

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

Livestream link: <https://boxcast.tv/view/louisburg-city-council-7-19-21-822082>

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. Councilmembers Scott Margrave and Kevin Vohs were absent.

Council Members Steve Town, Donna Cook, Sandy Harris
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 Kiersten Allen, Connie Powell, Tony Pourmemar

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Donna Cook led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmembers Cook and Sandy Harris asked questions regarding the bills list. Administrator Law explained. Councilmember Harris moved, seconded by Councilmember Cook and carried 3-0, to approve the consent agenda to include adoption of the agenda and approval of the regular meeting minutes July 6, 2021 and the bills list.

VISITORS

Kiersten Allen and Connie Powell representing the Louisburg Library said at a previous city council meeting they discussed three items with the council and would like to follow-up on those items.

1. Ice and snow removal – Allen said that was taken care of

2. Placing handicap poles in designated spots – Administrator Law said that is hopefully being done this week.
3. The Library would like three designated parking spots.

City Administrator Nathan Law said the parking item is on the Agenda as 9B. Mayor Southard asked for this item to move forward for discussion. Mr. Law provided a map to the Council of requested designated spaces by current downtown businesses if the Council chooses to enact designated spaces. He said this map does not take into account vacant storefronts and what the parking needs might be if businesses moved in. Councilmember Cook said she is not in favor of designated parking, there isn't enough parking downtown as it is now and parking should be first-come, first-served basis to all the businesses. Mr. Law asked the library representatives if the conflict is Fox Hall and they said it was. Councilmember Steve Town asked if the parking would only be during business hours. Mr. Law said that would be difficult to enforce. Councilmember Harris asked what signs are being discussed. Mr. Law said they are the handicap signs. Councilmember Town asked if there were other issues other than Fox Hall parking. Allen said it is primarily Fox Hall parking that is the issue. City Attorney Jared Anderson asked if Fox Hall renters were being encouraged to use other downtown parking areas. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Cook moved, seconded by Councilmember Town not to designate parking on Broadway. Councilmember Harris asked if the Library had complaints from patrons. Allen said most complaints are due to the lack of parking. Ms. Allen asked if parallel spaces could be added to the south side of S. Second St. between the library and Mulberry. Discussion occurred. Motion carried 3-0 to not designate parking on Broadway. Mayor Southard said he liked the idea of adding parking on the south side of S. Second St. just west of the library. Mr. Law said there might be some issues with elevation and the current sidewalk but will bring some ideas at a future meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Fire Department: Fire Chief Gerald Rittinghouse said the fire chief vehicle is here. The lights and sirens will be added soon.

The stoplight being out at K68/US 69 has created problems for all emergency responders.

Police Department: None

Public Works: None

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Master Planning Review Continued: Administrator Law this is the first section of the Master Trails Plan but the seventeenth section of master planning review. Law asked if anyone would like to discuss any of the items. Councilmember Harris asked what a buffered lane was. Mr. Law explained that is a separate lane from the street and is used by bicyclists or if a trail like the current project for both bicyclists and pedestrians. Councilmember Cook asked about the price of S. Rockville from Amity to S. 5th – Designated Route. Law said the price was before the sidewalk was put in. The costs also includes adding signs. Councilmembers had discussion and Law told them this is just for planning and review purposes.

Discussion of Nuisance Property at 128 S. Harvest Drive: Administrator Law said this building is being discussed as a dangerous and unfit structure pursuant to Chapter VIII, Article 8 of the City Code. Tony Pourmemar said the building is owned by All American Roofing out of Olathe. He said he was unaware of the problems, which consists of parking lot issues, water leaks, mold, broken doors and windows, until Rusty Whitham, the city's codes enforcement representative, showed him. Since then he has hired someone to tear out all the sheetrock, carpet and fix the shared access drive. Councilmember Harris asked if he talks to the owners of the building. Mr. Pourmemar said his is one of four owners. City Attorney Jared Anderson asked how long has it been since he was at the building. Pourmemar said he was just there Friday and today. Pourmemar said the parking lot is bad because unauthorized semi-trucks park there. He would like to put concrete barriers in the parking lot to keep people out. Mayor Southard asked what happens if there is a fire at the building. Pourmemar said he didn't think about that. He would like to get it sold. A thrift store was interested, but he turned them down because he doesn't want

