

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF LINN VALLEY, KANSAS
AUGUST 14, 2023
7:00 pm

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

Council Members at the meeting were Robert Suppenbach, Lewis Donelson, Brenda Muncy, John Weers, and Michael Hemphill. A quorum was present.

AGENDA REVIEW

No changes to the agenda.

MEETING MINUTES

Councilman Hemphill made a motion to accept the July 24, 2023, meeting minutes as written. Councilman Suppenbach seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

CONSTITUTION WEEK PROCLAMATION

Each year the President of the United States designates one week in September as Constitution Week to recognize the importance of the US Constitution to the citizens of this country, asking the citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787, by vigilantly protecting the freedoms guaranteed to us through the guardian of our liberties, remembering that lost rights may never be regained. Renee Slinkard of the Daughters of the American Revolution provided the Proclamation for Constitution Week. Councilman Suppenbach read the proclamation declaring September 17 through 23 Constitution Week. Mayor Smith signed the Proclamation.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

No comments from the audience.

SEWER REPORT

July 2023 report from Page Enterprise: six locates, made repairs to two pumps, and changed out four pumps. Grassy area around the lagoons was mowed. Councilman Donelson reported Operator Mike Page has not set a date for installation of the grinder pump at the community center. Councilman Donelson will manage the periodic treatment of the lagoons.

WATER PROJECT

Mayor Smith announced a Groundbreaking ceremony for the water tower to be held Tuesday August 11th at 11:00 am at the tower site. Former Mayor Jeannie Dwyer and former Councilman Dennis Kidwell will be at the site for the ceremony. The foundation pad for the water tower is complete. Work on the waterline and access road will begin late this week. The steel tank construction will begin late September and should be completed in November. The tank will be painted in the spring of 2024.

Paul Owings, BG Construction, has negotiated a water line agreement for one easement. City Attorney James Brun reported the easement with the POA is being finalized.

WASTEWATER PROJECT

Public Safety Director Corey Murrison is making preparations to move the building from the land purchased for the lagoon to a location near the fire station.

BUILDING AND CODES REPORT

Twenty-three building permit inspections were completed in July 2023 with 154 inspections year-to-date. Year-to-date amounts for 2022 were 42 and 313 respectively.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Director Murrison reported one DUI arrest, 2 motor vehicle non-injury accidents, two vehicle lockouts, three stray dog complaints and a domestic issue. The fire department responded to one motor vehicle accident, seven medical calls and a smoke investigation. The department responded to two vehicle fires in Miami county.

STANDARD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE

Councilman Suppenbach made a motion to adopt Ordinance #250; an ordinance adopting by reference the Standard Traffic Ordinance by the City of Linn Valley, Kansas, otherwise regulating traffic within the city and repealing Ordinance #241. The motion was seconded and carried 5-0.

UNIFORM PUBLIC OFFENSE CODE

Councilman Suppenbach made a motion to adopt Ordinance #251; An ordinance adopting by reference the Uniform Public Offense Code by the City of Linn Valley, Kansas, and repealing Ordinance #242. Councilwoman Muncy seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

CITY CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

City Clerk Karen Siffring reported General Fund income of \$31,720.88 and expenses of \$66,395.13 in July 2023.

Balances for the city's accounts and funds on July 31, 2023:

Operating Fund: \$346,593.67
-Restricted Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund* \$1,029.57
-Restricted Parks & Recreation Fund* \$2,850.59
-Restricted Capital Improvement* \$23,890.70
-Restricted Special Equipment* \$29,695.29

*Restricted funds included in the Operating Fund total.

Balances of other city funds on July 31, 2023:

Street & Highway Fund: \$146,333.81
Sewer Utilities: \$459,882.57
Sewer Reserve Fund: \$65,998.53
ARPA: \$6,067.95
Temporary Notes (Water Project): \$1,903,764.43
Temporary Notes (Wastewater Project): \$5,312,674.46

Councilman Donelson motioned to approved vouchers in the amount of \$161,852.58. The motion, seconded by Councilman Suppenbach, carried 5-0.

PERSONNEL

Mayor Smith recommended hiring an assistant city clerk in 2023 rather than in 2024 as discussed at a prior meeting. The position pay would be \$16.00/hour plus benefits with the individual possibly starting in mid to late September. An ad will be put in the newspaper and on the website.

The Council discussed replacing the vacant building inspector position and questioned if there would be adequate coverage until hiring an inspector in 2024.

Councilman Donelson made a motion for a merit pay increase of \$2.00 per hour for City Clerk Siffring beginning with September 1st payroll. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the council.

Councilman Donelson made a motion for a merit pay increase of 6% for Director Murrison beginning with September 1st payroll. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the council.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Smith will work on updating job descriptions for city personnel. It was recommended the position of building inspector be part-time.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilman Donelson reminded the council of previous discussions of changing court costs and made a motion to adopt Ordinance #248, setting court costs at \$78.50. The motion was seconded by Councilman Suppenbach and carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

ADJOURN

Councilman Hemphill made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Suppenbach and carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Submitted by
Karen Siffring, City Clerk