

BOOK 27
March 4, 2026

BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION 3-4-2026

City of Burlington Governing Body met in Regular Session at City Hall's address, 1013 N. 4th Street, Burlington, Kansas, at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 4, 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 George Shove

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: Sarah Strawder, Vickie Stutesman, Erika Steffens, Braden Redding, Lisa Waterstreet, Jeff Elbrader, and Donna Mader.

Mayor Luke, "Well, we've got close to a houseful tonight. Welcome, all of you that are here."

AGENDA: Mayor Luke, "The agenda for this evening, I have a few additions under finance. Claims Ordinance #2026-05, \$321,512.42, Payroll Ordinance #2026-05, \$113,097.20, for a total of \$434,609.62. Are there any other additions to the agenda? If not, 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 Strawder, "I second the motion." Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.

MINUTES 2/18/2026: Mayor Luke, "You have before you the draft minutes for our regular session of February 18, 2026. Any additions or corrections to those minutes?"

Council Member Curtiss, "I move to approve the draft minutes of February 18, 2026, as presented." Council Member Shove, "I second the motion." Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.

APPOINTMENT – Lisa Waterstreet - Discussion on Peacocks

Mayor Luke, "Alright. We have some appointments this evening, so Lisa (Waterstreet), you're on the list first." Lisa Waterstreet, "Yes. So, we met with the water people, and it's going to cost, I think he said, \$3,000 to get water put in across the street." Superintendent Hawkins, "\$2,000." Lisa Waterstreet, "\$2,000?" Superintendent Hawkins, "Yeah." Lisa Waterstreet, "Okay. And then, it was like \$12.00 per foot, I think 240 feet, to run the electric across." Superintendent Schneider, "No." Lisa Waterstreet, "What?" Superintendent Schneider, "No, \$12.00 per foot was the bore fee." Lisa Waterstreet, "Okay. So how much are we looking at?" Superintendent Schneider, "It's a good thing that you're sitting down." Lisa Waterstreet, "Oh, okay." Jeff Elbrader, "Does that just go under the road? And then we would dig our own trench going up to the road?" Superintendent Schneider, "There's a bore fee under the road, and there are the materials to provide the service." Lisa Waterstreet, "Okay." Superintendent Schneider, "That's going

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to be—I hate to even say it out loud—estimated at today’s cost, that won’t be the same in a couple of months, it could be lower depending on what prices do, but we’re looking at between \$11,000 and \$12,000. That’s just materials; there’s no labor tacked on to that.”

Jeff Elbrader, “Okay, is that just for burrowing under the roadway? I mean, can a guy not run water from his existing source, a 220, for, you know—” Superintendent Schneider, “I don’t know. I’d have to sit down with Jimmy (Zoning Clerk Hugunin), but—” Jeff Elbrader, “With underground wire, just like everybody does, you know?” Superintendent Schneider, “Well, that is street—” Jeff Elbrader, “I don’t know what the code is in town.” Superintendent Schneider, “That is street ownership, and easements in there, but I’m just going to say my opinion, and I think everybody else is going to feel the same way. The city doesn’t need privately owned electricity on our facilities, on our property. Does that make sense? For safety reasons.” Jeff Elbrader, “So, in a way, yeah, I guess. I mean, is the other side County, outside of the city?” Mayor Luke, “Yes.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Yes.” Superintendent Schneider, “Yes.”

Lisa Waterstreet, “We talked to Heidi (Heidi Harris, Coffey County Planning and Zoning Administrator), put in a permit. It doesn’t matter whether or not the pen is on wheels and movable; they don’t count that, so there has to be a building permit, and it’s going to take at least 10 days to find out whether or not we’re approved. So, right now the birds are still in the pen, and they’re still quiet. Jeff’s (Elbrader) been sick, and with the rain, getting things moved, and then we can’t put it over there anyway, so we’re kind of stuck.”

Jeff Elbrader, “Last time we were here, they said that as long as a structure is not permanently in the ground, you know, if you add skids on it or wheels or anything, they said it’s fine to put a structure there. You know, just as long as it’s not a structure that’s solid in the ground, you know. Last time I was here at this meeting, and now we’re getting to where we can’t even have a structure, even if it’s on skids or wheels, so we really don’t even know the guidelines on the dwellings we can have over there, you know. Like old chicken coops or—”

Mayor Luke, “Okay.” Council Member Curtiss, “According to the county?” Lisa Waterstreet, “Yes, according to Heidi, she said they don’t care whether it’s movable or not. They don’t look at whether it has wheels.” Mayor Luke, “Oh, okay.” Lisa Waterstreet, “In order to put anything over there…” Jeff Elbrader, “We just don’t know.” Mayor Luke, “Yeah. That’s their jurisdiction, not ours.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Right.”

Lisa Waterstreet, “So, I was kind of reading through what was handed out.” Council Member Berryman, “And that came from me because I’ve got some questions on that.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Okay, so the birds have been vaccinated. So that was taken care of. We got that through Thorp (Mike Thorp, Burlington Veterinary Center), to give them the vaccines.” Council Member Berryman, “So, there’s no way that you could contract anything from them?” Lisa Waterstreet, “No.” Council Member Berryman, “Because some are, like, within the bird family and some are between people, and so there would be no chance of that, correct?” Lisa Waterstreet, “No.” Jeff Elbrader, “There should not be.” Lisa Waterstreet, “No.” Jeff Elbrader, “Just like chickens. I’ve raised chickens each year, and I’m 57 years old, and I’m still not dead.” Council Member Berryman, “But there’s always a chance.”

Council Member Berryman, “Especially, at the bottom part of the first page, letter (e) about the offensive matter. Do you clean up their droppings, or with all this rain, does that just wash away onto somebody else’s property?” Lisa Waterstreet, “No, we do clean it up.” Council Member Berryman, “And how do you clean it up with all this rain we’ve had?” Jeff Elbrader, “With like hay. Just like a cattle barn. You scoop the old hay out, and you put fresh hay in, you know, just like you do with cattle or chickens. You’ve got to keep—” Council Member Berryman, “And see, I don’t know.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Right.” Jeff Elbrader, “Right.” Council Member Berryman, “I drove by your place because I don’t know you and I don’t know your place, so I wanted to see what we were talking about.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Right.” Council Member Berryman, “So I did drive by.” Lisa Waterstreet, “So, you know, right now it doesn’t look very pretty the way it is, you know, for our neighborhood. But we had to throw it up really quick because Mark

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(Waterstreet) was going through getting ready to have hernia surgery in two days.” Jeff Elbrader, “And winter came on.” Lisa Waterstreet, “And then, so when it warms up, we were going to do some modifications to it, get it painted the color of the house and the garage, do something different with the roof, make it look better. This just had to go up really quickly.”

Council Member Berryman, “And I’ve got concerns. On one of the pages, it talks about the space that’s required for the birds. Now, your husband—I was reading off of last council meeting’s minutes—it says 30 feet by 10 feet fenced-in pen that they have. Is that correct?” Lisa Waterstreet, “Well, no. The one that we’ve got is actually 10 feet by 13 feet—” Jeff Elbrader, “I can’t quote...” Lisa Waterstreet, “—and then we have the other part to it, the hutch part. Now you’re talking about the square footage? That’s for a full-grown bird.” Council Member Berryman, “Your husband said, ‘We have them in a pen which is 30 feet by 10 feet, so then—’” Lisa Waterstreet, “That’s what I ordered, but that’s not what came in.” Council Member Berryman, “What came in?” Lisa Waterstreet, “I think it was 10 feet by 13 feet, is what came in.” Council Member Berryman, “So, birds—” Lisa Waterstreet, “And so I’ve been fighting for that, but we’re talking about little birds. You’re talking about full-grown birds.” Council Member Berryman, “You said your birds were eight months old.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Right.” Council Member Berryman, “At eight weeks, they need 100 square feet. You really shouldn’t even have a bird and a half in there.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Okay, I’ve read a lot and watched a lot of videos...” Council Member Berryman, “It’s in there. And I’ve done a lot of research on peacocks, and they don’t have the space that they need.” Lisa Waterstreet, “It’s 100 square feet?” Council Member Berryman, “Look at one of the pages that I have. Which page is it?” Council Member Curtiss, “Eight plus weeks, it says 100 square feet per bird.” Council Member Berryman, “Yeah, yeah. And inside of that, not only do you have the pen, which is smaller than what you ordered, you also have the roost inside there, so you’re cutting it down—” Lisa Waterstreet, “No, the roost is on the outside.” Council Member Berryman, “That’s not what your husband said.” Lisa Waterstreet, “No, the roost is on the outside of the pen.” Council Member Berryman, “Okay. He said it’s on the inside, which—now what he said was on the outside...let me find where that was. There’s something else that you have in there? A hutch or something? He mentioned that was outside, but he talked about the roost being inside. But regardless of that, those birds cannot survive in there.”

Jeff Elbrader, “Did you grow up on a farm?” Council Member Berryman, “No. I grew up in the city, but I learned a hell of a lot about peacocks in the last—” Jeff Elbrader, “I know what these people say in the books, and I can agree with you somewhat, their philosophy behind it. I’ve raised birds, I’ve worked on chicken farms.” Council Member Berryman, “But that’s not the point.” Jeff Elbrader, “Okay, okay.” Council Member Berryman, “These birds do not have adequate space. I believe you said that you still have four birds left. You originally had eight. You rehomed the first four, is that correct? So, you have four birds right now that are approximately eight months old that need 100 square feet a piece? That’s 400 square feet. You’re not providing that for them. You’re well intentioned, but...”

Jeff Elbrader, “Fair enough. As soon as I am capable, now I did just have pneumonia, and it is still affecting me, and I’ve not been able to—I live on a farm, on a hill, and all of my supplies are down below the hill. Now I don’t care if you’ve got 4-wheel drive, you can’t make it up that hill even if you’ve got chains on the tires. A tractor won’t make it up.” Council Member Berryman, “But that’s not the birds’ problem.”

Lisa Waterstreet, “Can I ask where you got this information?” Council Member Berryman, “Some of it I got off of Google. Some of it I got from AI, and I had one picture, it’s not included in this because you had addressed some of the questions, but it was from a bird sanctuary.” Lisa Waterstreet, “So, at like four to eight weeks they’re still under a heat lamp.” Council Member Berryman, “I know, and then you said that you move them into your garage.” Lisa Waterstreet, “So, how can you—” Council Member Berryman, “How big is your garage?” Lisa Waterstreet, “Well, there’s a cage in the garage. They’re not just running free in my garage.” Council Member Berryman, “So when they’re little, they don’t require a lot of room, but we’re not talking about little birds, we’re talking about big birds now, that you said are eight months

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old, and you want to bring in more birds. So, based on what you have, you can maybe bring in a bird and a half.”

