

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF LINN VALLEY, KANSAS
MARCH 28, 2022
7:00 pm

Mayor Cindy Smith called the council meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present at the meeting were Council Members Lewis Donelson, Robert Suppenbach, Michael Hemphill, and Brenda Muncy. Council Member John Weers was absent.

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from the March 14, 2022, meeting were presented. Council Member Suppenbach made a motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Donelson and the motion carried 4-0.

BUILDING AND CODES CLERK

Mayor Smith reported interviewing candidates for the Building and Codes Clerk position. She recommended hiring Jenny Schooler. Council Member Donelson made a motion to hire Jenny Schooler at \$15.00 per hour as a full-time employee with full benefits. The motion was seconded by Council Member Muncy. The motion carried 4-0. Mayor Smith introduced Jenny Schooler, who was in the audience.

WASTEWATER LAGOON PROJECT FINANCING

Joey McLiney of McLiney & Company presented options for financing the Wastewater Lagoon project. The city received funding for the project from USDA with 10% grant. The city will issue general obligation bonds in the amount of \$6.4 million at 2.25% interest.

McLiney discussed options to consider in order to pay back the USDA loan portion – 1) increasing user rate, 2) property assessment for all properties, and 3) a levy increase. The council discussed will address the question at a future time. The council did not give the notice to proceed in securing the bonds.

STATUS OF ACQUIRING LAGOON PROPERTY

There were no updates.

BOOSTER PUMP LAND PURCHASE

Planning and Development Director Daniel Donham reported securing a site for the booster pump. A survey is needed as well as a blanket easement for access. Three phase electricity will need to be installed at the site.

CITY SALES TAX

Clerk Karen Siffring presented information on establishing a city sales tax. The council discussed specific purposes and an amount. A one percent sales tax would be approximately \$32,000 in income for the city. If approved by the council, the question will be put on the ballot for the primary elections in August.

ANIMAL CLINIC

No date has been set.

The city received a contract from the city's auditor, Diehl, Banwart, Bolton. The proposal was for "not more than \$4,850" to do the 2021 audit. Council Member Suppenbach made a motion to approve the contract. Council Member Muncy seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Clerk Siffring requested increasing the maximum credit on the city's credit card. Automatic deductions for multiple software subscriptions and other purchases were not always able to be fully covered within the existing \$1000 limit. Council Member Donelson made a motion to increase the limit on the city's credit card to \$2,500. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hemphill. The motion passed 4-0.

PHONE SYSTEM

Clerk Siffring is investigating a new phone system. She will do additional research.

NEW BUILDING FURNITURE

Council Member Donelson reported his research for furniture for the new building and offices. He had investigated several locations and recommended using United Office Products. Council Member Suppenbach made a motion to allow up to \$25,000 for purchase of the furniture contingent on legal agreement and allow the split invoice. Council Member Muncy seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

The council discussed the contract for the property purchase of for the water tower. Council Member Suppenbach made a motion to allow Karen to sign the closing documents and the invoice for the land purchase. Council Member Muncy seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Director Donham reported reaching an agreement to purchase property for the booster pumps. The council authorized Director Donham to spend up to \$12,000 for the purchase. BG Consultants will survey the land.

Council Member Suppenbach made a motion for an executive session for ten minutes for legal and ten minutes for personnel. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. The council retired to the executive session at 8:03 pm and returned at 8:23 pm with no action taken.

Safety Director Corey Murrison informed the council that a grant was available for an ultra-high-pressure system for the fire department brush truck. The grant would repay the to the city the full cost of the unit. Council Member Suppenbach made a motion to authorize Corey up to \$7,500 for the ultra-high-pressure unit contingent on the grant. Council Member Muncy seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Council Member Suppenbach made a motion for an executive session for ten minutes for legal and ten minutes for personnel. The motion was seconded, and the council retired to the session at 9:02 pm and returned at 9:23 pm with no action taken.

City Attorney James Brun completed four sections to be included in the city code, addressing penalties for non-compliance to nuisance codes and building codes.

Council Member Muncy made a motion to enter into an agreement for employment and contract for legal and allow Robert to sign. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hemphill, and the motion passed 4-0.

ADJOURN

Council Member Suppenbach made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:26 pm.

Submitted by:
Karen Siffring, City Clerk