

**BOOK 27**  
**January 21, 2026**

**BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION 1-21-2026**

City of Burlington Governing Body met in Regular Session at City Hall's address, 1013 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Burlington, Kansas, at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 21, 2026. Mayor Luke called the meeting to order.

**THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:**  Stan Luke, Mayor

Council Members present:

Jerilyn Curtiss (President of Council)

Maxi Berryman

Cara Mays

Lila Van Horn

Nathan Strawder

Martin Ernst

Superintendents Present:

Kevin Boyce (Parks)

Alan Schneider (Electric)

Kyle Dauber (Street)

Mike Roney (Chief of Police)  Danny Hawkins (Water/Wastewater)

Also Present:

Anne Brown (City Clerk)

Shayla Befort (Administrative Assistant)

Philip Wright (City Attorney)

Jimmy Hugunin (Zoning/Grants Clerk)

Kerri Weltha (Deputy City Clerk)

**Media Present:** Mark Petterson (Coffey County Republican)

**VISITORS:** Salli Stewart, Doug Stewart, Kristi Johnson, and Jay Hale

**AGENDA:** Mayor Luke, "The agenda for this evening, I have a couple of changes, or I shouldn't say changes...additions. Under Finance, the claims ordinance, you'll notice they're both as 2026-02, but the first number I give you will be out of the 2025 budget. The second number will be out of the 2026 budget. So, the first number is \$234,790.68. The second claims budget will be \$366,630.61. Those two total as \$601,421.29. Payroll Ordinance #2026-02, \$124,453.90. The total is \$725,875.19. Are there any other additions to the agenda? Hearing none, I would accept a motion to approve the agenda as amended."

*Council Member Van Horn, "I move to approve the agenda as amended." Council Member Curtiss, "I second the motion." Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.*

**MINUTES 1/7/2026:** Mayor Luke, "You have before you the draft minutes for the regular session of January 7, 2026. Are there any additions or corrections?"

*Council Member Curtiss, "I move to approve the draft minutes of January 7, 2026, as presented."*

Mayor Luke, "I have an amendment." Council Member Curtiss, "Oh, you do?" Mayor Luke, "I wasn't even here." Council Member Curtiss, "I didn't read it good." Mayor Luke, "On page, 1...2...3, under 'Waterline', we're not going to bury that waterline 416 feet." Council Member Curtiss, "Oh no! I missed that." Mayor Luke, "I think that's supposed to be 4 to 6 feet. It would be the second line there." Council Member Curtiss, "...4 to 6 feet. Okay." Mayor Luke, "Okay? Alright."

*Council Member Curtiss, "I move to approve the draft minutes of January 7, 2026, as amended." Council Member Ernst, "I second the motion." Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.*

**APPOINTMENT – Salli Stewart – Plaza Theatre Fundraiser**

Mayor Luke, "Salli (Stewart)!" Salli Stewart, "Okay! Doug (Stewart) and I are here tonight to ask for your blessing. We are wanting to help with a fundraiser downtown for the Plaza Theatre. We are looking at Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. We have tentatively gotten Brick Horse, the band, to perform. We've tentatively—

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we're waiting on your blessing, of course, we've got some food lined up, and we're hoping to raise some money so that maybe Pam (Scott) can get a little more going on at the Plaza Theatre. We would like to have it closed—the streets closed, from 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Street on Neosho from the theatre up to the courthouse corner, and then maybe half of the blocks on the 5<sup>th</sup> Street. We're planning on a car show there, kind of a small car show in front of the Plaza Theatre, and then the band would face east. We would want to stay away from Highway 75 if we can, with people who might be running out there. So, that's our plan, we're working on it. We've got several people who are helping us if this all goes through. What we would need is the usual stuff like barricades, picnic tables, and trash cans, and possibly some extra electricity dropped for the band in that area." Doug Stewart, "A stage." Salli Stewart, "And a stage. Yeah, the stage. We do have insurance in the works, which we will name the City on our insurance policy that we get from TrustPoint. We'd like to, if we could, use the 4-H building as a backup in case the weather's bad, and if it would be possible to go ahead and schedule that. I know you guys don't schedule out, except for maybe three months in advance, but if we could schedule that ahead of time, so that we make sure and have a spot for that. We thought that would be a good weekend because it's alumni weekend, and maybe some of the people coming back would love to reminisce and see the plaza, hopefully at some point come together."