Jeff Elbrader, “But they’ll be out at the farm whenever they start hatching in March and whenever they start making more babies. We had planned on having these out to my farm already, it’s just I haven’t gotten it done. That’s on me.” *Council Member Berryman gestures.* Jeff Elbrader, “Well, I know. You can do that. I understand. You know, that’s on me. You know, but I’m just asking—” Council Member Berryman, “But it’s on the birds too. The birds are suffering because...” Jeff Elbrader, “I don’t let—you all know my dad—I don’t let anything suffer.” Council Member Berryman, “I don’t know anybody. I’m sorry. I moved here 10 years ago. I’m just learning— George (Council Member Shove), I barely even know.” Jeff Elbrader, “They’re well taken care of.”

Mayor Luke, “So, I guess I’ll interrupt with, what is your desire tonight?” Lisa Waterstreet, “I just—” Jeff Elbrader, “We want more time, possibly.” Lisa Waterstreet, “I’m asking for that two-year waiver to be able to keep the chicks until they are a year old, and then move them out to the farm. That way, they have heat through the winter and are taken care of. They are not—there’s plenty of room. You don’t understand, they’re not a full-grown bird yet. They’re not a big peacock.” Council Member Berryman, “I know the difference between them.” Lisa Waterstreet, “They’re little, and there’s plenty of room. They’re not losing feathers, they’re not fighting, they’re not.... And again, when he was talking about the roost, it’s somewhere for them to set up on and roost inside the pen because they like getting up high.” Council Member Berryman, “But that’s got nothing to do with the square footage when they’re walking—”

Mayor Luke, “Maxi (Council Member Berryman), just a minute. Let’s go back to your purpose here is to extend the variance waiver until two years? Okay.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Because we’re not going to be able to afford the price for the electric and the water. I mean, I can carry water over.” Mayor Luke, “I’m going to basically flatly say right now that I don’t see the two years—” Jeff Elbrader, “It shouldn’t take that long, sir.” Mayor Luke, “—as a feasible option. The reason is, as soon as that happens, I know what’s going to happen around town.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Okay.” Mayor Luke, “And that’s going to be a multitude of requests to do the same thing.” Jeff Elbrader, “I just want a little more time.” Mayor Luke, “Not just on peacocks, but on other animals as well. Okay?” Lisa Waterstreet, “Well, I was just talking about the next set of babies.” Mayor Luke, “The existing ones that are there are going to be there for a short period of time.... I can see that, but I can see nothing beyond that.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Okay, so this year, then next— when they start laying eggs, and they hatch, I can’t bring them in to take care of them?” Mayor Luke, “Well, and I don’t know all of the process. Okay?”

Jeff Elbrader, “They’re just little ‘beep-beeps’.” Mayor Luke, “Oh yeah, I understand that.” Lisa Waterstreet, “They’re just little bitty.” Mayor Luke, “I live out there. I know exactly what they look like.” Council Member Berryman, “But you’re talking a couple of years. Again, from my research, and again it might not be right, but the females are not ready for about at least two years, and the males not until they’re three years old.” Jeff Elbrader, “I don’t plan on them being there that long, ma’am.” Lisa Waterstreet, “I’m not asking to keep the birds in town for three years.” Council Member Berryman, “Well, he was just saying about—” Lisa Waterstreet, “I’m talking about this batch goes to the farm...by May, because that would put them right, well, that would put them right at, actually, June/July would put them at one year old.” Jeff Elbrader, “A year old.” Lisa Waterstreet, “But, of the father and the two mothers that are out at the farm right now, they’re going to be laying eggs again, so I need these gone.” Mayor Luke, “Right, and at that point, I don’t see those eggs coming into town.” Jeff Elbrader, “(Inaudible).”

Council Member Curtiss, “I can see what Stan (Mayor Luke) is saying because who is saying that this is okay, and then some kid wants to have their rooster that they’re going to show at the 4-H or whatever, in their yard, and somebody wants to have whatever, the rabbits, or the...I don’t know.” Jeff Elbrader, “So, you’re saying a person can’t even raise rabbits in this dang county?” Council Member Curtiss, “I don’t know. I don’t know.” Jeff Elbrader, “That’s pretty pathetic.” Council Member Curtiss, “They can, can’t

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they?” Mayor Luke, “In the county.” Lisa Waterstreet, “In the county.” Council Member Curtiss, “In the county? Okay.” Jeff Elbrader, “Okay, in the city. A rabbit doesn’t do anything; it squeaks.” Council Member Curtiss, “But anyway, I mean, that’s what I’m concerned about, is once we let this go, we’re going to get—other people are going to hear about it. You know how Burlington is, Jeff?” Jeff Elbrader, “I know it.” Council Member Curtiss, “Yeah, right.” Jeff Elbrader, “I mean, we’re not going to have them there that long, ma’am.” Council Member Curtiss, “Well, I understand that.”

Council Member Berryman, “But I’m concerned about the space they’re in, too.” Jeff Elbrader, “Well...” Council Member Berryman, “It’s inadequate.” Council Member Mays, “Which I understand that, but that’s not the issue.” Jeff Elbrader, “I’m going to get a pen built. You know, like I said, I’ve had pneumonia, and I’m still really, really weak from it.” Council Member Curtiss, “And that’s—” Council Member Berryman, “And I appreciate that, and I understand that.” Jeff Elbrader, “And you know, we got the weather that came in. I mean, I’ve been working on it, but I mean, I live on a farm on a hill.” Council Member Berryman, “But that’s life.”

Council Member Curtiss, “And I have had one concern I want you to know.” Jeff Elbrader, “I can’t choose the weather.” Council Member Curtiss, “I have had one concern on these from around your neighborhood.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Okay, and what was the concern?” Council Member Curtiss, “That this is not—that it goes against our ordinance to have them.” Jeff Elbrader, “You know what’s funny about it, you know they’re not much different than a chick.” Council Member Curtiss, “Yeah, I understand that.” Jeff Elbrader, “I’m just saying.” Council Member Curtiss, “But I just wanted you to know that I have had a complaint.” Lisa Waterstreet, “But not from the noise?” Council Member Curtiss, “No.” Lisa Waterstreet, “No noise?”

Council Member Strawder, “So, I think a lot of the question is, where we’re at now, is it simply against our ordinances to have peacocks in there? I mean, that’s what’s indicated in the ordinance under ‘Prohibited’. Now then, you know, you can say peacocks, peahens, peafowl, whatever. I think the intent there behind using the term peacock is likely inclusive of—” Council Member Curtiss, “Of anything.” Council Member Strawder, “—of both sexes and anything. So, I think the question is kind of along the lines of where Stan (Mayor Luke) is at, I mean, I don’t see a continuous thing going on. I see we have a current issue, and if a variance is granted, it would be to allow time to resolve that current issue.” Jeff Elbrader, “That’d be great.” Council Member Strawder, “To safely relocate the birds out of town because we don’t want to say tomorrow, they have to be out there, and then they die because of the elements or anything like that.” Council Member Curtiss, “Right. Give Jeff time to get things built.” Council Member Strawder, “So, with that being said, would, like, 90 days be adequate time or something like that?” Jeff Elbrader, “Yes. Yeah, I mean, yes, hopefully the weather gets better by then.” Council Member Strawder, “Yeah, but I mean, to me, that’s what I think I would be willing to do because it sounds like 90 days is adequate time to hopefully get everything. The weather should hopefully be nicer.” Jeff Elbrader, “It was just bad timing. Yes, sir. Yes, sir. It was bad timing.” Council Member Strawder, “And I think also it should be limited to the current situation, which is the birds that are there, type of thing.” Council Member Van Horn, “The birds that are there right now.” Council Member Curtiss, “No others coming in.” Council Member Van Horn, “Right.” Council Member Strawder, “No others coming in, and I mean, all of the other parts of the ordinance I think should also stay in place. The only variance would be the fact that they have four existing peacocks.”

Lisa Waterstreet, “No, there’s more.” Council Member Strawder, “At your property right now?” Lisa Waterstreet, “Yes.” Council Member Berryman, “So there’s even more?” Council Member Strawder, “So how many are at your property?” Lisa Waterstreet, “No, I said four had left already. Those were the first four.” Jeff Elbrader, “Those were born at different times. I incubate them.” Council Member Strawder, “I get that, but I’m saying right now, how many birds are there?” Lisa Waterstreet, “Seven.” Council Member Strawder, “Seven?” Council Member Berryman, “Whoa!” Lisa Waterstreet, “But two of them are not out in the kennel.” Council Member Strawder, “So, however many birds are there, that’s what the variance

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would be for, is to give you 90 days to relocate those.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Right.” Council Member Strawder, “And I mean, because that moves it forward. It does start opening the door if we start allowing something or evolving or anything like that, any type of questions. I do think that it’s possible that we could maybe look at the wording on some of the ordinance for some clarity or whatever, so if someone is reading it, you know, it’s more inclusive of not just peacocks, but—” Council Member Van Horn, “Peafowl.” Council Member Strawder, “—you know, peafowl, and everything. So, I mean, that’s what I would be onboard with doing, is a short-term, temporary variance for the birds that are currently in town to be relocated out of town, and that be the end of it.”

Council Member Berryman, “So, in two weeks, you picked up three more birds?” Jeff Elbrader, “No, ma’am.” Lisa Waterstreet, “It was a mess-up.” Council Member Berryman, “Okay, because in the minutes from the last time, Lisa, you said four of them started out in May. So, four are already gone, and you had eight, and you currently only have the four. You didn’t mention that you had seven, which makes for even more overcrowding, and I know they’re at various ages.” Lisa Waterstreet, “No. I said four have already moved...” Council Member Berryman, “Correct.” Lisa Waterstreet, “...and that we had seven.” Jeff Elbrader, “There are only five in the kennel.” Council Member Berryman, “No, because all you said was—” Lisa Waterstreet, “There are only five in the cage.” Council Member Berryman, “You said eight, and then you said—”

Council Member Mays, “Maxi (Council Member Berryman), I’m not trying to be mean or interrupt you, but that’s not—I mean, I understand the concern where you’re at, but I don’t think that’s what we need to address. I mean, we can’t—” Council Member Berryman, “That’s part of the thing.” Jeff Elbrader, “These people know my dad.” Council Member Mays, “That’s not part of our ordinance. You can’t tell them how many—” Jeff Elbrader, “I take care of my animals.” Council Member Curtiss, “Yes, you do. Yeah, you do.” Council Member Mays, “Based on what you looked up, but not in our ordinances. I mean, we can’t tell them what to do with...I mean...” Council Member Berryman, “So, you would have them live in an inhumane situation?” Council Member Mays, “No, I’m not saying that.” Council Member Berryman, “Yes, you are.” Council Member Mays, “I’m just saying I can’t—” Council Member Berryman, “I guess you know which way I’ll vote on whatever is brought up.” Lisa Waterstreet, “Bonnie (Animal Control Officer Foster) was out there. She didn’t say that it was inhumane. She would have been the first one to say, ‘This is inhumane. That’s too small of an area.’”

