

City Hall Council Chambers:

- ROLL CALL: The City Council of Lincoln Center convened in regular session at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Travis Schwerdtfager presiding. Councilmembers present: Angela K. Corpstein, Elijah Keever, Mark Luce, and Melodee K. Larsen. Councilmember absent: Hayden Howard. Officials present: Attorney Jeffrey A. Norris, City Clerk Heather N. Hillegeist. Also present: Superintendent Jeff Ahring.
- VISITORS: Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting: Dustin Florence, Kathy Nelson, and Scott Day.
- AGENDA AMENDMENTS: There were no amendments to the council meeting agenda.
- MINUTES: Upon motion by Larsen, seconded by Luce, Minutes of the September 8, 2025, regular meeting were approved as written.
- PAYROLL VOUCHER: Payroll Voucher No. 25-09, for September wages and salaries in the amount of \$81,267.05, was presented. A motion by Keever, seconded by Corpstein, to approve said Payroll Voucher, carried.
- ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Accounts Payable lists were reviewed. Invoices prepaid in September totaled \$82,495.79, and unpaid invoices received to date totaled \$311,767.21. Upon motion by Corpstein, seconded by Luce, all invoices, in the amount of \$394,263.00, were approved for payment.
- DELINQ. ACCNTS: The Governing Body reviewed a list of six (6) delinquent utility accounts totaling \$2,602.64.
- SCHOOL ZONE: Sheriff Florence requested the Governing Body consider making North Street from Highway 18 to 1st Street a school zone of 20 mph. After discussion, Superintendent Ahring was asked to get some sign pricing to present at the November council meeting.
- POOL REPORT/REQUESTS: Kathy Nelson, previous pool manager presented a list of items that she would like to see repaired and/or updated at the pool for next season. The Governing Body agreed to start working on the items this fall as time and funds allowed.
- HEALTH INSURANCE: The Governing Body was presented with a Medical Expense Reimbursement Plan (MERP) for the city employees from Scott Day, Day Insurance Solutions, LLC. The proposal included that the umbrella plan would still be through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas (BCBS) with a \$6,000 deductible. However, the city would contract with Freedom Claims Management (FCMI) and use MERP claims funds to pay the difference from the \$6,000 deductible down to the \$3,500 deductible/coinsurance amount. There is potential for the city to save money if we have a healthier group, if all employees had a major health issue the city would be liable for \$40,000 with the current employee population. Following discussion, Keever moved to accept the proposal with Day Insurance Solutions, LLC for the Kansas Municipal Insurance Trust (KMIT) health insurance group plan year beginning January 1, 2026. Motion seconded by Luce, carried.
- RESOLUTION #25-06: Resolution No. 25-06, entitled "A RESOLUTION, PURSUANT TO CODE SECTION 4-607, RENDERING THE GOVERNING BODY'S DETERMINATION THAT THE STRUCTURE AND SURROUNDING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 729 N. 9TH STREET, LINCOLN, KANSAS, IS DANGEROUS, UNSAFE, AND UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION, AND ORDERS THE STRUCTURES THEREON BE REPAIRED OR DEMOLISHED AND THE HEALTH HAZARDS ON THE PREMISES BE ABATED." was

presented. Said Resolution pursuant to section 4-607 of Article 6 of the Code of the City of Lincoln Center, sets the deadline for demolish or abatement of health hazard to December 31, 2025. After discussion, Keever moved to adopt Resolution 25-06, seconded by Corpstein, carried.

KORA ORDINANCE:

Attorney Norris presented an ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1-612 AND SECTION 1-613 OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER I OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN CENTER, KANSAS, RELATING TO OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS INSPECTION FEES AND COPYING FEES.” Said ordinance changes the amount that can be charged when the city receives an open records request for inspection and copying fees . Larsen moved to pass said ordinance, seconded by Corpstein. Upon call for vote, the following Councilmembers voted Aye: Corpstein, Keever, Larsen and Luce. Nays: None. The ordinance was declared passed, was approved and signed by the Mayor, assigned #765 by the City Clerk, and ordered to be published once in the Official City Newspaper.

