesting utilities be moved out of the Right-of-Way near Louisburg Ford in preparation of the widening of K-68. He said it is our obligation to move the utilities but KDOT is offering a shared cost with the transportation authority paying a large portion of that cost. He recommends approval of moving the utilities. Councilmember Vohs asked when the work needs to be completed. Mr. Law said Nov. 1 and can be completed fairly quickly. Councilmember Town moved and Councilmember Margrave seconded and passed 5-0 to authorize the utilities to be moved.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Town: Councilmember Town thanked Don Benthusen for all his help with the fireworks. Don is working on getting his certification.

Town asked if the expansion of the toll road on US69 changes any of our projects on K-68. Administrator Law said it should not but will check into it.

Councilmember Margrave: Councilmember Margrave said he was approached about the former Chinese restaurant in the downtown area. The awning is in disrepair. Mr. Law said Staff has been in contact with the owners.

Councilmember Cook: Councilmember Cook thanked everyone for their help in the 4th of July Celebration.

Cook asked how much money has been spent on the City Lake over the last few years. Mr. Law said he would have to go back and look. Treatments this year have been \$4,000 - \$5,000.

Cook inquired about the cemetery and who maintains monuments and checks for mowing quality. Mr. Law said we have a company that does the mowing and we review that work. Cook asked about tree work and damaged monuments. Law said if a monument is damaged by the mowing company, then that company should notify City staff. He said Staff would check on tree trimming.

Cook asked how many employees have vehicles they take home. Law said the on-call employee, Craig Hufferd, Tim Bauer, Gerald Rittinghouse, Mark Allen, water plant employees and himself. Cook asked if there is a list of vehicles with the mileage for them. Craig Hufferd said that is done bi-monthly.

Cook said North Broadway at the bottom of the hill has a hole in it. Administrator Law said he would look into it.

Councilmember Harris: Councilmember Harris said the fireworks show was great. He asked Mr. Town about the new equipment. Town said it took 3 to set them all up, but it went off great. Harris thank everyone that helped with the event. He asked if there is a way to discourage people from bringing their dogs. Administrator Law said that is difficult with classifications for service animal or someone having an emotional support animal. He said the Scouts counted 558 vehicles at Freedom Fest.

Harris asked what was going in at the car lot on Broadway. Councilmember Cook said the owner has good plans for it.

The southwest corner of Rockville and K-68 needs to be mowed. Mr. Law said the City is working on this.

Harris would like to see a no camping sign at the southwest corner of City Lake. He also asked if the fish in the lake were edible. Hufferd said they are safe to eat.

Councilmember Vohs: Councilmember Vohs asked if there is any news regarding the burn site. Mr. Hufferd said it has slowed down this time of year. Councilmember Cook asked if we had heard from nearby residents. Mr. Law said we have not.

Councilmember Cook asked the survey cost for dredging the lake. Administrator Law explained the process and said each survey would cost between \$4,000-\$5,000.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:14 p.m. Councilmember Vohs moved, seconded by Councilmember Harris and carried 5-0.

Approved:

Marty Southard, Mayor

Attest:

Traci Storey, City Clerk