Council Member Van Horn, “So, I have a sister who raises peacocks, and I talked to her about it, and she said that peacocks are not stinky. She said they don’t usually make noise until they reach maturity at two years old, and she also said that by eight months you should be able to sex them, so if you—” Lisa Waterstreet, “Well, this is our first batch, so...” Jeff Elbrader, “It’s kind of tough. I mean, I go by the cones like I do chickens. Like, a rooster’s got a big crown on his head, and on the females, you know, they’ve got a little bitty crown on their head, and we always butcher the roosters first, you know, just because we do double breast the broiler chickens, you know. And a lot of people, I mean, if you’ve ever been in a chicken house, they could say there’s not enough square footage, but how many birds do they put in a pen that is this big by that big? Probably what, 2 feet by 2 feet by 18 inches, and they have eggs, and they make eggs in the chicken house. I mean, I’ve worked at chicken houses. Now that’s inhumane to me, but you know, I don’t treat my animals bad.” Council Member Van Horn, “I’m not thinking that you are treating your animals bad.” Jeff Elbrader, “I know that.” Council Member Van Horn, “But I also am not in favor—” Jeff Elbrader, “I’m not. We’re not able to sex them yet.” Council Member Van Horn, “May I finish?” Jeff Elbrader, “Yes, ma’am. Yes, ma’am.” Council Member Van Horn, “I am also not in favor of bringing more birds in.”

Council Member Curtiss, “Right. You’re not incubating any now?” Council Member Van Horn, “I think we need to take care of what you have right now, but not add to.” Jeff Elbrader, “I take care of that at my house, but no, they have not started making babies yet.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay. So, when does that happen?” Jeff Elbrader, “I appreciate your information, ma’am.” Council Member Curtiss, “When

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does that happen?” Jeff Elbrader, “Anywhere between...March through, like, August.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay. But you could not bring any more in.” Jeff Elbrader, “Not any little baby ones?” Council Member Curtiss, “Nope.” Jeff Elbrader, “Okay.”

Council Member Strawder, “Yeah, I think that’s the thing. I think the idea of a variance in this situation is to rein in the current situation—” Council Member Curtiss, “Just those. Right. The seven.” Council Member Strawder, “—to get back in line with city ordinance.” Council Member Curtiss, “Is that what I’m hearing?” Lisa Waterstreet, “But if we get the permit?”

City Attorney Wright, “Can we have an executive session, please?” Mayor Luke, “For how long?” City Attorney Wright, “Five minutes. So, I would suggest that somebody make a motion that we enter into an executive session pursuant to K.S.A. 45-221. What is the one for attorney-client privilege? Do you remember, Anne (City Clerk Brown)?” City Clerk Brown, “Not off the top of my head.” Council Member Van Horn, “Fill it in later, Philip (City Attorney Wright).” City Clerk Brown, “47—” Administrative Assistant Befort, “B?” City Attorney Wright, “For matters deemed to be attorney-client privileged and attorney-client relationship with regard to city ordinances regarding guineafowl...for five minutes.” Council Member Van Horn, “For peafowl, actually.” City Attorney Wright, “For peafowl. Yep, sorry. I keep saying guinea. For peafowl, with the City Council, the Mayor, the City Attorney, and the City Clerk.”

Council Member Van Horn, “I make a motion to enter into a 5-minute executive session for consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in an attorney-client relationship per K.S.A. 75-4319(b)2; to render legal opinion concerning peafowl with regard to city ordinances regarding peafowl, with the Governing Body, Mayor Luke, City Attorney Wright, City Clerk Brown.” Council Member Curtiss, “I second the motion.”

Council Member Curtiss, “Five minutes?”

Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.

Entered at 6:28 p.m. and exited at 6:33 p.m.

Action Taken: City Attorney Wright, “Chief (Chief Roney), can you tell me, you issued them a warning letter?” Chief Roney, “We did.” City Attorney Wright, “Okay.” Chief Roney, “And what it was, was a copy of the ordinance is what we issued them.” City Attorney Wright, “Okay.” Chief Roney, “And a verbal on it.” City Attorney Wright, “Okay. So, what we’re going to do here is that I am instructing you not to issue a citation yet. Okay? You guys need to set up a meeting with the planning board and take this in front of the planning board. The Governing Body is really not in a position until the planning board issues an opinion on this. As soon as the planning board issues that opinion, then it comes before the city council, and the city council at that point can either accept the recommendation of the planning board or deny the recommendation of the planning board. I just instructed the Chief of Police, as the chief law enforcement officer of the City, not to issue you guys a citation, and you won’t be issued a citation until the City makes a decision on the planning board’s decision. Okay? Unless something changes. And what I mean by that is if the City starts getting a bunch of complaints on noise and stuff like that, that might change, but you will be notified well in advance of that. Okay?”

Lisa Waterstreet, “If they start making noise, they will be gone.” City Attorney Wright, “If they start making noise or are causing other nuisances, and we’re starting to get complaints.” Jeff Elbrader, “Fair enough.” City Attorney Wright, “Okay?” Lisa Waterstreet, “I sleep with my window open, and...” City Attorney Wright, “Yeah. I don’t honestly personally care what you do with your windows at night and how you sleep, I’ll be honest with you.” Lisa Waterstreet, “I said that because I want to make sure they don’t make noise, so...” City Attorney Wright, “I personally—I’m kind of done talking about, you know, fowl. So, you need to get things set up—”

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Council Member Curtiss, “So, who’s the head of the planning board?” City Attorney Wright, “Yeah?” Jeff Elbrader, “That’s real fair.” City Clerk Brown, “Jimmy (Zoning Clerk Hugunin), who’s the head? He’s part of that, let’s see. The chair is Jeff Clark.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay. Do you know Jeff Clark?” Jeff Elbrader, “Jeff Clark?” Council Member Curtiss, “Yeah.” Mayor Luke, “Clark!” Jeff Elbrader, “You want to write that down?” City Attorney Wright, “So, if you are having a hard time getting a hold of Mr. Clark, call the City tomorrow, and talk to Shayla (Administrative Assistant Befort), and she will get you the phone number for Mr. Clark. Okay?” Jeff Elbrader, “Fair enough.” City Attorney Wright, “Alright, done!” Jeff Elbrader, “Appreciate it. Done already. We appreciate you all.” City Clerk Brown, “Thank you.” Council Member Curtiss, “I had Jeff in class. I had them all in class.”

APPOINTMENT - Sara Strawder – Otter Creek Grange – Discussion on April Events

Mayor Luke, “Okay. Moving on. Sarah (Strawder)!” Council Member Van Horn, “Yours might be a little smoother.” Sarah Strawder, “Well, I hope so.” City Attorney Wright, “If you say anything about birds, you’re out of here.” Sarah Strawder, “I don’t think there’s anything about birds, we’re okay.”

Sarah Strawder, “So, good evening, Mayor and Council Members. My name is Sarah Strawder. I serve as President of Otter Creek Grange here in Burlington #1493. In November, we requested and received permission from City Council to use the 4-H Building, Kelley Hall, and the surrounding grounds on April 25th for our annual craft and vendor fair, now called Rooted in Rural Spring Fest.

“The date was selected intentionally. It is the same weekend as last year's event, which previously received positive feedback from vendors and attendees. April is also National Grange Month, when many Grangers across the country host community events. At the time of our request, no conflicts were known by the City or listed on publicly available community calendars.

“Following Council approval, we met with City personnel and understood that our use was not only the 4-H Building and Kelley Hall, but also the surrounding grounds and paved areas south of the playground and Kelley Hall. We were also advised that those areas would not be reserved for other events that weekend. Our planning has been based on that understanding.

“As shared in November, our goal this year is to expand the event into a broader community celebration highlighting agriculture and rural life in Burlington, Coffey County, and the surrounding area. Current partnerships and planned activities include: craft, food, and community vendors; a collaboration with the Coffey County Chamber of Commerce to provide a large bounce house and outdoor games; homesteading demonstrations and educational speakers focused on agriculture and rural living; participation from the Burlington Police Department, the Coffey County Fire Department, and other services for community outreach and fun activities; a cornhole tournament and axe throwing; and a truck show to broaden participation and youth engagement.

“During the first week of January, while exploring options for a vehicle show, we connected with Braden Redding, who is present tonight and also on the agenda. Braden is active in lifted truck shows, which are popular with many young people in our rural communities. Immediately following that connection, we met onsite at the park with City personnel to review our proposed layout, explain how we intended to use the grounds, and identify any concerns. At that time, we were informed that the grass city lot northwest of the park could be available for additional parking. We have continued to keep City personnel informed as discussions regarding the truck show have progressed.

“In late January, the Coffey County Fair Board submitted its 2026 event list to the City, which included the Spring Livestock Show on April 25th, the same day as our event. In 2025, both events were held on the same weekend. Otter Creek received Council approval in November 2024, and the Fair Board submitted its events list after the start of the year, creating the overlap. Prior to the shared date, Otter Creek

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representatives met with Extension (Coffey County Extension Office) personnel to discuss operations. After the event, we received positive feedback. We were not presented with documented issues, and discussions indicated that shared dates in the future were workable.

“Based on last years’ experience, we have planned this year's layout to avoid areas used by the livestock show. We do not intend to use the drive and areas east of the produce barn, the drive and large grass area east of Kelley Hall, the drive east of the immediate parking area south of Kelley Hall, the RV spots along the river, the derby pit area, and the paved area east of the east wing wall in front of the grandstands. Our intent is to maintain the same space for livestock show parking and activities as provided last year.

“Approximately two weeks ago, we were contacted by the Fair Board. Who expressed concerns and voiced frustrations that the City allowed our event to be double-booked on top of theirs. Since then, we have also spoken with City personnel and the Extension Office, who are now expressing concerns about our event, a change from previous discussions.

“Rooted in Rural Spring Fest is intended to provide a family-focused community event, support youth engagement, and generate funds to allow Otter Creek to continue hosting local activities throughout the year. We believe both events can operate successfully with clear communication and coordination.

“We remain committed to lawful event planning and transparent communication. We respectfully request a meeting at a time convenient for all parties, with the City officials, representatives from the Extension Office, and the Coffey County Fair Board to review plans, address concerns, and confirm expectations. Our goal is clear coordination and successful community events at Kelley Park that day.

“Finally, it has also come to our attention, through the Fair Board and others, that statements are circulating that we intend to have a helicopter at our event. For the record, Otter Creek Grange has not, and does not, plan to have any discussions or agreements involving a helicopter. That information is inaccurate. So, I just want to thank you for your time and consideration. That’s it. Do you have any questions for me?”

Mayor Luke, “Let me ask, between the Fair Board (Coffey County Fair Board) and the Grange (Otter Creek Grange), okay? Is there a specific area that’s under discussion as a conflict, or is it the entire operation?” Sarah Strawder, “I’m going to go to Nathan (Council Member Strawder) on that because most of the conversations have been with him since I work out of town, and my schedule is not as lenient as his. I will defer to him on that.”