Council Member Curtiss, "That's a good idea." Council Member Van Horn, "Good timing." Salli Stewart, "So, we're hoping maybe Larry Curtiss will blast it out there on Facebook and put all the stuff, we'll put him in charge." Council Member Curtiss, "He will, he will." Mayor Luke, "He'll have help." Salli Stewart, "So anyway, if you have any questions, I think that's the main thing, unless there's possibly a police presence, if we could, downtown that night, then... We're not planning to have any alcohol served by any means, but, you know, we won't be sniffing cups, but we'll try to keep that away." Council Member Curtiss, "Mike (Chief Roney) will go around and sniff them." Salli Stewart, "Yeah, he'll be the cup sniffer." Chief Roney, "I can't hand it out." Salli Stewart, "So anyway, I guess unless you guys have questions, that's kind of the long and short of it."

Council Member Ernst, "Do you know..." Mayor Luke, "Anne's (City Clerk Brown) checking to see if the 4-H building is available." City Clerk Brown, "June the 19<sup>th</sup>?" Mayor Luke, "Yep." City Clerk Brown, "We're open." Council Member Curtiss, "Okay." Salli Stewart, "And probably the streets—you know, I don't know how long it takes that band to set up, so however long, you know, it might be as early as 4 o'clock in the afternoon, if they need it, for plenty of time. The band won't start until 7 p.m., but I don't know how long it takes them to set up." Doug Stewart, "How long, Mark (Petterson)?" Mayor Luke, "It takes them about 45 minutes to set up for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July." Doug Stewart, "A couple of hours to set up?" Salli Stewart, "45 minutes?" Mayor Luke, "For the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, it takes about 45 minutes for them to set up." Salli Stewart, "Okay."

Superintendent Schneider, "Salli, I'm sorry. The band...is it going to be between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Street?" Salli Stewart, "It will be towards the 6<sup>th</sup> Street end." Superintendent Schneider, "Okay." Salli Stewart, "So kind of down around where Farm Bureau is." Superintendent Schneider, "I'm just trying to plan ahead." Salli Stewart, "In that area." Superintendent Schneider, "Okay...okay." Council Member Curtiss, "So, 5 o'clock is okay, or do you want to say 4 p.m.?" Salli Stewart, "What should we say, Mark (Petterson)? What... you'd..." Mark Petterson, "You probably should say 4 p.m. just to be safe." Council Member Curtiss, "4 p.m.?" Salli Stewart, "Yeah, you're more of a band guy. You'd know, probably, how long it would take. And then, however long it takes them to tear down, which you know, if it's done at 10 p.m., they'll play some to 10 p.m. So, you know, it could take an hour and a half, I suppose, so maybe we should say midnight just to be safe." Mayor Luke, "We don't have many people down there at midnight anyway." Council Member Curtiss, "No, we'll all be home a long time before that."

*Council Member Curtiss, "I move to allow Salli Stewart to block Neosho between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Street from 4:00 p.m. to 12 p.m. on Friday, June 19, 2026, to handle the fundraising event for the Plaza Theatre and to have the 4-H building as a backup."*

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Council Member Ernst, “Can we amend that to 12:00 a.m.?” Council Member Van Horn, “...12:00 a.m.” Council Member Curtiss, “Oh, yes! Yes, we can. We can do that.”

***Council Member Curtiss, "I move to allow Salli Stewart to block Neosho between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Street from 4:00 p.m. to 12 a.m. on Friday, June 19, 2026, to handle the fundraising event for the Plaza Theatre and to have the 4-H building as a backup with reservation fees waived." Council Member Ernst, "I second the motion."***

