

**CITY OF LOUISBURG, KANSAS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

Livestream link:

<https://boxcast.tv/view/regular-meeting-of-the-louisburg-city-council-bty42kffmepptjvjt9>

The Council of the City of Louisburg, Kansas, met at 6:30 p.m. in regular session in the City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Donna Cook presiding.

Council Members Steve Town, Scott Margrave, Tiffany Ellison, Clint Ernst.
TJ Williams arrived at 7:23 p.m.
City Administrator Nathan Law
City Clerk Jessica McGowin
Community Development Director Sarah Altic
Police Chief Josh Weber
Fire Chief Gerald Rittinghouse
Communications Coordinator Jean Carder
Public Works Supervisor Craig Hufferd
Visitors Elizabeth Ellis, Brinley White and Brock Vohs

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Scott Margrave led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Cook asked to move item 12C Cemetery Fence to 12A as there are persons present in the audience for this discussion. Councilmember Tiffany Ellison moved, seconded by Councilmember Clint Ernst and carried 4-0, to accept the amended agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Administrator Law said there is a correction to the minutes and that a strike-through under the Zone Change needs to be removed. Ellison moved, Ernst seconded and carried 4-0, to approve the minutes with the noted change.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Councilmember Steve Town moved to approve the minutes and was seconded by Margrave. Ellison asked a question about the bills which Law answered. Motion carried 4-0.

SCHEDULED VISITORS

Louisburg Stampede - Paul Scruggs, representing the Louisburg Community Committee, provided an update to the Council on the Louisburg Stampede planned for June 8, 2024. Scruggs said the committee was formed by Mayor Cook to produce, develop, and promote social and economic vitality in Louisburg and specifically Downtown. This is a private committee, he said, but may eventually fall under the Convention and Tourism Committee. They want to have a music event downtown with food trucks, vendors, and a beer garden. The preliminary budget is \$40,000, and the committee plans to raise that money through sponsorships. In addition to Scruggs and Cook, other committee members are Carol Aust and Merlynn Niebaum. Scruggs said the group has talked to Rodeo Gold Productions and the rodeo will move from the July 4 weekend to this weekend. Discussion occurred with council members.

LHS Homecoming – Brinley White and Brock Vohs, members of the LHS Student Council, asked for permission to close the streets from the high school to Wildcat Stadium for the homecoming parade Sept. 29. They requested the closure from 1:25-1:50 p.m. Police have no issues with this. Town moved, Ellison seconded and carried 4-0, to approve the request for the street closure from LHS to the Stadium at the requested time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

COUNCIL REPORTS

Ernst – asked about ways to curb potential speeding in The Lake subdivision. He also provided a report from the quarterly Miami County Economic Development meeting.

Ellison – no report

Margrave – no report

Town – no report

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Finance – no report

Police – Chief Weber provided updates from his department.

Fire – no report (Chief Rittinghouse was called away earlier in the meeting for an emergency response.)

Public Works – Public Works Supervisor Craig Hufferd provided the bid information from the lead/copper RFP. (Councilmember TJ Williams arrived at 7:23 p.m.) Discussion occurred. Council decided to rent the equipment and have Public Works staff do the work instead of proceeding with bid selection.

Community Development – CDD Sarah Altic asked for permission to attend a conference on active transportation in McPherson later this month. She said the training will qualify as credits for her continuing education. Law said there is money budgeted for conferences and trainings. Council thought the training would be beneficial to attend.

City Attorney – Attorney Stephenson provided more training on KOMA to include how it is enforced.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Cook reported that Brock Elliott, one of the City's appointees to the Louisburg Recreation Commission, will be relocating out of the school district and will be resigning at the end of his term the end of this year. She asked that information on accepting applications for consideration to be appointed to this board be publicized.

Cook reported that Leslie Baker is unable to fulfill her appointment to the Convention and Tourism Committee. Cook would like to appoint Jennifer Dansel,

of Dansel Chiropractic, to the spot. Williams moved, seconded by Ellison and carried 5-0, to approve the nomination.