Council Member Strawder, “Okay, so Sarah (Strawder) and I are co-chairs of this event and everything. I mean, understandably, that’s why I try to have her talk, and I stay out of it as being on the council. I don’t know where the breakdown in communication or the thought process is, or anything, because there has been a change in tone over the last couple of weeks on stuff. Whenever we went out and met, I can tell you that this map right here does not match what was discussed back in January whenever we were looking at it. We knew that it was possible based off of last year’s discussions with the Extension Office that, following the event, there was a likely overlap, but they seemed favorable. They mentioned that they noticed people attending and walking through their areas that normally don’t, and vice versa, that type of thing.

“What our plans are is to block off the entryway by the 4-H building, and that, kind of, near the poultry barn, or not the poultry barn, the produce barn, so that they’re not able to go down into the river or use that drive back behind Kelley Hall. On the south side, we intend to limit traffic at the rock entrances and at the spot where the drive connects immediately south of Kelley Hall; limit traffic there and limit traffic at the end of the wing wall. The reason for doing that is that we don’t want traffic going through where pedestrians are walking and stuff like that.

“Since our discussions with the City and everything, it’s always included this truck show. Now there’s been some stuff, you know, with that as far as like how exactly how that’s being posted, or like, if it’s Otter Creek hosting, or what the current proposed situation is now, which that is an event being held adjacent

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with Otter Creek, but is, for logistical reasons, separate for insurance and stuff like that. But what our intent is, everything will be limited; you can see within the wing wall in front of the grandstand westward. So, then that would mean that livestock traffic, like they did last year, and the Extension Office indicated last year following the event, worked well for them for the livestock traffic to go by the ballfields and have that entire grass area where—I've always heard it referred to as the derby pit area, it's just the large grass area out there, the grass area east of Kelley Hall and all up and down the river and everything. So, with what we've been planning, it's no different than what was set up last year as far as traffic flow and all of that. That's why, I don't know, it's not really clear now where the challenge is."

Council Member Curtiss, "So, you want—this is you? The red right?" (*gestures to a highlighted area on the map of Kelley Park grounds*) Council Member Strawder, "So, I'm guessing that's what is indicated. I don't know where this path like this has come in." Council Member Curtiss, "So, you want the red to extend here down to the poultry?" Council Member Strawder, "No. No." Mayor Luke, "No." City Clerk Brown, "Where the poultry show is?" Council Member Strawder, "The only difference is—" Council Member Mays, "Is the blue line?" Council Member Curtiss, "Is the blue line?" Council Member Strawder, "Right here, where this white line kind of comes out underneath." Council Member Curtiss, "Yeah." Council Member Strawder, "Right? You can see the wing wall where the road splits." Council Member Curtiss, "Yeah." Council Member Strawder, "The two elevations, and you can see the edge of the wing wall." Council Member Curtiss, "So you'd have to go down there?" Council Member Strawder, "Yes. So essentially it would be right here." Council Member Curtiss, "Down there and then this?" Council Member Strawder, "And then limit this, limit this, limit right around here, and kind of—"

Council Member Mays, "Where are you planning your...where's the truck show going to be?" Mayor Luke, "In the parking lot." Council Member Mays, "Right in here?" Council Member Strawder, "In the front area right here." Council Member Mays, "Right here? Gotcha." Council Member Strawder, "Right here. I'll show you that way."

Council Member Curtiss, "So, you want to go down there, and then—" Mayor Luke, "Nope. Nope. No." Council Member Strawder, "No. So, right here..." Council Member Curtiss, "Yeah?" Council Member Strawder, "...would be barricades." Council Member Curtiss, "Okay." Council Member Strawder, "Right there. The livestock show has access to all of this, that grass area, and this drive back here." Council Member Curtiss, "Oh!" Council Member Strawder, "We would have—whenever we spoke with Kevin (Superintendent Boyce), we would have access to all of this area—" Council Member Curtiss, "Okay." Council Member Strawder, "—to that area. Including the playground area and the grass and all of that." Council Member Curtiss, "Okay, so you're going to go down the steps...and this area?" Council Member Strawder, "Yep." Council Member Curtiss, "Okay."

Council Member Mays, "So, is the issue, like, traffic? Like, you don't want traffic to go through?" Sarah Strawder, "So, it's getting muddled. There's been a lot of he-said-she-said, and that's why I ultimately wanted to get a meeting and get everybody in the same room at the same time. Where, as I work out of town, it's hard for me to get in town during normal hours. I just want to work together. I can be in town by five o'clock most days."

Mayor Luke, "Okay. Vickie (Stutesman), any particular day that will work for you or not work for you?" Vickie Stutesman, "I have actually already talked with Jill (Jill Barnhardt, Coffey County Extension Office) from Extension and suggested that we all meet..." Mayor Luke, "Yeah. Okay." Vickie Stutesman, "...and sit down and talk about this. Unfortunately, she was not in agreement. She was, at that point—I'm not trying to speak for her, but keep in mind I am strictly Fair Board. I am not Extension. I am not 4-H." Mayor Luke, "Right." Vickie Stutesman, "That is strictly Jill. So, I'm a small portion of the equation. Yes, I'm a 4-H mom, but I don't have any jurisdiction on that side of it."

Mayor Luke, "But she is not interested in a..." Erika Steffens, "She left it up to the Fair Board, kind of." Vickie Stutesman, "I have asked her about meeting. Like I said, with Nathan (Council Member

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Strawder), Sarah (Strawder), and everyone involved, figuring out a plan of attack for the day. Unfortunately, we have the event the same day. We've got multiple things going on that day." Mayor Luke, "Yep." Vickie Stutesman, "We've got to deal with it." Mayor Luke, "Yep." Vickie Stutesman, "Moving forward, I hope that we have a plan to avoid this because this is the second time that we've had to deal with this. Now, their event, which don't get me wrong, I am not opposed to bringing in a bigger event/more stuff to the community. It's going to benefit the whole town. I'm not opposed to that, but with their event growing, it is creating more complications for our side of it for us to both cohabitate. That's what I'm trying to say. I'm not opposed—to go back to your question to me—I'm not opposed to meeting, no."

Mayor Luke, "Now, does five o'clock work?" Vickie Stutesman, "Sure." Mayor Luke, "Any particular day better than another?" Sarah Strawder, "I don't think, for me next week, I don't think so. I should be able to be here by five o'clock any day next week." Mayor Luke, "Okay." Vickie Stutesman, "Not Wednesday, please." Mayor Luke, "Not Wednesday? I can understand." Council Member Strawder, "Not Friday. Not Friday."

Council Member Mays, "Sorry, is this like a—what are we facilitating? Like, as the City, are we—" Mayor Luke, "We won't be in full attendance." Council Member Mays, "Right." Mayor Luke, "Somebody will be representing the City. Somebody will be representing the Fair Board. Somebody will be representing Otter Creek Grange, and Braden (Redding), you would be there representing the auto show because we won't even discuss your auto show thing tonight. Okay? But you'll be at that meeting to resolve any issues." Sarah Strawder, "Can you (Braden Redding) do five o'clock?" Braden Redding, "Probably any day." Mayor Luke, "Any day?" Sarah Strawder, "You (Vickie Stutesman) can't do Wednesdays, right? How about Tuesday night at five? Can we do Tuesday night at five?"

Council Member Curtiss, "How many people do you have for your event? Do you have an estimate?" Sarah Strawder, "How many what?" Council Member Curtiss, "People." Sarah Strawder, "Right now, we have 35 vendors that have signed up. Last year, we had roughly about 200, I think 200, in attendance that showed up. But the 35 vendors are not including the six ladies that I have coming to do the homestead demonstrations, and then I have three speakers coming that day too." Council Member Curtiss, "Okay. Okay."

Council Member Strawder, "So, last year, was our first time doing that event and everything, so it was, I think, around—I know Stan (Mayor Luke) you were there at ten o'clock..." Mayor Luke, "Yep." Council Member Strawder, "...and there was next to nobody there then. Around 11 o'clock and around lunch time until 1:30 p.m. or so, because it started clouded up and looked like it would rain. I mean, there was—" Council Member Curtiss, "There was a good amount of people." Council Member Strawder, "There was a decent crowd, and at that time, it was just a craft and vendor fair like that..." Council Member Curtiss, "Yep, yep." Council Member Strawder, "...with it being the first year. So, again, it's open to the public at large, so..."

Council Member Curtiss, "Yeah. But you feel that this would be enough for you?" Council Member Strawder, "So, I mean, yes." Council Member Curtiss, "What you showed me?" Council Member Strawder, "Yes. This limits what was discussed back in January." Council Member Curtiss, "Okay." Council Member Strawder, "And we're not asking to expand from that."

Council Member Curtiss, "Okay. So that did not pose a problem for you people?" Vickie Stutesman, "I'm sorry. What?" Mayor Luke, "Last year." Council Member Curtiss, "Last year?" Erika Steffens, "It did." Council Member Curtiss, "It did?" Erika Steffens, "It did not co-exist very well, according to Jill (Barnhardt), who is not present." Sarah Strawder, "And that's the first time that we are hearing that because last year it was a completely different conversation that she had with us." Council Member Curtiss, "Do you know the reason why she's saying that?" Vickie Stutesman, "However, again, I asked her to come tonight. She chose not to. I asked her to send one of her board members. They chose not to. So, I cannot speak on her behalf. My concerns—"

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Council Member Curtiss, “Can you tell me about how many people you have? How many do you have an estimate of?” Vickie Stutesman, “Oh golly.” Erika Steffens, “It varies.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay. But looking at this map, it looks like you have plenty of room for cars and such.” Vickie Stutesman, “Well, one of my concerns was handicapped parking.”

Mayor Luke, “Let’s...we’ll end that there.” Sarah Strawder, “And that’s kind of what I want to do at the meeting. I want to get it all hashed out.” Mayor Luke, “Tuesday night, five o’clock, our back meeting room.” Sarah Strawder, “Here?” Mayor Luke, “Here. The entrance on the south. Park on the south.” Sarah Strawder, “Thank you.”

Mayor Luke, “Okay. And I don’t know which one of you wants to go to Jill, or I will, whichever. You want me to?” Vickie Stutesman, “Please.” Mayor Luke, “Alright. Just send me a message with her full name and phone number.” Vickie Stutesman, “Sure.” Mayor Luke, “And I will get in touch with her and let her know to be present if she wants a voice.” Vickie Stutesman, “Thank you.” Sarah Strawder, “Thank you.” Mayor Luke, “Okay.” Council Member Van Horn, “Thank you, Sarah.” Sarah Strawder, “Thank you.”

Mayor Luke, “Braden (Redding)?” Braden Redding, “Yep?” Mayor Luke, “Tuesday, five o’clock?” Braden Redding, “Yep.” Mayor Luke, “Right back there. Alright? We can address your show after this is resolved.” Braden Redding, “Alrighty.” Mayor Luke, “That way we know exactly where, what, when, and how.” Braden Redding, “Sounds good.” Mayor Luke, “Okay. Alright. Thank you.” Sarah Strawder, “Thank you.” Mayor Luke, “Yep. Alright.”