Mayor Luke, “Any discussion?” Superintendent Dauber, “Are you guys going to talk to any of the business owners down there because I know the parking stalls and stuff get crowded, and trying to get everything moved out of the way.” Salli Stewart, “Yeah, we’ll somehow have to figure that out. I don’t know. Do you (Chief Roney) know who’s down there for sure? Who lives down there?” Chief Roney, “We can find out.” Salli Stewart, “Okay.” Chief Roney, “We can find out.” Salli Stewart, “Okay. So, we may need some assistance with that to make sure that that stays open.” Chief Roney, “And we can put this out in advance, saying that we need Neosho open in this area at this time for the event that’s going on, to have vehicles rerouted.” Salli Stewart, “Yes, yes.” Chief Roney, “We’ll try to work on something in advance, and I think we’ll be alright.” Salli Stewart, “Okay, great. Thank you.” Council Member Ernst, “And we’ll be good with the barricades and all that good stuff?” Superintendent Dauber, “We’re good. That’s not a big deal.” Council Member Curtiss, “And you, Alan (Superintendent Schneider), is that okay?” Salli Stewart, “The stage and all that?” Superintendent Schneider, “Most—we can make it happen, yes. I need to see what the men have done because back in the ‘May Days’ days...” Salli Stewart, “Right.” Superintendent Schneider, “We set up temporary power all the time...” Salli Stewart, “Right.” Superintendent Schneider, “...and they got rid of a bunch of old stuff. I just need to get organized. I think we’ll be okay, Jerilyn (Council Member Curtiss).” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay.” Salli Stewart, “And we can move that one way or another if it needs to be closer to the park there at the end or something. We can move the stage a little further west if we need to.” Superintendent Schneider, “We’ll get it figured out.” Salli Stewart, “Okay.” Superintendent Schneider, “Okay.” Salli Stewart, “Sounds like a plan. Thank you.” Doug Stewart, “Awesome.”

**Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion carried, 6:0.**

Salli Stewart, “Alright. Thank you, guys, very much.” Mayor Luke, “Have fun.” Salli Stewart, “Oh yeah. We thought we were done with this, right? Then here we are back at it.” Mayor Luke, “Back at it!” Council Member Curtiss, “I’ll make sure that I let Larry (Curtiss) know.” Salli Stewart, “Put it on your calendars.” Council Member Berryman, “See ya.”

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT: Distribution Update**

**General:** Superintendent Schneider, “So, everything has been pretty much routine.”

**Line Maintenance:** Superintendent Schneider, “The men are out doing some line maintenance.”

**Ballfield Lights:** Superintendent Schneider, “Tomorrow...the men have been working with the Rec Center (Burlington Recreation Center) for the new ball lights down at Kelley Park. We removed some existing lines for safety for them where one of the new poles is going to go. After looking at it and having more discussion on it with Thomas (Thomas Hess, Electric Lead Lineman) today, I don’t think that we’re going to put that power line back in that we took down because the loop feeds to the park anyway. I think we’re just going to feed it from north over to there, and then it will just dead-end there. We didn’t want to

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put the old power lines back up, especially with the pretty new lights and stuff that they are doing. If we run into a snag on what we think we've got worked out, we'll go back in, and we'll just bury through there to feed that. If there's an issue that we couldn't get pinpointed today. We didn't get out and walk it; we just had a discussion on it. So, hopefully by tomorrow, the men will be done down there. We'll have those ballfields reenergized, and the company that did the installations, I know they've got some programming because it's going to have software on, probably I'm guessing even Kevin's (Superintendent Boyce) telephone, but the Rec Center, Scot Jeffers and their crew, to where they—those lights turn on and off remotely from an app on your phone. So, I know they've got that programming to do, and they're kind of waiting on us to get wrapped up to get that reenergized, and you know, get that done, so the men are about done with that.”

**Tree Trimming:** Superintendent Schneider, “We did...oh, Philip Stukey's lots up here at 4<sup>th</sup> and Cross Street, if you haven't all noticed, it looks completely different because all of those trees that were on that lot are gone. He had some concerns about a few of those trees on the east side of that right by the highway. They just wanted to be safe, so we went up and we cut the trees back so far to where they could do their job safely. The men did that yesterday or the day before...it was yesterday.”

**Fiberoptic Companies:** Superintendent Schneider, “And like I said, just normal maintenance, and with the contractors we've had in town, we have had a lot of line locates. We've been having—or I have—some discussions about some concerns they had, and we got those worked out. That's pretty much it on the line side of it.”

**ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT: Production Update**

**General:** Superintendent Schneider, “We haven't worked any outages since last council. The men at the power plant are just doing normal maintenance over there.”

**Generators:** Superintendent Schneider, “And they did an exercise run on three generators that are in the brick part of the power plant. I call that the old plant, that's the original one. So, we exercised those generators out there today, and then there are still two up in the metal building, the new part of the power plant. They will be running those either today or tomorrow, and that is going to depend on the weather, too.”