Cook said she would like the governing body to be more involved in the Holiday Magic on Broadway event and possibly provide hot dogs or popcorn at Fox Hall during the event. Discussion occurred. Ellison said she would rather volunteer where needed.

Cook asked what are the regulations involving fireworks in the city limits and in particular someone had asked why the school is allowed to have fireworks during the Electric Light Show. Law said City Code allows for the public display of fireworks if a certified operator is in charge of the show. The school meets those requirements and individuals can do that if they follow the guidelines. Cook asked if individuals could shoot off fireworks. Law said City Code does not allow for that. Cook said she would like to see that changed. Discussion occurred. The council was not in favor of changing the regulations.

Cook said the welcome sign near N. 16th & Metcalf is in poor shape and asked if it could be repaired. Discussion occurred to include it is uncertain who owns the sign. Staff was instructed to research this topic and return information.

Cook said the street sign at Julie and S. Second Street East is missing.

Discussion occurred on repairs to the fire station door.

Cook said the restrooms at Ron Weers Park shelter are not ADA. Law said staff will inspect and see how the restrooms could be retrofitted for ADA.

Cook asked how decorations should be purchased for Little Round House. Discussion occurred. It was decided that Cook would contact Barbara Smith, who has volunteered to decorate the building, and have Smith work with City Staff to make any purchases.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Cemetery Fence Return Discussion – Law said the Cemetery Board met and was unsure of what direction the Council wanted them to take. Fox Hall/Cemetery Board chairman Dennis DeShazer was in attendance and visited with the Council about fence options. The Cemetery Board will schedule another special meeting to discuss the fencing options.

Metcalf 2.0 Right-of-Way Maintenance – Discussion occurred about maintaining the area between the curb and sidewalk/trail on the newly constructed Metcalf 2.0. Williams moved, seconded by Ernst and carried 5-0, to approve an ordinance establishing the right of way of the City of Louisburg to control and maintain certain areas of rights-of-way to preserve the symmetry and beauty of the same along the Metcalf 2.0 project area.

Ellison moved, Ernst seconded and carried 5-0, to recess for 5 minutes to return at 9:05 p.m.

Animal ordinance – Law reviewed the information in the memo. Discussion occurred. Council directed staff to add some additional language to the Running at Large section.

Williams moved, and Ellison seconded and carried 5-0, to approve an ordinance to amend Chapter II. Animal Control and Regulations, by repealing Article 3. Dangerous Animals, Section 2-301. Dangerous Animal, and adopt a new Article 3. Dangerous Animals, Section 2-301. Dangerous Animals, of the Code of the City of Louisburg.

Ellison moved, Williams seconded and carried 5-0, to approve an ordinance amending Chapter II. Animal Control and Regulation, by repealing Article 3. Dangerous Animals, Section 2-302. Vicious Animal Destruction; when, and adopting a new Article 3. Dangerous Animals, Section 2-302. Vicious Animal Destruction; when, of the Code of the City of Louisburg.

Stormwater – Law reviewed the change orders for the stormwater construction in the S. First & Vine area. Ellison moved, seconded by Town and carried 5-0, to approve the change orders as requested. Ernst thanked Law for bringing this to the Council’s attention, bringing information and providing transparency.

Purchasing Policy – Council set a workshop at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13 at City Hall to discuss modifications to the purchase policy.

Master Plan Review – Law said the meeting has been lengthy that he would be happy to answer any questions via email on this topic.

Executive Session - Ellison moved the City Council recess into executive session to discuss an individual employee’s performance pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) with the City Attorney

present with the open meeting to resume in City Council chambers at 10:30 p.m. Margrave seconded. Motion passed 3-2 (Ernst and Williams voted no).

Council resumed into open session at 10:32 p.m. with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:32 p.m., Ellison moved, seconded by Williams and passed 5-0, to adjourn the meeting.

Approved:

Donna Cook, Mayor

Attest:

Jean Carder, recording secretary