Council Member Mays, “So, this Tuesday at five o’clock is?” Mayor Luke, “Whoever wants to show up.” Council Member Mays, “Okay.” City Attorney Wright, “Just not all of you.” City Clerk Brown, “I was going to say—” Council Member Mays, “Right.” City Clerk Brown, “We can’t have a quorum.” Mayor Luke, “We cannot have a quorum.” Council Member Mays, “Right. Fantastic.” Council Member Curtiss, “And Nathan (Council Member Strawder), you’ll be there?” City Clerk Brown, “Limit to two.” City Attorney Wright, “Limit to two of you.” Superintendent Boyce, “Two from the Parks Committee.” Mayor Luke, “Two council members.” City Attorney Wright, “Two council members.” Council Member Shove, “I won’t be there.” City Attorney Wright, “And if you want to do like paper, rock, scissors over it, we can do that right now.” Council Member Mays, “What did you (Council Member Shove) say? What did you say, Kevin (Superintendent Boyce)?” Superintendent Boyce, “Two from the Parks Committee, correct?” Council Member Mays, “Okay. I can be there.” Mayor Luke, “Yeah.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay. Alright. Good.”

Mayor Luke, “Parks (Committee) is...” Council Member Mays, “Me.” Mayor Luke, “Cara (Council Member Mays) ...” Superintendent Boyce, “Nathan (Council Member Strawder).” Mayor Luke, “Nathan...” Superintendent Boyce, “George (Council Member Shove).” Mayor Luke, “...and George?” Superintendent Boyce, “Those three.” Council Member Van Horn, “I thought George said he wouldn’t be there?” City Clerk Brown, “George said he is not going to be there.” Mayor Luke, “No, no. He’s just on the committee.” Council Member Van Horn, “Oh, gotcha.” Mayor Luke, “George won’t be there, so it will be Nathan and Cara.”

Council Member Curtiss, “Is Nathan representing the council or is he representing—” Council Member Strawder, “When I’m there, I’ll be representing Otter Creek, not the council at that meeting.” Council Member Mays, “So, can one of you do it?” Mayor Luke, “We can’t have another councilman, whether he’s representing something else or not.” Council Member Curtiss, “Oh, that’s right. You (Council Member Mays) can do it.” Council Member Mays, “I can do it.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay.” Mayor Luke, “That would probably be good. Okay. But Nathan can represent Otter Creek, but he’s still an elected official. We can’t have any more.” Council Member Mays, “Got it.” Council Member Strawder, “That’s the challenging thing with all of this.” Mayor Luke, “Yeah. Alright?” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay.” Council Member Mays, “Thank you.”

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Mayor Luke, “All of our visitors left. Okay. We’ll go to the department reports, Electric.” Council Member Curtiss, “Finally!”

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT: Distribution Update

General: Superintendent Schneider, “So—” Mayor Luke, “Are you done yet?” Superintendent Schneider, “Thank you.” Council Member Van Horn, “Shayla (Administrative Assistant Befort) is out of ink.” Superintendent Schneider, “I really will be short because everything has been going as it should. We haven’t worked any callouts, and we’re just doing normal duties, and the apprentice linemen are studying on the books. Was that quick enough for you?”

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Mayor Luke, “Any questions for Alan (Superintendent Schneider)?” Council Member Curtiss, “Well, there’s something about you (Mayor Luke) in here. Do we have to do that?” Mayor Luke, “That’s back under...it’s back above licenses. That’s the KMEA (Kansas Municipal Energy Agency).” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay.” Mayor Luke, “Yeah.”

WATER AND WASTEWATER: Distribution Update

General: Superintendent Hawkins, “Well, we’ve been doing normal duties: line locates, work orders, customer calls and inquiries, and rereads.”

Sewer Lagoons: Superintendent Hawkins, “I want to thank Kevin (Superintendent Boyce) and Kyle (Superintendent Dauber) for, I’d say, they helped out, but they actually burned it; we assisted them, so I’m grateful for their help with that. Again, I want to thank Kyle and his guys. We ended up putting a whistle behind the lagoon on the back road. They brought the road grater in and helped us put in the whistle and all of that, and we’re ready with that, so it’s coming along really nicely. So, thank you for that.”

Equipment Maintenance: Superintendent Hawkins, “We did end up taking our Vermeer vac trailer back to Olathe. It was time for it to get its normal service and upkeep on it. We did go and pick it up this morning. It was done, and we got it back.”

New Service: Superintendent Hawkins, “We did a water meter installation over on Mohawk Street.”

WATER AND WASTEWATER: Production Update

Plant Update: Superintendent Hawkins, “With the rains, the plant has been a little finicky with the rainwater. The Alkalinity is down, and the hardness is down, but it’s doing well because the temperature is up about 10 or 11 degrees right now, so that’s helping us a lot.”

Blue Water Tower Maintenance: Superintendent Hawkins, “We did get the water tower completed and online, and I’m so grateful for Nathan Gray with TankSpek. They knew the rains were coming. They gave us a pretty substantial timeline. Every time we went over to help them, we kept seeing new people, and those people were showing up, so they were bringing over their welder guys coming up from Stillwater. So, they were pushing the envelope to hurry up and get it done, and they did a great job. They sent us the

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photographs of it. They worked great with Rob (Rob McDonald) with MT Wireless (MT Networks). We had some wiring and stuff going on up there, and they were good to work with. So, everything went spectacularly, and as we speak, the guys are over filling the towers even though we got back negative bacteria samples today. That was good. We're back online with it, and the guys are extremely happy because we're tired of working two different shifts running the plant, so that's a huge one for us."

WATER AND WASTEWATER: Personnel Evaluations

Superintendent Hawkins, "The other thing I have is Mike Castelli's evaluation. I did that. He's been doing a great job, still learning. He's been here for two years now. He's been very reliable, and he makes note of when guys are gone. He covers for guys. He's very dependable. He shows up for work. He's still learning the job, and we're still training him and everything, and my recommendation would be to give him a 3% merit increase."

Council Member Berryman, "I move to accept Mike Castelli's annual evaluation as presented, and to grant a pay increase to \$20.21 per hour, effective March 14, 2026." Council Member Curtiss, "I second the motion." Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.

Superintendent Hawkins, "Thank you. I'll let him know that when we leave."

WATER AND WASTEWATER: Distribution Update

City Vehicle Sales: Superintendent Hawkins, "The other item that I have, I do want to thank Anne (City Clerk Brown), she let us, at the last meeting, talk about the Ford Ranger that we kind of confiscated from her and it's been a huge help to us, so we've been using it every day with getting water samples and we're going to use it for reading meters as well, but we have a Dodge pickup truck that we had that the heater doesn't work on, and it's an older 2005 truck. We just wanted to put it on Purplewave to get rid of it, so..."

Council Member Berryman, "I move to proceed with disposing of the 2005 Dodge Ram 2500 from the Water/Wastewater Department through advertising it for sale "as is" on purplewave.com." Council Member Curtiss, "I second the motion."

Council Member Shove, "Is there any amount being asked on Purplewave?" City Attorney Wright, "It's an auction." Council Member Shove, "It's an auction?" Superintendent Hawkins, "It's an auction." Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "It's a government auction on our side, so we don't have any fees; they're all buyer fees." Mayor Luke, "Any other discussion?"

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

Mayor Luke, "We can add that to the list." Superintendent Hawkins, "Okay." Council Member Strawder, "Quick question. It wasn't part of the motion because it didn't matter. So, last meeting, we voted to sell one of the old cop cars on Purplewave. Are you guys going to post them at the same time?" Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "Yes." Mayor Luke, "Yes." Council Member Strawder, "Okay." Chief Roney, "I believe there's going to be three vehicles at this time." Superintendent Schneider, "And the old power plant truck as well." Council Member Strawder, "Okay. I was just curious."

WATER AND WASTEWATER: Production Update

Daniel Stack – Schwab-Eaton: Superintendent Hawkins, "And the last thing I have is that Dan Stack (Daniel Stack) is here from Schwab-Eaton. As I told you before, he's going to give you the update, so..."

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Daniel Stack, “Thank you. It’s good to be back here with a finished geotechnical evaluation for the three lagoons. The potential sites that we looked at, you guys have a letter there. I just kind of summarized the report the best I could. It’s pretty much just the facts. So, it seems like it points to the city industrial site as the best site just because we didn’t hit any groundwater, and we did find really good soil there. So, the other option that we looked at was the Wilson property, and it had decent soil on it; however, we hit groundwater there as well, within the 10 feet. And then lastly, the Sowder property, which is one we were interested in that’s close to the wastewater pond now, but we hit groundwater there as well, and then the soil wasn’t even very good. So that one was not very good. It doesn’t seem like a good situation for a lagoon.”

“You can kind of see the summary of what they did and what our requirements are with KDHE (Kansas Department of Health and Environment): approximately a 15-acre site, two cells are what we’re looking at. Let’s see...they drilled 15 borings, so five per site, and then you can kind of see the depths 10-20 feet below the existing site grades. They checked for soil type and classification levels. If you have questions, I have included the pertinent report tables on pages 2 and 3, and I gave Danny (Superintendent Hawkins) the full report. I will stand for questions.”

Council Member Strawder, “On table 4?” Daniel Stack, “Yes?” Council Member Strawder, “I see there’s—so one for Wilson, three different lines for Sowder, and two lines for industrial. I see on the Sowder lagoon, the top of those three says suitable. The other two say not suitable.” Daniel Stack, “Right.” Council Member Strawder, “Can you kind of differentiate what that is or what this table is showing on that?” Daniel Stack, “Okay. Yeah, the Wilson property there is the top one. It’s suitable. All that they found in the borings was just fat clay, but in the Sowder property, every boring had a kind of mixture, and so a portion of it would be this lean clay, and okay, that’s good, but then they’d get down a little bit further and then it’s sandy-lean clay, and that doesn’t work very well. Then they hit gravelly sand where they’re getting sand and gravel. Each of the borings, we had five borings there, and so they had a mixture of all of the different types of soils in every boring, basically. So, there just was not a good mixture. Some borings they did find some suitable material, but not very much of it. So, you can see in the boring logs every so many feet the different classifications for that.”

Council Member Strawder, “So, basically, I guess what I was asking is, and I didn’t state this very well, so on the Sowder lagoon, there was only one spot that you were looking at? There weren’t three different spots? So, it’s not like there was one spot that was good and the other two spots weren’t?” Daniel Stack, “No. Right. Sorry, yeah, that’s probably not the way—let’s see. (*Reading from the handout*) ‘General suitability of’—I guess how that works is they basically take a sample of the soil, and then classify it. So, these are the classifications that they found. So yeah, like, on the Wilson lagoon, they only found really one type of soil. On the city industrial, they found one type of soil, and then they hit some bedrock further down, but on the Sowder property, yeah, in each boring, they found different types of soil, and on the five borings, these are the three they found. So, it’s quite a range of soil there.”