**EIA Reports:** Superintendent Schneider, “We're getting ready, Denny (Dennis Noonan, Electric Plant Operator) and I, for the Energy Information Agency (EIA) reporting that we have to do every year. So, we're just getting started gathering numbers so that we can get those completed, and well, everything else has been normal. That's what we've been up to.”

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

**WATER AND WASTEWATER: Distribution Update**

**Fiberoptic Companies:** Superintendent Hawkins, “Well, as Alan (Superintendent Schneider) said, we've been doing a lot of locates as well, working with the company that's out there. Myself and the guys have been out there spotting, locating waterlines, and different things for them, working through that. It sounds like the boring crews are only probably going to be here for about a week, so we went out in

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preparation and just kind of cleaned out our pits so they could have a place to dump some of the topsoil that we save. We got that done.”

**General:** Superintendent Hawkins, “Other than that, we’ve been doing work orders, reading meters, rereads, safety training, customer calls, and inquiries.”

**Winter Storm Preparations:** Superintendent Hawkins, “We’re getting ready for the cold temperatures. We’re hoping that the storm misses us, but it doesn’t look like it. It’s going to come our way, it sounds like.”

**Equipment Maintenance:** Superintendent Hawkins, “We did work on our skid loader. It needed new batteries, cables, and everything inside of it, so we did maintenance on it, so the guys got that completed today. It’s up and going and ready to go.”

**Station Maintenance:** Superintendent Hawkins, “We’re working on cleaning the floats at lift station #1. We got that done. We’ve done some telemetry with it with Jim with R.W. Vaught. We got that taken care of. We did replace an hour meter on pump station #4. That is done and completed.”

**Sludge Ponds:** Superintendent Hawkins, “Dan Stack (Schwab-Eaton) is not here tonight, so he wanted me to give an update. Really, the only thing that I know as of right now is that he got a call this afternoon from Geo Tech (Geo Technical Services). He received partial reports on the two properties down south and they will be here either tomorrow or early Friday morning to finish the drilling on the east side of the river, so as soon as we get all of the results and everything then he can hopefully be at the next meeting and present it to everybody with where to go from there, but that’s the reason he’s not here tonight.”

**WATER AND WASTEWATER: Production Update**

**Training:** Superintendent Hawkins, “At the plant, we’ve been working with Chris Schuermann. He came down and worked on our calibrations for our turbidimeters, our CL2 analyzers, and our monochloramine analyzer. We got a lot of training from him. That was really good training for us and the guys. I want to thank him for that.”

**Maintenance:** Superintendent Hawkins, “And then, the staff went in and cleaned out the recarb basin and washed it all out, and that’s just the general maintenance on what we did, and other than that, that’s all I’ve really got at this time.”

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

**STREET DEPARTMENT: Update**

**General:** Superintendent Dauber, “We’ve been doing normal duties.”

**Maintenance:** Superintendent Dauber, “We’ve been doing vehicle and equipment maintenance.”

**City Hall Renovations:** Superintendent Dauber, “We had a couple of guys come up here to City Hall and move an air conditioner to the back meeting room back there. It took them a couple of days to do that. In that process, we did have one employee get hurt. He ended up with an emergency room visit and eight stitches in his hand. He was messing with the back shielding on the air conditioner, and he cut his hand, right across the palm of his left hand. He has been back to work. He missed half a day, and then he has been back to work and doing good.”

**Drainage Ditch Change:** Superintendent Dauber, “We assisted the water department in installing a bigger drain tube there in the ditch at Martindale and Osborne. They had put a 4-inch tube there to get

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underneath the waterline and the last rain that we had it had almost gone up over the top of the dam that they had in the middle of the ditch, so we had discussed it with Danny (Superintendent Hawkins) and put a 10-inch or 12-inch tube in that to help alleviate some of the backup if it does rain again before the waterline does get moved on that.”

**Equipment:** Superintendent Dauber, “We’ve had a couple of demo skid steers come in. We’ve been talking about purchasing a new skid steer. We’ve had a Case skid steer and a CAT skid steer come in in the last week, and we’ve been doing a lot of alley work with those, trying to figure out what suits the guys the best and what they like best about each machine. And then, we had a Deere come in, oh, in November, so we’ve tried three really nice machines. We’re hoping to get that figured out and see where we want to go after that.”