P PLANT BOILER SYSTEM:

Superintendent Ahring updated the Governing Body on the suggested repairs to the current boilers and water treatment system at the power plant. Glassman Corporation has agreed to install two (2) heat exchangers and repairing the existing boilers at cost to the city and install a commercial grade water softener system to get the boilers back in working condition that were installed two (2) years ago. Keever moved to approved the installation for two (2) heat exchangers, repairs to the boilers \$51,510 and a water softener \$7,800 to get the boilers restored. Motion was seconded by Larsen, carried.

Ahring presented the Governing Body with a proposal with two (2) options for a boiler system for #7 Nordberg Engine from American Boiler & Mechanical. The proposal would remove the #7 engine from the other boiler system and have an independent boiler in the southeast engine room. The proposals include labor, material, and equipment. Keever moved to accept the proposal in the amount of \$82,042.00 for two (2) Lochinvar AWH0400 boilers, seconded by Corpstein. Carried.

PARK RESTROOM QUOTES:

Clerk Hillegeist presented the Governing Body with seven (7) quotes on park restroom options. Hillegeist had worked with three (3) different vendors to get different pricing options. After discussion, the matter was tabled requiring more research on cost to prepare the pad, concrete installation, and connecting to water, sewer and electric services in the park.

E BALL PARK IMPROVEMENTS:

Councilmember Keever discussed the remaining repairs that were discussed in the spring for the East Ball Park. The doors and concrete still need to be replaced. The city will put the doors and concrete work out to bid with the expected completion date of spring of 2026. Larsen moved to approve advertising for bids for east ballpark repairs, seconded by Corpstein, carried.

W BALL PARK EQUIPMENT:

Councilmember Luce was approached by a member of the Catholic church asking if the city would be willing to sell or donate the jungle gym at the west ballpark to the church. Luce was asked to visit them and see what they would be willing to pay for the equipment.

EMPLOYEE HOLIDAYS:

No additional holidays were added to employees for paid leave.

RANDOM TESTING:

Superintendent Ahring discussed employee randoms. After discussion, it was concluded that pre-employment, post-accident, and reasonable suspicion were all necessary for the city's work comp policy.

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- TRANSFER FUNDS: Upon motion by Larsen, seconded by Luce, the transfer of \$150,000.00 from the Electric Fund, \$15,000.00 from the Sewer Fund and \$2,000.00 from the Solid Waste Fund to the City's General Fund, was approved.
- NUISANCE REPORT: The Governing Body reviewed the nuisance list.
- CHAMBER BUSINESS BOO: Clerk Hillegeist relayed the date the Chamber of Commerce needed permission to block streets for the Business Boo. The chamber plans to block Lincoln Avenue from 3rd Street to the Rec Building, on North 4th to the alley as have been done in past years on October 31, 2025, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Governing Body had no objections to the annual Business Boo.
- CHAMBER XMAS PARADE: Clerk Hillegeist relayed the date the Chamber of Commerce needed approval for use of barricades and street closure on December 13, 2025, for the 5th annual lighted Christmas parade. Chamber office manager Heinze presented a list of barricades requested to block Lincoln Avenue from 2nd Street to 5th Street at 6 p.m. for the Christmas parade. The Governing Body had no opposition to the annual Christmas Parade requests.
- WATER RATES: Clerk Hillegeist explained the new water meter project will start at the beginning of November. She requested that the city attorney prepare an ordinance using a conversion of the current rates in cubic feet to gallons to be adopted at the November council meeting.
- Clerk Hillegeist presented the Governing Body with a draft letter the city intends to send to customers regarding the new water meter installation process. There were no objections to the letter.
- SUPERINTENDENT RPT: Superintendent Ahring updated the Governing Body on the status of the pocket park planning committee meetings.
- STREET WORK: Superintendent Ahring presented with Governing Body with a proposal for crack sealing Lincoln Avenue from Highway 14 to the City Park, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Streets from Elm to Court Streets. The seal will be put on all cracks ½" wide or smaller, the estimated project is 23,205 linear feet. After discussion, Luce moved to accept the proposal from South Central Sealing & Paving in the amount estimated not to exceed \$29,702.40. Seconded by Larsen, carried.
- ADJOURN: There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

/s/ Heather N. Hillegeist, MMC
City Clerk