Council Member Strawder, “Okay.” Council Member Curtiss, “So...” Council Member Mays, “No, you’re good.” Mayor Luke, “Any other questions?” Council Member Curtiss, “So, don’t you have to put a pipe or something from the lagoon?” Mayor Luke, “Back to the water plant.” Council Member Curtiss, “To the—What?” Mayor Luke, “Back to the water plant.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay.” Mayor Luke, “On all three locations.” Council Member Curtiss, “Right.” Mayor Luke, “Yep.” Council Member Curtiss, “The city industrial lagoon would be the most entailed one, correct? Well, Sowder...I don’t know.” Council Member Mays, “Because of the highway?” Council Member Curtiss, “Yeah.” Council Member Mays, “Is that what you’re asking?” Council Member Curtiss, “Yeah.” Mayor Luke, “We would have to bore under the highway.” Council Member Curtiss, “You’d have to bore under the highway?” Daniel Stack, “Correct.”

Council Member Curtiss, “Okay, but you have come up with the solution that the industrial site is the best site?” Daniel Stack, “It has the best site, and then we’ve worked with Danny (Superintendent Hawkins) on the route to get there. So, yeah, there are some easements already in place for a forced main to follow

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the current route to the wastewater lagoons. There's a waterline on the west side of the highway to follow to get to the industrial site, so we feel like it's just a dual route. We'd just have to bore under the highway, you're correct."

Superintendent Hawkins, "Because basically what it would be is pump station #2, where that be referred to as by Strawder's Fireworks stand..." Council Member Curtiss, "Yeah." Superintendent Hawkins, "There's an easement that goes across there. Basically, it more or less follows the road back over to the east. So, if we came across Jack Sowder's property in that easement that goes down, crosses Kelley Park, and comes back up from the water plant, it would either continue, if we chose Sowder's, it would continue on through that piping easement that's already existing until they got to our property, and then it would go in there. Or you would have to cross the highway at pump station #2 and follow the utility easement line up to the 12-inch line that feeds all of southern Coffey County; that's the widest easement that we have, and then it would just follow it right on out to the industrial park area. So, we wouldn't have to obtain any easements, is what we're saying. We already have the existing at either location."

Council Member Mays, "So, on the Wilson one, you said it had okay soil, but you hit water. So, what does that mean? What does hitting water at 10 feet mean?" Daniel Stack, "Well, KDHE requirements for a lagoon, they want the bottom of the lagoon to be at least 10 feet above the water. So, we go down 10 feet, and if we hit water before 10 feet, it's like, well, that's going to be a problem. Now, we can try to mitigate those things, and there are ways to mitigate them, but it's a problem. That's what you've got to consider." Council Member Mays, "Okay."

Council Member Strawder, "With that being said, though, what was the water table at the Sowder location?" Daniel Stack, "It says, looks like, Sowder was 8 ½ feet below the top of the boring, 9 feet below, and then right at the bottom of the 10 feet, you know, we're right at 10 feet." Council Member Strawder, "Right at 10 feet? So, if the requirement is 10 feet, I mean, theoretically, you could bring the field up. So, the Sowder property, in its current condition, is not suitable just to go out there and dig up a lagoon, but it is definitely suitable to elevate the base of the lagoon, to bring in some fill that's like a foot and a half at one spot for that to be suitable." Daniel Stack, "You could. It's just that they didn't have suitable soil there either, which makes it even harder. You would have to go find soil as well. So, that just makes it harder. You know, it was our third one that we did on those places."

Council Member Strawder, "So I guess I'll just state the obvious, for me anyway. I'm sure you guys know where I stand at on this, I think. Since the get-go, whenever we indicated the industrial park as a possible solution, I believe I made a comment that they'll come back and find that's the only suitable location, and that's what's happened. For me, the industrial park, I don't care what you can say to me, I'm going to vote no regardless. That is, the industrial park, we have interest in purchasing the industrial park, utilizing the industrial park like it was set up for. The idea of having lagoons like that right on the highway, I think, is just, in general, a huge disservice to revert that to lagoons for the City. It's eliminating our growth and all of that. So, my stance on it is that simply, if the other two sites are not suitable, then try to find other sites because I think that the industrial park, it needs to be used as an industrial park to bring revenue into the city and not as a lagoon, and I guess that's all I've got to say."

Council Member Curtiss, "I was hoping the Sowder place, that's the one I was hoping would be our best bet." Council Member Van Horn, "And I have to agree with you, Nathan (Council Member Strawder). Even though it looks like the best one right now, I'm not enthusiastic about turning it into lagoons. I wish we had more possibilities, and we've already spent a bunch of money on getting this checked out, but I really wish that there were other possibilities for it."

Council Member Curtiss, "Where is the lagoon site in our industrial park located?" Council Member Van Horn, "If it's 15 acres, it sounds like the whole thing." Daniel Stack, "It's on the west half. I can get you a picture." Mayor Luke, "It would be pretty much the southwest because the northwest is the substation, and the extra plat that we have in there for an expansion on that substation. So, it would be south of there."

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Council Member Strawder, “For 15 acres, it would pretty much be the remaining of the city-owned portion there in the industrial park, though.” Mayor Luke, “That would be for sale.” Council Member Strawder, “Yes.” Mayor Luke, “Yeah.”

Council Member Strawder, “So, the remaining, that would be the area that would be for sale because there are two tracts there, I think two, it might be four, I don’t know. There are a couple of tracts on the north side that are privately owned—” Council Member Curtiss, “Yep.” Council Member Strawder, “They have changed hands recently.” Council Member Curtiss, “Right, right.” Council Member Strawder, “And so, it would be at the edge of that, the remainder of it minus the electric area. So, it’s not just a little corner, it’s the remainder of the industrial park.” Council Member Curtiss, “That whole area.”

Superintendent Schneider, “So, if that goes forward, what about the power lines that run through there? And that’s our only way to feed—” Mayor Luke, “Well, we’ve got the power lines, and we’d also have to go for rezoning.” Superintendent Schneider, “Right.” Mayor Luke, “I mean, there’s a multitude of things that have to be accomplished and done.” Superintendent Schneider, “Right. I just wanted to make sure that we’re thinking about that because that does feed that rural water, that brick building down there too.” Mayor Luke, “Yep.” Superintendent Schneider, “Without that power line, you can’t do that.” Mayor Luke, “Yep. There are several things that would need to be taken care of. I don’t argue that point. Okay.” Council Member Strawder, “Okay.”

Mayor Luke, “I’m glad to know that we have somebody who is interested in it for industrial purposes because it’s sat empty for 30 years.” Superintendent Schneider, “No, I agree.” Mayor Luke, “And we haven’t had any interest in 30 years.” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “In the industrial park?” Mayor Luke, “Yeah.” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “No, that’s not correct.” Mayor Luke, “For industrial use?” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “Well, I don’t know if it’s industrial use, but we’ve had interest in it.” Mayor Luke, “Yeah.”

Council Member Strawder, “I mean, there’s been recent interest that was put on hold because of the lagoons.” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “We had a gentleman who just bought four lots out there, who was really interested in the rest of it.” Council Member Van Horn, “Right.” Mayor Luke, “Well, okay.” Council Member Van Horn, “What happens now?”

Council Member Mays, “I can’t remember. So, just for clarification, if we are maybe going to go out and start looking at more locations. We have looked east of town and south of town? I mean, what was the requirement for a property to be looked at?” Daniel Stack, “Well, just the approximate 15 acres.” Council Member Mays, “Okay.” Daniel Stack, “That seems to be pretty preliminary to it, and we can look at the design parameters for that. That place is going to be line loading on the plant, so we can go with, you know, a smaller footprint possibly. There are a lot of design considerations that we can look at. I don’t know if you’ve got a site that works, but 15 acres is kind of what we’ve been doing.” Council Member Mays, “Okay. I’m just thinking we could, if nothing else, we could look at it and see what other 15-acre properties we’ve got around. You know, I was going to look at that at work and try and figure out some 15 acres, maybe, that we’ve got.”

Council Member Strawder, “Sorry if you’ve already answered, but does the report include, like, what would be needed to bring one of the other two places up to be able to have it? I mean, you know, because you mentioned challenges finding soil or stuff like that. I understand it’s work, it’s not as easy as an existing spot that works perfectly, you know, that type of thing, but is it primarily, I mean, a clay type soil that you’re after, type of thing?” Daniel Stack, “Yep. Yeah, I mean, it seems like—and I can talk to the GeoTech people and see what it would take if you have a site that you’re interested in, what it would take to build on there, and what can be built on there. This was just more ‘How suitable is the soil? Where is the groundwater?’ Well, we’ve got that information, but there’s a little bit of a different approach if you say, ‘Is this site a dealbreaker?’ Well, that’s a different question, so then we ask them about that too, and we see what they say.” Council Member Strawder, “I think we should look at other options.” If you have a site that

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you want, can we make that site work? So, we have some preliminary investigation on all of the sites, but it will take more investigation, probably even to finalize the site, no matter which site you pick.”

City Clerk Brown, “Is there a timeframe for when we really need to be able to decide on this?” Daniel Stack, “Not necessarily.” City Clerk Brown, “As far as moving forward with the plant project?” Daniel Stack, “No, like, we are working on different aspects of the plant, so that’s just part of the process. You know, we haven’t even heard back from KDHE on the loan and stuff yet, so let’s hope they come in the spring, and then surveying, and the routes to get there. It’s just all of those things, just a lot of design parameters to go through. The sooner we can get this portion of it going, the better, because it’s a big part of the project. So, the sooner we can get this one going, the sooner we can make some improvements. But there’s probably some improvements we can make, you know, in the interim or in phases, I guess you’d say.”

Council Member Strawder, “I guess I would just be, soil sampling aside, just I mean, the fact that there’s existing easements that run through Kelley Park and everything. Because of the location of the old lagoons behind, you know, Strawder’s area back there, and whenever the new plant went in, it went straight to the south, so all of those old easements are in place. The fact that that’s the general area—or not general area, but that is the area where the lagoons are at now, I understand they’re a different type of lagoons, but to me I see a lot of positives and also it being very possible that if it does need to have fill brought in because of the water table—and I’m a little bit surprised it was that deep because I can tell you a little bit farther north to the highway it shallows up a little bit more before it dives back down. But, to me, that location has a lot of positives about it outside of the water table and the existing soil type. So, if I were not just looking at that, to me, that makes the most sense.”

Council Member Mays, “Sowder’s? Are you talking about Sowder’s?” Council Member Curtiss, “You’re talking about Sowder’s?” Council Member Strawder, “Yes.” Council Member Curtiss, “Like I said, I was hoping that would be the one that would come in.” Council Member Van Horn, “Me too.” Mayor Luke, “Either that one or the industrial park would both be right along Highway 75, right next to the highway. So, if it’s unsightly on one side, it would be unsightly on the other.” Council Member Strawder, “Well, but the industrial park is a lot closer to the highway where it would be located at.” Mayor Luke, “Sowder property is right there next to the highway.” Council Member Strawder, “Sowder’s does extend up to the highway, but it goes back quite a ways to where the lagoons are at. That’s quite a bit different than being right up next to the right-of-way of the highway.”