**Department Assist:** Superintendent Dauber, “We did volunteer to help Mike (Chief Roney) and the police department remove some equipment from a patrol car that they have that’s getting retired. We had a little bit of downtime with the rain and the weather, so Mike brought the car over, and we just kind of jumped in and took over. He didn’t really have a say in what we were doing.”

**Driveway Tube Replacement:** Superintendent Dauber, “We did replace a tube, a driveway tube, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street today. The old tube was rotted out and created a hole in the driveway, so we had to dig that out and replace it.”

**Winter Storm Preparations:** Superintendent Dauber, “And then, we’re just getting ready for the upcoming winter weather. We’re making sure our equipment is ready and greased up.”

**STREET DEPARTMENT – Request for Bids**

Superintendent Dauber, “And then also, I’d like to ask for permission to go out for bids for our 2026 Street Improvement Projects. We are looking to remove the concrete from 75 highway down to Shea Street on Cross Street and go back with seven inches of asphalt. And then also the same on Housatonic Street from 75 highway to 6<sup>th</sup> Street. We’ll be removing the concrete on there and coming back with asphalt on there. Maintenance on that will be a lot easier for us. There are a lot of joints in that concrete now that have failed; it’s down to the rebar. We keep trying to patch it and patch it. Instead of going back and taking out just spots here and there, it would be easier for us to just replace the whole road and go back. Asphalt would be a lot easier for us to upkeep and maintain. I’ve been working with Norm Bowers (Norman Bowers – Civil Engineer) on all that, on the figures. He came down in November, and we walked through all of that.”

***Council Member Ernst, “I move to authorize Superintendent Dauber to go out for bids for the 2026 Street Improvement Projects.” Council Member Curtiss, “I second the motion.” Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion passed unanimously, 6:0.***

Superintendent Dauber, “Thank you, guys.”

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT: Update**

**General:** Chief Roney, “So, we are all back. We are all healthy, some not 100%, but we are all back. We did get inundated with the Influenza A, Pneumonia, and COVID, believe it or not, but everybody is back and healthy again.”

**Activities/Cases:** Chief Roney, “Got back, several officers are trying to play catch-up on some of the major cases that we had. We did get inundated with more felony cases that are going to go through district

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court, from large monetary loss, and some fraud and scam calls. We've got some aggravated indecent liberties cases and some child abuse cases. They're very time-consuming, and it's taking up a lot of the officers' time. They are still taking calls in between, but we are pretty busy with trying to get caught up on those major cases. Night guys, the other guys, they've been making traffic stops for multiple violations, building checks, welfare checks, assist citizens calls, agency assist calls, and medical assist calls."

**Nuisance Properties/Nuisance Vehicles:** Chief Roney, "Nuisance property reports, since the first of the year, I've been working with the legal parties on a residence in the 800 block of Shea Street. We've had several people contact me, and I've referred them over to those legal parties. They're trying to get that property sold. They are trying to work out who is going to demo the house; the house is going to get demoed either way by whoever. If they keep it, they're going to demo it and sell the property, or they're going to sell the property as is, and the house is going to get demoed. So, they are in the process of figuring that out on their own. This is not a city issue; I'm just a middleman trying to point people in the direction that they need to go.

Also, I've been in contact with the property owners. I say 'I've been in contact, they've been in contact with me as well, so it's going back and forth, on some property in the 800 block of Juniatta, the old Huff's Garden area. They are reaching out to contractors trying to clean up that area and having some bad luck with some of the contractors locally, but they want to try to keep it local. They're working on trying to get that cleaned up down in there, and they're wanting to get it cleaned up. We sent a letter out last year, last March or April. They have been in contact with me, and they live out of state, but they are wanting to get it cleaned up themselves. And I've been working with them. I think I get more, you know, response out of what I've been doing with these folks that are out of state, and eventually we will get some of that cleaned up in that area. And there are other factors that play a role in that area as well, but we are working around that, and they are working around that, and they are trying to get the contractors. So that's what I've been doing on nuisance properties since the first of the year. I'm still working on my list. It is, you know, winter time. I am getting to that little bit of a break here. We are building our list up, and once we get, probably into February, we'll start getting notices out so people get out and get work started on, on some of those properties."