what comes with it. Attorney Anderson said the first issue to address tonight is the water issue and asked what the timeframe until completion. Pourmemar said a mold remediation company will be coming in after the sheetrock is removed. City Attorney Anderson asked if Pourmemar would be willing to share that report. Pourmemar said he would provide that. Councilmember Town asked about the broken glass. Pourmemar said he was not aware of the broken glass. Mr. Law said the City has tried to notify Mr. Pourmemar of the condition of the building over the course of several years, including using a process server, but has not been able to get a response to the certified letters. Councilmember Harris wants to make sure we get the mold out of the building. Councilmembers had discussion. Mr. Pourmemar agreed to provide documentation of completed work by the Aug. 16 meeting. Mayor Southard asked Staff to continue keep moving forward with the next step in this process. Police Chief Bauer said trespassing prohibited and no semi-truck parking signs would be beneficial in allowing the police to assist with the parking issue.

ARPA Funding Potential Uses: Administrator Law had given information regarding the American Rescue Plan Act and potential use categories, as well as guidance at a previous Council meeting. He asked Council if they are interested in receiving the funding. Councilmembers had discussion. Councilmember Town moved, and seconded by Councilmember Harris, to authorize city staff to request the disbursement of the ARPA funding. Mr. Town amended his original motion to name the City Administrator as the authorized person. Seconded by Mr. Harris. The amendment carried 3-0. Councilmember Harris asked if some of the money could be routed to other local agencies. Law said there are options for local organizations that can be discussed at another meeting. Amended motion carried 3-0.

Salary Survey: Mr. Law noted that the city is having greater difficulty in filling positions therefore it might be a good idea to address again the idea of a salary survey to be sure we are competitive regionally in pay and benefits.

Councilmembers Harris agreed we need a salary survey done. Councilmember Cook is not in favor of hiring out for a salary survey but that we should reach out to other communities to find what they pay for similar positions. Councilmembers had discussion. Attorney Anderson stated it is a much cleaner effort and negates ethical concerns to use a third party. Councilmember Cook asked why a survey is needed. Mr. Law said it is intended both to attract employees and retain employees. After discussion Councilmember Town moved, seconded by Councilmember Harris and carried 2-1 (Cook voting no) to accept the MARC option 3.

Replat of Vintage Park (298 & 299 Howard Street): Administrator Law said the Planning Commission had recently approved the final plat at an earlier meeting. All fees for the application have been paid at an appropriate time for this development. Councilmember Harris moved, seconded by Councilmember Cook and passed 3-0, to approve the replat.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Law asked for a 10-minute executive session to discuss performance of an individual employee pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). Councilmember Harris moved, seconded by Councilmember Cook and carried 3-0, to go into executive session at 7:51p.m. and resume the open meeting in the Council Chamber at 8:01 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

No action was taken from the executive session.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Harris: Councilmember Harris said we need to make Mr. Pourmemar hold up to his responsibilities talked about this evening. Mr. Law said staff will be working closely with Mr. Pourmemar especially since we now have contact information for him.

Councilmember Cook: None

Councilmember Town: Councilmember Town asked about the north lagoon project date of completion. Mr. Law said they have until the end of September to finish. He will keep the Council updated.

Councilmember Harris asked if there were any problems with all the rain we have been having. Mr. Law said there has been a lot of water in a short period of time. Council had discussion. Mr. Law said the order of the stormwater projects will depend on which projects Council wants to tackle first and how they want to spend ARPA money and other City funds, if they choose to address stormwater infrastructure.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:09 p.m. Councilmember Steve Town moved, seconded by Councilmember Sandy Harris and carried 3-0.

Approved:

Marty Southard, Mayor

Attest: _____
Traci Storey, City Clerk