Mayor Luke, “So, what I’m hearing then is that you want additional investigation into sites and a better understanding of what it would take to fulfill the obligation for Sowder’s?” Council Member Curtiss, “I think bring Sowder’s up to par, yeah.” Council Member Strawder, “If we need to do work on any sites, I think that site makes the most sense.” Council Member Curtiss, “To me it does too.” Council Member Strawder, “Yeah, I think the question also needs to be is if there is anywhere else that is suitable in the area.” Mayor Luke, “So, basically, we’re telling Schwab-Eaton to look at two items?” Council Member Strawder, “Yeah.” Mayor Luke, “One: Is there any other spot that is feasible, and what would it take to bring Sowder’s up to snuff to meet their needs?” Council Member Van Horn, “That sounds right to me.”

Council Member Curtiss, “Do we have a price for Sowder’s?” Mayor Luke, “No.” Council Member Curtiss, “That would come into this situation, too, I suppose.” Mayor Luke, “Until we know that’s what we want to look at, there’s no price negotiating.” Council Member Mays, “I think the first step could be what it’s going to take to do it before we...” Council Member Curtiss, “Right, yeah.” Council Member Mays, “But that’s going to have to be in the back of our minds, too.” Council Member Curtiss, “Yeah. Right. Very definitely.” Council Member Mays, “We are going to have to pay for that one as well.”

City Attorney Wright, “You know, to put 15 acres of dirt in two or three feet to make it work, you’ve got to have a lot of dirt.” Council Member Mays, “Sure.” Daniel Stack, “Yeah, I mean, that’s going to be pretty much what needs to happen. So, if you have a dirt, sort of, borrow site that you can use, that would

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be a question, even if you are able to get the Sowder site, you've got to go find dirt from somewhere and bring it in. But that's another consideration to consider." Mayor Luke, "Okay, so I guess right now those are the two items that we need you to be looking into, Dan (Daniel Stack)."

Council Member Curtiss, "Danny (Superintendent Hawkins), what do you think?" Superintendent Hawkins, "As I said before, I really just don't have a dog in the fight because all that I'm after is that I just want somewhere to put it." Council Member Van Horn, "That's a very diplomatic answer. Thank you, Danny." City Attorney Wright, "We need a Bluetooth site." Superintendent Hawkins, "Yeah." Daniel Stack, "He's right. We just keep trying to find a site and hoping that one of these could work. So, yeah, like I said, it just keeps moving, that's for sure."

Superintendent Hawkins, "Basically, it's going to be your guys' decision anyway, at the end of the day." Council Member Curtiss, "Well, I know the sooner we come up with a decision, the better off we are." Superintendent Hawkins, "Right, exactly. Because I mean, that's where I'm at with it, because I don't have a personal preference where it goes. I really, truly don't because, I mean, we've looked at multiple sites, you know, for it. We've looked at Nelson's property over to the east. We looked at three different sites there. We tried really hard to have it down by the dog park, but the footprint is way too small. We got a sewer line in there, and maybe—"

Council Member Van Horn, "What happened with the rock quarry thing? Was it just totally unsuitable?" Superintendent Hawkins, "We asked Kenny Nelson." (*Inaudible chatter*). Council Member Van Horn, "That's Nelson's? We have Wilson's." Mayor Luke, "It's Nelson's." Council Member Curtiss, "Oh, that's Nelson's? I was wondering because I know we had another option." City Clerk Brown, "And he never really explained." Council Member Curtiss, "Okay.... Okay." (*Inaudible chatter*).

Mayor Luke, "Alright." Daniel Stack, "As far as other sites, how do we go about doing that motion, I guess? Do you have some that you'll get me, and we can look into it?" Council Member Mays, "So, I'm thinking, is there a distance from the water plant, I mean, what is the distance of these two?" Daniel Stack, "The closer the better." Council Member Mays, "Well, I mean, I know, but I'm thinking we can do a quarry of 15-acre tracts. I mean, trying to stay within however many miles of the water plant. We can, I mean, I can get you that information, right?" Council Member Van Horn, "Well, aren't the ones that are the farthest ones, like, just under two miles, right?" Council Member Mays, "Yeah, that's what I'm saying, if you give me a buffer of 'You don't want to go past—'." Daniel Stack, "These sites we looked at, we kind of tried to follow routes for existing lines." Council Member Mays, "Right." Daniel Stack, "So, can you get a line there?" Council Member Mays, "Right." Daniel Stack, "And can you find a site that's big enough? Those are the two main things. Now, you know, the shorter the line, the better, but if you looked it up, a mile and a half isn't out of the question." Council Member Mays, "Okay. I would be glad to email and just, you know, I mean, we can look at a few sites." Daniel Stack, "Run them through Danny (Superintendent Hawkins) or something." Council Member Mays, "Yeah." Daniel Stack, "And then if you guys want us to get some more sites, we sure can. It's about—what did we pay? It's about \$4,000 per site, approximately, to have its Geotech suitability tested. Looking for the soil and the groundwater tables, those are the two things that they have to go look for."

Council Member Mays, "Danny, I could come up with a few, you know, from our mapping system at the County." Superintendent Hawkins, "Right." Council Member Mays, "And then we could—" Superintendent Hawkins, "Well, that's what I was looking at, is this field right here where Birk's Automotive is across from Bahr Tire. The field that lies to the west, it has the old railroad track through there. If a person could put it behind there, it would be out of site out of mind there. It would have the trees blocking it. You know, that's an idea. Now, the only other thing that I'm not sure of, you would have to answer, but if we put it upstream, then can it discharge back into the Neosho (River), or does it have to be downstream of the intake? I don't remember the rule." Daniel Stack, "That's a good question."

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Council Member Strawder, “Hey, Danny (Superintendent Hawkins)?” Superintendent Hawkins, “Yes?” Council Member Strawder, “I think that field that you’re talking about, if it’s what one I’m thinking you’re looking at, the water table should be pretty far down in that area.” Council Member Mays, “Behind Birk’s?” Superintendent Hawkins, “Do you know who owns that field, though?” Council Member Strawder, “Are you talking about that one just north of Graceland?” Superintendent Hawkins, “Yes. Just north of that.” Council Member Curtiss, “Strawder’s?” Council Member Strawder, “That should be Birk Land and Cattle.” Superintendent Hawkins, “Birk Land and Cattle.” Council Member Strawder, “I’m very familiar with that, too. Grandpa owned it for some odd years, so.... But I think there might be just something in that general area back there that could possibly work. If not that location, a couple of others back there in the area.”

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Mayor Luke, “Okay. You set, Danny?” Superintendent Hawkins, “I’m done. No, I want to talk about peacocks.” Mayor Luke, “Alright, we’ll go to the Street Department.”

STREET DEPARTMENT: Update

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

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

Culvert Repairs: Superintendent Dauber, “We’ve extended a driveway tube over on 1st Street in the last couple of weeks. We did put a new tube underneath the intersection at 5th and Yuba. It was an old concrete tube, and the sections were starting to separate, starting to create holes in the road, so we cut it out and replaced it. We put a new driveway tube in at the 13th and Allegheny area for a new house going in. And then, the Co-op had a manlift that got stuck in their yard, and when they pulled it out, they crushed part of the tube that was on the north side of the Co-op, so we had to replace that also with a new 20-foot section in there.”

Sewer Lagoons: Superintendent Dauber, “We did assist the Water Department in burning the lagoons, and helped them put a tube in out at the lagoons to get rid of some water that was standing.”

Personnel Evaluations: Superintendent Dauber, “I’ve been working on evaluations, and just trying to get things done.”

2026 Street Improvement Project: Mayor Luke, “Okay, and you’ve got the bids?” Superintendent Dauber, “Yes, sir. We sent out bids to three different companies for the 2026 Asphalt Project. We sent it to Killough Construction, Inc., out of Ottawa; Bettis Asphalt (Bettis Asphalt & Construction, Inc.), out of Topeka; and APAC (APAC-Kansas, Inc; Shears Division), out of Emporia. We had our bid opening on Monday, the 2nd, at 10 o’clock. Killough Construction came in at \$362,182.00, Bettis Asphalt came in at \$552,065.50, and APAC came in at \$580,445.52. After looking over the bids today that were turned in to us, I’d like to recommend that we go with Killough’s bid.” City Clerk Brown, “We need to accept the bids as bona fide.” Council Member Curtiss, “Yep. We do.” Mayor Luke, “Yep.”

Council Member Curtiss, “I move to accept the bids as bona fide.” 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, “The bids are bona fide. The major discrepancy between the bid prices?” Superintendent Dauber, “The removal of the concrete streets is one of the big discrepancies, the difference in price. Bettis

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Asphalt and APAC both have to contract their removal out. Killough Construction has their own dirt crew, and then they have connections in the area to get rid of it instead of having to haul it away. They didn't tell me who they were connected with, but they have a local connection to haul the concrete away instead of having to haul it back to Ottawa or Topeka. So, that's a big cost right there. I think their tear-out was \$18/yard, and everybody else is \$120-\$130/yard." Mayor Luke, "Wow." Superintendent Dauber, "So, I mean, that eats a big chunk pretty quickly. I don't have the exact figures with me, but if you're talking a couple of thousand yards of concrete removal, that eats up a pretty big chunk of money pretty quick."

Council Member Strawder, "Could you remind me of how the bids are advertised? Do we send it to companies?" Superintendent Dauber, "Yes, we send it to companies." Council Member Strawder, "Or do we post it on any of the bid sites or anything like that? So, we select a couple of companies and send it to them?" Superintendent Dauber, "We select the companies." Council Member Curtiss, "We have used Killough a lot." Council Member Strawder, "Yeah. Yeah, I know. I was just—"

Superintendent Dauber, "These three, for as long as I've been here, have been the main ones that we have always sent out bids to." Council Member Strawder, "Okay. It was that term that you used, 'Where we sent our bids to'. That's why I didn't know if it was--because I know there are bid sites out there for construction companies to see. So, that type of thing." Superintendent Dauber, "So, these were just the local asphalt companies around here." Council Member Strawder, "Okay." Mayor Luke, "Any other discussion? Okay. We will need a formal motion."

Council Member Curtiss, "I move to award the Street Improvements 2026 Project to Killough Construction, Inc. as presented, not to exceed \$362,182.00, as being in the best interest of the City of Burlington." Council Member Shove, "I second the motion."

Council Member Curtiss, "And it looks like they can complete it fairly quickly." Superintendent Dauber, "They didn't give a completion date in the bid packet itself." Council Member Curtiss, "Oh, okay." Superintendent Dauber, "We did specify that it had to be done within the confines of school being out because we will have Cross Street shut down." Council Member Curtiss, "Okay." Superintendent Dauber, "So, their bid came in June to June." Council Member Curtiss, "June to June." Mayor Luke, "That's now." Council Member Strawder, "I know. We haven't been through this in a while." Mayor Luke, "Any other discussion?"

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

Superintendent Dauber, "Thank you." Mayor Luke, "Anything else?" Superintendent Dauber, "Nope, that's all I have." Mayor Luke, "Okay, go to the Police Department."