**New Vehicle:** Chief Roney. "Today, I took down some items that we need to install in the new vehicle: radar, radio, camera, you know, the equipment that we have that we didn't purchase with the vehicle. I took that down today...I want to shout out to the Street Department. I mean, hey, we didn't have room in our garage to open the doors up and get this equipment out. I called Kyle (Superintendent Dauber) and said 'Hey, can I come down there and use your shop to get this torn out?' I got the equipment out that I needed for right now, and the next thing I know, I got kicked out the door, and come back, and I've got pictures of my car torn apart like it was a chop shop in there. But no, they did a great job. They got all this equipment out of this car; we're getting it ready. We do not have all of the pieces to go back. When this was installed, door panels, headrests, and certain things were not given to us or were thrown away at some point. I am doing some digging, trying to find stuff, but we will give this car as is when we go to sell it. I mean, it is what it is, but we will get it back together as much as possible and ready to sell. And then, the new car, hopefully, I'm hoping the first of February, that they get that completed, and that's what they're shooting for. So hopefully we get our new vehicle in February. And I have reached out—in the past, we have used a local vendor, a kind of person who did us good on doing graphics and stuff on our vehicles. What we paid was very minimal. They're no longer in business or doing this. We do have a local vendor who moved back to Burlington that does graphics—he's a little salty. I'm still working with him a little bit, trying to get the numbers down, but it's kind of across the board. I'm reaching out outside of our community to other places, and they're even higher. So, this may be something we'll have to look at in the future, when we're doing these graphics: how we want to do them, what we want to do, and I mean, it is going to cost us. The days of knowing somebody are going away. And that's all I have."

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**Position Vacancy:** Council Member Ernst, “How’s the search for the new hire?” Chief Roney, “So, thank you. I do have three applications that came in. One is a certified officer. I am still doing backgrounds on everybody. I will reach out to the police committee as soon as I get those done. I’ve got an officer wanting to come up from Woodson County. Last night at the Woodson County City Council, they disbanded their police department as of April 1<sup>st</sup>. So, I’ve got people down there that are reaching out to me. I may have a couple of certified, and I have a couple of non-certified, but I do want to look at everybody that has come in. I do have some good applications in. Don’t get me wrong, certified is important to me, but also backgrounds are important. I want to make sure that we get the right people.” Mayor Luke, “If the one from Yates Center would be approved, would they be coming before April 1<sup>st</sup> or after April 1<sup>st</sup>?” Chief Roney, “I don’t know. I’m still in the talks. This is—I just got a phone call last night around 9 o’clock. Just in the talks, if that’s an option, still looking at things. Don’t know yet.” Mayor Luke, “Okay.” Council Member Curtiss, “Would they have to move to Burlington?” Chief Roney, “Coffey County.” City Clerk Brown, “Yep.” Mayor Luke, “Coffey County.” Chief Roney, “By our policy, they’d have to move...” Council Member Curtiss, “That’s what I thought.” Chief Roney, “And they will if given the opportunity, but again, it all depends on background.” Mayor Luke, “Anything else, Mike (Chief Roney)?” Chief Roney, “No, that’s all I have, folks.”

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

**PARKS DEPARTMENT: Update**

**General:** Superintendent Boyce, “Alright, short and sweet.” Mayor Luke, “Done yet?” We’ve been cleaning public buildings and restrooms. We’ve been doing maintenance in the buildings. Doing quite a bit with it, hitting on that pretty hard. We’ve been doing building and equipment maintenance. Again, the equipment maintenance we’ve been hitting it pretty hard on the last few days, getting ready for the storm coming in, so...that’s all I have.”

**PARKS DEPARTMENT – FAIR ASSOCIATION LEASE RENEWAL & 2026 SCHEDULE**

Superintendent Boyce, “On the fair contract, do you have that Anne (City Clerk Brown)?” City Clerk Brown, “Yeah.” Council Member Curtiss, “It’s in here (in council packets).” Mayor Luke, “The fair contract is a one-year extension to our 15-year contract. Where it drops off, then this year is just added on, so it is always retained as a 15-year contract, and this year they are asking for the 6<sup>th</sup>, I believe, from the 6<sup>th</sup> of July...” Council Member Curtiss, “To the 30<sup>th</sup>...” Mayor Luke, “...until the 20-something...” Council Member Curtiss, “...30<sup>th</sup>.” Mayor Luke, “The 30<sup>th</sup>?” Council Member Curtiss, “Yep.” Mayor Luke, “...for their use of the fairgrounds.” Council Member Curtiss, “Do you need a motion for that?” Mayor Luke, “No, it’s just a renewal process.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay.” Mayor Luke, “That’s the reason we set it up that way a couple of years ago.”

