

MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF LINN VALLEY, KANSAS
FEBRUARY 26, 2024
6:00 pm

Mayor Lewis Donelson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Council Members present: Richard Gravelle, Brenda Muncy, Robert Suppenbach, and Dan Donham. Michael Hemphill was absent. There was a quorum. Also present were City Attorney James Brun and Public Safety Director Corey Murrison.

MEETING MINUTES

Councilman Suppenbach made a motion to accept the February 12, 2024 meeting minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Muncy and carried 4-0.

WASTEWATER PROJECT

Wesley Weishaar of BG Consultants presented an amended design for the location of wastewater lagoon system. After discussion with the council, Mr. Weishaar will make modifications to increase the area available for commercial use. Councilman Suppenbach made a motion to allow BG Consultants to work on updating the design that would meet the specifications provided by the council. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Muncy and carried 4-0.

CHARTER ORDINANCES

City Clerk Siffring presented a charter ordinance eliminating the requirement to appoint city officers every election year. Councilman Muncy motioned to approve Charter Ordinance #16 exempting the city from the timing provisions and method of appointment by K.S.A. 15-204. Councilman Donham seconded the motion and it carried 4-0.

City Clerk Siffring presented a charter ordinance exempting city officers from the requirement of living within the city limits of Linn Valley. Councilwoman Muncy made a motion to adopt Charter Ordinance #17. The motion was seconded by Councilman Donham and carried 4-0.

VEHICLE FOR BUILDING AND CODES DEPARTMENT

Mayor Donelson requested the council's approval to trade in the current Codes vehicle for a pick-up truck. Codes Officer Steve German submitted a quote for \$24,500 for a 2018 Ford F150 pick-up with a \$12,000 trade-in value of the existing vehicle. Councilwoman Muncy motioned to approve the purchase up to \$25,000. The motion was seconded and carried 3-1 with Councilman Suppenbach voting nay.

PAYROLL COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT

Councilman Suppenbach made a motion to approve a 3.5% cost of living raise for employees effective with the March 1st payroll. The motion was seconded and carried by a vote of 3-1 with Councilwoman Muncy voting nay.

Councilman Muncy made a motion to increase the base pay for volunteer firefighters to \$30.00 per call out. The motion was seconded by Councilman Suppenbach and carried 4-0. Public Safety Officer Corey Murrison will make recommendations for a system of applying meritorious payment.

2024 PRIORITY LIST

The following priorities and designated leads were discussed and assigned by the governing body as follows:

Project – Leads:

Water Project – Councilmen Donham and Gravelle

Wastewater Project – Councilmen Donham and Gravelle

City Hall Building – Councilmen Donham and Suppenbach

Capital Improvement Plan – Mayor Donelson and City Clerk Siffring

Fire Truck – Public Safety Officer Murrison.

Economic Development – Councilwoman Muncy and Councilman Donham

Employee Handbook – Councilman Gravelle, City Attorney James Brun, City Clerk Siffring

Comprehensive Plan – Planning and Zoning Commission

Review/Update Ordinances – City Attorney Brun, City Clerk Siffring and Codes Officer German

Mayor Donelson reminded everyone that Project Leads do not have authority to enter into a contract without the approval of the entire council and they are not authorized to spend money that is not already approved by the council. They will be asked to report at regular council meetings to keep the full council updated.

Mayor Donelson stated he would be meeting with the POA in the near future. Among the discussions would be lake patrol. He asked for input from the council.

A resolution regarding a feasibility study of a new city building was presented. Councilman Suppenbach made a motion to approved Resolution No. 128 approving a feasibility study and preliminary design of a new city hall facility. The motion was seconded by Councilman Donham and carried 4-0.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Assistant City Clerk Mendi Cyr proposed forming a committee to assist with developing an emergency plan for the city. The committee will have five members plus a representative from the council. Mendi Cyr will be the Chairperson, a secretary will be assigned from the membership, and Councilman Suppenbach will be the Council representative. The motion was made by Councilman Gravelle to form the committee, the motion was seconded and carried 4-0. Attorney Brun cautioned that portions of the discussion and documentation could not be disclosed to the general public for security and safety reasons.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Donham requested an addition to the priority list: - adding connection capability to certain buildings that will allow quick and safe connection with the city's generator. Updating existing wiring in the facility may be required.

Caldwell Tanks Inc submitted invoice #5 for the water tower construction. Councilman Suppenbach made a motion to approve payment of Invoice #5 in the amount of \$28,091.06. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gravelle and carried 4-0.

Director Murrison asked the council to approve adding Robert Suppenbach to the volunteer fire department. The vote was unanimous. Mr. Suppenbach will be sworn in after the meeting.

ADJOURN

Councilman Gravelle made a motion to adjourn. The motion, seconded by Councilman Suppenbach, passed 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Submitted by
Karen Siffring, City Clerk