

LINDSBORG CITY COUNCIL

September 21, 2015 – 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Members Present – Rick Martin, Becky Anderson, Betty Nelson, Kelley Menke, David Higbee, Emile Gallant, Corey Peterson & Mayor Bill Taylor

Absent – Blaine Heble

Others Present – Greg DuMars, Jerry Lovett-Sperling, Tim Berggren, Holly Lofton, Larry Lindgren, Dan Carr, Kate Elliott, Gary Shogren, Bill Gusenius, Tim Dunn, Stephanie Wessel, Marcus & Elizabeth Spencer, Ken & Linda Branch Bob Carlson, Darren Dohrman & Mike Wessel

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Public Input – Bob Carlson, Bethany College, spoke regarding the parking issue in the 500 block of N 2nd. Bethany would like to be a good neighbor and would take over the “policing” of the parking situation.

Stephanie Wessel spoke regarding the letter sent to council requesting a review of the regulations regarding keeping chickens within the city limits. Mayor Taylor stated that the issue would be given to staff for investigation and the item would appear on the October 5th council meeting agenda.

Amendments to the Agenda – none

Mayor’s Report – #1 – With Hyllningsfest coming up, he appreciates residents and business sprucing up their homes & businesses for the influx of visitors coming to town. Also, stating that there are always tasks available for volunteers. #2 The K-DOT B-Line buses plan to change the schedule to only one stop

per day in Lindsborg. #3 Thanks to the Lindsborg Community Hospital and Betty Nelson for their work on the recent Health Fair and Battle of the Busses.

Consent Agenda – Kelley Menke moved to approve the consent agenda that includes the minutes of the September 8, 2015 regular council meeting, Purchase Order Ordinance 4941 and Payroll Ordinance 4940, and the appointment of Sarai Golden to the Lindsborg EMS Department and the appointment of Mike Dreier & Mark Friesen to the Golf Course Advisory Committee. Motion seconded by Emile Gallant and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Planning & Zoning – reminder of joint meeting on October 20, 2015

Old Business - ORDINANCE 4939 – PERMITTED PARKING 500 BLOCK NORTH SECOND STREET – An Ordinance has been amended as requested at the September 8, 2015, City Council meeting.

Rick Martin moved to take Ordinance 4939 off the table from the previous meeting. Motion seconded by David Higbee and passed. Rick Martin then moved to Adopt Ordinance 4939 as amended by staff. Motion seconded by David Higbee. Ensuing discussion centered on an alternate plan which would allow parking on the East side of the street on the South half of the block and parking on the West side of the street on the North half of the block. David Higbee moved to put the ordinance back on the table until the October 5, 2015 meeting to allow further discussion between the residents, Public Safety and Bethany College. Motion seconded by Corey Peterson and passed by voice vote.

New Business – RURAL FIRE DISTRICT NO. 8 AGREEMENT - The agreement between the City of Lindsborg and the Rural Fire District No. 8 is reviewed and updated annually. This agreement states that the City provides services and vehicle storage for the rural fire district, as well as the payment to volunteer firefighters for rural fire runs. In return, the rural fire district pays a fee to the City for these services plus a set amount for the fire runs. Proposed in the 2016 agreement is a 3% increase in the fee for City-provided services and vehicle storage. The amount increases from \$4,956 annually to \$5,106 annually.

Betty Nelson moved to approve the Rural Fire District No. 8 Agreement as presented. Motion seconded by Emile Gallant and passed.

ELECTRIC CUTOFF COVERS - As part of the ongoing effort to improve and maintain electrical service within the City, the Electric Department would like to purchase 100 cut-out covers, more commonly known as “critter guards”. They are placed over the cutouts at the transformers and keep squirrels and raptors from shorting out between two phases.

Betty Nelson moved to approve the purchase of 100 cut-out covers from Kriz-Davis at a cost of \$1,685.00, plus sales tax. Motion seconded by David Higbee and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

ELECTRIC METERS QUOTE - As part of the program to convert all meters within the City to radio-read meters, the Electric Department would like to purchase an additional 100 meters. Earlier this year 550 meters were purchased and installed but we are still short of the total number to finish the town. After the first of the year, in a new budget cycle, it is anticipated that an additional 130 meters will need to be purchased to finish the program.

Rick Martin moved to approve the purchase of 100 radio-read electric meters at a cost of \$5,500.00 plus tax from Stanion Electric. Motion seconded by Corey Peterson and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST - In 2014, the City Electric Utility sponsored a Christmas lighting contest. There were two categories, "Best Residential Display" and "Best Neighborhood." There were 9 entries in the "Best Residential Display" category and there were no entries in the "Best Neighborhood." The prizes for the residential display were: 1st place -\$300, 2nd place-\$150, and 3rd place-\$50. The prizes were in Lindsborg gift certificates and could be used at any retail establishment in Lindsborg. The prize for Best Neighborhood was to be a travelling trophy. The contest this year could be modified to tie in with this years Christmas season promotion, "Winter Wonderland."

Moved to approve the contest for 2016 with the elimination of the "Best Neighborhood" and approve \$500 for the prizes. Motion seconded by Rick Martin and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

DOWNTOWN SOUND SYSTEM - At the March 2, 2015, City Council meeting, it was the consensus of council to move forward with the plan from Hopp Sound but not to engage a contract at this time. Part of the intent of this decision was to encourage local fundraising for this project. The total cost of the proposal from Hopp Sound & Electric was \$17,276.17. There have been several conversations with Hopp Sound and the total cost is estimated to be between \$12,000 and \$13,000. This is done by reducing the number of speakers from 24 to 12 and having a used amplifier rather than a new one. Additionally, now that the Downtown Infrastructure Project is complete, Hopp Sound believes it will take less time to complete the project than originally proposed. The Lindsborg Ad Hoc Roundtable has taken on the fundraising effort. To date they have collected \$8,858.00 and have pledges of \$500 and \$1000. They also have a \$2,000.00 grant request in to the McPherson County Foundation. This would bring the total to \$12,358.00. The cost of just the equipment without installation is \$8,436.18.

City staff recommends approving funds to get the equipment ordered and received. Once the final amounts are received and raised by the Lindsborg Ad Hoc Roundtable for the installation, the system could be installed.

Betty Nelson moved to approve \$8,436.18 to purchase the equipment from Hopp Sound & Electric. Motion seconded by Rick Martin and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

150TH ANNIVERSARY – Mayor Taylor stated that this committee needs more members and asked that if anyone had anyone in mind, to submit the name to him. Also it was mentioned that the topic could go on the Ad Hoc agenda for potential members.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Rick Martin moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss matters related to the purchase of real estate and to include the City Attorney and City Administrator. Motion seconded by David Higbee and passed. Council entered the session at 7:22 p.m. and returned at 7:32 p.m. No action taken.

Other – David Higbee asked about the status of communications with the Hyllningsfest Committee. There has been some communication, but there is much more to be discussed.

Corey asked that the topic of Christmas banners for downtown be placed on the next council agenda for discussion.

Adjournment – Rick Martin moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Betty Nelson and passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Lovett-Sperling, MMC

City Clerk