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

**FINANCE: Claims Ordinance & Payroll Ordinance**

a.	Claims Ordinance	2026-02	\$	<u>601,421.29</u>
b.	Payroll Ordinance	2026-02	\$	<u>124,453.90</u>
	TOTAL		\$	<u>725,875.19</u>

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**CLAIMS 2026-02:** Mayor Luke, “We’ll have two claims ordinances. We’ll put those together as one, as far as prices are concerned, and Anne (City Clerk Brown) can give the highlights of both if she wishes.”

*Council Member Curtiss moved to approve City of Burlington Claims Ordinance 2026-02 for the amount of \$601,421.29. Council Member Ernst gave the second.* Mayor Luke, “Anne (City Clerk Brown), do you have highlights?” City Clerk Brown, “We have Advantage Computer Jayhawk Software for \$13,282.00, BG Consultants for \$9,891.86, Kansas Power Pool for \$176,853.01, Subsurface Solutions for \$9,443.88, Axon Enterprise, Inc. for \$4,032.00, Dave’s Pumping, LLC for \$4,540.00.”

*Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke instructed City Clerk Brown to poll Council for a vote. Mayor Luke declared, “Claims Ordinance 2026-02 passed unanimously, 6:0.”*

**PAYROLL 2026-02:** *Council Member Curtiss moved to approve City of Burlington Payroll Ordinance 2026-02 in the amount of \$124,453.90.” Council Member Van Horn gave the second. Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke instructed City Clerk Brown to poll Council for a vote. Mayor Luke declared, “Payroll Ordinance 2026-02 passed unanimously, 6:0.”*

**PLANNING & ZONING: Update**

**General:** Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “Normal duties. I did some HVAC maintenance yesterday. I got the filters changed out and cleaned them up a little bit with the air hose.”

**Inventory:** Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “Inventory is done. I need to just finalize some stuff and get it sent over to the auditors, and that will be ready for them.”

**Thank you’s:** Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “And then I want to thank the street department for coming up. They took what’s called a PTAC unit, basically it’s an ac (air conditioner), like a hotel’s...it’s just like a hotel unit. It was in the field meter room up here on the dock. They took it and put it in our conference room, so that way we have climate control back there now. They did a great job. I appreciate them coming up and doing that. It wasn’t easy. And at the same time, the electric guys, we had some lights that we took out of the lobby here because it was a little too bright. The electric guys came up, and they put one in the map room closet, one of the extra lights that they had taken out in a storage room, the server room, and the HVAC room, and it’s a heck of a lot better now.” City Clerk Brown, “Yes.” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “Instead of the single incandescent bulbs that were in there. That’s all I’ve got.”

**Nuisance Grass/Weeds Update:** Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “And yards look great.” Mayor Luke, “They are nice and brown?” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “There aren’t too many that are tall.”

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

**LICENSE RENEWAL for 2026:**

Mayor Luke, “Under licenses, Across the Borders did not get us the paperwork, I guess, earlier, so they’re asking for approval for the 2026 cereal malt beverage license that they’ve had in the past, for 2026.” City Clerk Brown, “So, we just need a motion to approve that.”

**CEREAL MALT BEVERAGE LICENSE (1)**

Across the Borders

*Council Member Ernst, “I move to approve the Cereal Malt Beverage License for Across the Borders for 2026 as presented.” Council Member Van Horn, “I second the motion.” Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.*

**BOOK 27**  
**January 21, 2026**

Mayor Luke, “We’ll get that signed and get that ready for them.”

**LEGAL DEPARTMENT: Update**

**General:** City Attorney Wright, “I don’t have anything specific, just normal duties.”

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

Council Member Berryman, “I do have a question. When they write up the Municipal Court in the paper, and it says dismissed with prejudice, what does that mean?” City Attorney Wright, “So, prejudice means that we can’t bring it back again. Without prejudice would mean that I could refile that within the statute of limitations for that specific violation.” Council Member Berryman, “And what types are dismissed with prejudice?” City Attorney Wright, “That’s a tough question without...you know, I’d have to know about the specific case, and I could tell you why.” Council Member Berryman, “Okay.” City Attorney Wright, “I can’t speculate without knowing exactly what you’re talking about.” Council Member Berryman, “So that means that they can never address the issue again?” City Attorney Wright, “That means the city can’t bring it back, and yeah, readdress it.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay.” City Attorney Wright, “Yep. Good question. You’ve been paying attention.”

**CITY CLERK: Update**

**City Hall Renovations:** City Clerk Brown, “I just want to add to what Jimmy (Zoning Clerk Hugunin) said there too, because he did finish up what the street guys put in, and they got it done very quickly, both the street guys and the electric department. They were in and out and did that really well. Jimmy finished up the finishing touches on the air conditioning unit and got it to where it doesn’t rattle and shake in there, and painted it, so it looks good. So...” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “They spent two days, I spent maybe 30 minutes.” City Clerk Brown, “Yeah, but he finished it up. He put the finishing touches on it.”

**General:** City Clerk Brown, “City Hall personnel have been busy preparing meter readings for utility billing, work orders, preparing vouchers for bill paying, payroll, and the minutes for the council meeting.”

**Goals and Accomplishments:** City Clerk Brown, “In all of your paperwork tonight, you’ve got a lot of paperwork tonight, the Goals and Accomplishments are there from all of the departments.”

**City Code Book Updates:** City Clerk Brown, “Your blue—where you have those blue books, those are to replace pages in your code books. So, you need to take those home and replace those in your code book.”

**Reports:** City Clerk Brown, “You have the sales tax for the last three years; they are comparable there, and the utility revenue report also.”

**Blue Cross/Blue Shield Health Insurance Policy:** City Clerk Brown, “Kerri (Deputy City Clerk Weltha) and I had met with our Blue Cross Blue Shield representative in December to review our annual policy, and with that...I’ll get that out.... You have your sheet in there that you can look at. Our overall pool had a 7.6% increase, so that’s everybody that’s in our pool, and that’s not bad. Our age/gender pool decreased by 3.7%, meaning our age group of our people, our employees, is going down, and that does help also. Our loss ratio was 174.51, and then our overall net increase for 2026 is going to be 5.7%. Last year we had an 8% increase, 2024 we had a decrease of 7.2%, and then in 2023 we had a 13.7% increase, so a 5.7% increase is not bad. He did tell us that a lot of others are seeing, like, anywhere from a 25% to a 30% increase on it. So, because we are in a grandfathered pool, something that they don’t offer anymore, we are in an awesome spot, so I ask that we would approve the 2026 policy.” Council Member Curtiss, “What was the increase?” City Clerk Brown, “5.7%.” Mayor Luke, “5.73%.” Council Member Curtiss, “5.73%.”

**BOOK 27**  
**January 21, 2026**

*Council Member Curtiss, “I move to approve the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Kansas health insurance policy for City of Burlington employees for 2026.” Council Member Van Horn, “I second the motion. Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.*

Mayor Luke, “You can let everybody know that they are covered for 2026.” City Clerk Brown, “Okay.”

**Annual Benefits Meeting:** City Clerk Brown, “And then, we have scheduled our annual employee benefit meeting for Thursday, February 5, 2026, at the Kelley Hall building from 9 o’clock to noon. What this entails is that all of our vendors for our benefits will come and they will present to our employees any changes, anything new, and answer questions. So, we have, of course, Blue Cross Blue Shield. We have KPERS. We have our KPERS 457, Compliance One, and OFG. Those are our vendors, so they come and present, and then we can talk with them, and we can make changes that we need to make within our own personal policies.”

**LEPC Meeting:** City Clerk Brown, “I attended the LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup>.”

**Training:** City Clerk Brown, “City Hall staff did attend the KMU (Kansas Municipal Utilities) training yesterday.”

**Calls/Inquiries:** City Clerk Brown, “And just normal calls and inquiries.”

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

**REPORT BY CITY OFFICERS:**

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS:**

Mayor Luke, “I don’t have anything additional. I’m getting caught up from being gone. We’re moving forward. We’ve got stuff going on. We’ve got several projects, big projects, going on this summer, so I know we’re getting stuff on the bridge and streets and everything that we have to do this time of year, but I don’t have anything else. I would like to speak to Philip (City Attorney Wright), just at the end. Anybody have anything?”

Mayor Luke declared the meeting adjourned.

Approved by Governing Body and signed by Anne C. Brown, City Clerk