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Update

General: Chief Roney, "Officers have been working on citizen assist calls, medical assist calls, funeral escorts, traffic stops, VIN inspections, walk-in calls, non-injury accidents, multiple lockouts, domestic battery calls, and dog calls."

Activities/Cases: Chief Roney, "We had a call today about criminal damage to City property. We had to call Kyle (Superintendent Dauber) with the Street Department in. We had somebody drive through one of our alleys, our grass alleys, and tore it up. We ended up charging them with criminal damage because they intentionally did it. Officers are continuing to follow up on the scam calls that we've had brought in. As a matter of fact, we had three more scam calls come in just this week, and it's only Wednesday. We had counterfeit money try to be passed at a local store. We're following up with that."

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Nuisance Properties/Nuisance Vehicles: Chief Roney, “Nuisance properties: I have a trailer house in the 1000 block of Des Moines that is being torn down at this time. I’ve got three other properties that I’ve been working on. The owner is out of state, going through a divorce, so they’re kind of tied up a little bit. They are wanting to sell these houses. They’re wanting to tear them down, but due to the fact of the divorce, their hands are kind of tied. They’re going to stay in contact with me. Officers are starting their rounds, compiling nuisance properties, making notifications for nuisance vehicles, and trash properties. Some of them are from last year. They cleaned them up, and now we’re going back and doing it again. But now it’s warm enough to get out and get cleaning, so we’re going to get started on that.”

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Personnel – Recommendation to Hire: Mayor Luke, “Anything else?” City Clerk Brown, “The recommendation.” Chief Roney, “So, I’m going to stand if that’s alright. I’m tired of sitting; we’ve been here a while. So, I would like to propose to hire Daniel Gessling to fill my vacant police officer position that I currently have open. He’s completed the psychological exams, background exams, and the multiple interviews, and especially the one with the Police Committee and the City Clerk, which was conducted. I would propose that he would be just at the police officer level at \$21.94, starting level of police officer.”

Mayor Luke, “When would he be available?” Chief Roney, “Two weeks.” Council Member Van Horn, “Has he been through school yet?” Chief Roney, “No, ma’am.” Council Member Van Horn, “Okay.” Council Member Curtiss, “Two weeks from today?” Chief Roney, “Once I get done here tonight, I’m calling him, and he can give his notice tomorrow he said.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay.”

Council Member Curtiss, “I move to extend an offer of employment to Daniel Gessling for the position of Police Officer at the starting hourly rate of \$21.94, effective March 18, 2026.” Council Member Van Horn, “I second the motion.”

Mayor Luke, “We have a motion and several seconds. Any discussion?” Council Member Curtiss, “I was very impressed with him. He had a good interview.” Chief Roney, “The last thing that I have—” Council Member Curtiss, “Wait a minute, we have to vote.” City Attorney Wright, “We have to vote.” Mayor Luke, “We have to vote.” Chief Roney, “Sorry!”

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

City Attorney Wright, “Hey Chief, I’ve got a quick question on that. I know that there are several law enforcement agencies in the state that are having these guys, their new hires, especially if they haven’t gone through training, sign a contract that says that they have to work for the City for three years or they have to reimburse the City for the cost of the training, kind of as a way to just try and keep them around a little bit longer. I know that’s kind of been an issue. Have we considered doing that? And I guess I would address that to the council, if the City Council is interested in trying to do something like that?”

Chief Roney, “I think that is something that we need to look at. Without anything in effect, I have talked to the last two, you know, I’ve asked them, ‘Give me five years’, but nothing in writing. But I think that’s something, as the City Attorney and as the council, that maybe something we need to look towards.” City Clerk Brown, “We have done that before. Where we’ve had someone here, and, like, if the Sheriff’s Department poaches them from us. And they have to pay for all of the back—if they take them, they have to pay us for all of their training.” Chief Roney, “So, that’s only your first year out of the academy. That is state law.” City Clerk Brown, “Yeah.” Chief Roney, “So, if I send somebody to the academy, on their graduation date, they’ve got one year from that graduation date that if they leave before that, then they have to reimburse us for that first year of salary, right?” Council Member Van Horn, “Wow.” Chief Roney, “Which, with some of the issues with this application process, I had two people apply who just graduated in September/November, and there was no way we could afford to, you know, pay that and then start the salary.”

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Council Member Strawder, “Along the lines of what you’re indicating, I think it’s probably a good idea just for us to look, in general, with the police officers and stuff, to make sure there aren’t other reasons for leaving, whether it be normal benefits, kind of standard with other jurisdictions, maybe how do we make it differ: pay, or any of that type of stuff.” Chief Roney, “And we are looking into that. One of the biggest things is that we are KPERS, and a lot of agencies have moved to KP&F. That has been a big issue for us, one of the major issues. Our pay, you know, we are across the board a little bit with some of these other agencies, actually higher than some agencies, but when it comes down to that KP&F, that retirement, man, it’s tough to touch that. Right now, especially, when law enforcement up here is still KPERS. And we have discussed that in the committees and with the clerk. That’s just something that we’re working towards and working on.”

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Update

Personnel – Approve Job Descriptions: Chief Roney, “So, the next thing I’ve got, I’m working on some job descriptions. I would like to propose creating a detective position for the Burlington Police Department. We are receiving more child abuse/sexually related crimes and an overabundance of these scam crimes. These calls, as you guys know, I keep talking about them because they do take up a lot of our time. Right now, how this works, officers, whoever gets this call, they jump on it, they start working it, and then we get other calls. They get sidetracked, they get moved away from them. As a matter of fact, just from August of last year, I’ve got three cases that took over six months to finally get them completed so that we could turn them in to Wade’s (Wade Bowie, Coffey County District Attorney) office, because these are felony cases, they actually go to the county. And that’s because the officers are bouncing from call to call. You know, we’re not super busy, but we do have those citizen calls that we have got to follow up on. We’ve got the lockouts; we’ve got the accidents. You know, we’ve got all of that stuff that still comes in, the walk-ins that come in. And so, they lose, I don’t want to say motivation on it, but it slows it down a little bit because trying to jump right back in, it just takes a little bit.” Council Member Van Horn, “More like focus.” Chief Roney, “That’s it!” Council Member Van Horn, “They lose focus.”

Chief Roney, “That’s it. We got two new officers, they’re catching these calls as well, so it’s taking two officers to work those calls because we’re training them as we go. To work on these, you fully need to be dedicated to them, and having a detective is going to be able to fully dedicate themselves to these calls. Also, when we don’t have the call-load, or we have these cases, that detective is also going to assist with evidence, transportation of evidence, and taking it up to KBI. That cost us, in overtime last year, about 100 hours for whoever was in charge of our evidence. That officer works nights, so just to get evidence to the KBI lab, he had to go on a day off, drive to Topeka, check that in, come back, that’s a 3–4-hour process. That hurt us pretty good on overtime. Also, with overtime, this detective, when we start pushing our vacation, we’ve been cut short on our vacations. We’re trying to push that; we’re trying to get built back up. So, we’re trying to get the officers to take vacations. Comp time: I know that has been a big issue because I know what we don’t use as vacation, we use as comp time. I’ve got officers with hundreds of hours of comp time on top of the vacation. So, it’ll get these guys to take that vacation/take that comp time. This detective will know that they will also help cover the road, if people are sick, and other stuff that comes in. They will be able to step back, they will be able to cover that road, and help out there. That is going to be one of the prerequisites of this.

“Currently, we have six road officers and myself, so that’s seven certified officers. If we create this detective position, I would like to keep six on the road, one detective, and myself, which would move us to eight certified officers. So, I would like to create the detective spot, and then hire somebody to fill that sixth spot.”

Council Member Van Horn, “So, Mike (Chief Roney), if we do this, if we get a detective, is there extra training available for them? Because it seems like something they would need some training beyond what

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your regular officers have.” Chief Roney, “Absolutely! So, what happens, how this works in law enforcement, I got hired. I came into law enforcement in 1997. I started training, I started picking my line of what I would like to do. Back then, it was narcotics. I went to every narcotics training that I could get myself to. I worked narcotics cases, and then in time I decided I wanted to change my endgame; I wanted to move into investigation, so then there were investigation classes that I went to. So, those classes are there; officers can take them at any time, but as for this detective, that is what his primary training and stuff will be for is those.

“I do have an in-house person that I am interested in for this position. They do have 30-plus years of law enforcement, and they do have training in investigations. I’m not looking at moving that right away because we do have a new hire, and we’ve got to get him trained up, get him to the academy, and get him back. So, I’m looking at mid-year, maybe in a couple of months, April/May, May/June, to make this transition, but that would give us time to also put out for another officer to help fill this position for that sixth officer to get that back on the road.

“We sat; we had a meeting about it with the Police Committee and the City Clerk. We sat, and we were crunching numbers. Jerilyn (Council Member Curtiss) is amazing with numbers, working this out. We did come up today, Anne (City Clerk Brown) was able to really sit down and look at it. At this time, with the way the budget is and everything, we would be \$16,000 short instead of the \$22,000 that we came up with the other day. I do know that by the time we get this rolling, we have had an open position up until now, and when we get this rolling, and by the time we start implementing this, we’ll be almost mid-year, so that number is going to come down this budget season. This is something that we’re going to have to sit down and look at the budget next year and get that up to where we need it.

“I just feel at this time that the City of Burlington, the Burlington Police Department, we do need to catch up with the times in law enforcement and get the proper people and get this stuff in place so that we can properly work these cases and get them done in a timely fashion, and so they can get prosecuted. Not all of them are felony cases; some of these cases we do bring across to Philip (City Attorney Wright) over here. Some of the scams, if they’re small enough. I mean, it’s across the board, and this has been something that, back when Chief Jones was here, we talked to him about this. Sergeant Stuart (Randy Stuart), he talked to Doug (Chief Jones). I talked to Doug. Sergeant Stuart and I talked about this last year, when I took over a year ago, so this is just something that I’ve been trying to get written up. I’ve got the job descriptions here. They were emailed out to you all. I’ve got some positive feedback on those, made some changes that we felt were necessary, and that’s where I’m at.

“George (Council Member Shove), I do want to apologize. I did get your email, finally. I am having email trouble again. Sorry, I couldn’t get that to send out, but thank you for your reply.”

Council Member Curtiss, “Okay.” Council Member Van Horn, “Is that supposed to say sergeant?” Council Member Strawder, “At the top of the back page.” Council Member Berryman, “Yeah.”

~~Council Member Curtiss, “I move to approve the Police Department job description of Police Sergeant as presented.”~~

Council Member Berryman, “He was talking about the detective job description.” Council Member Curtiss, “Do you want me to do the detective first?” Chief Roney, “So, there were two job descriptions. I apologize. Looking at some of these job descriptions, they’re pretty vague, and I went in and updated them to 2026 instead of, you know, 10 years ago. I think this is something that we’re going to have to look at, probably every three years. I think we should try to make sure that we stay up with the times, liability, and protect the City, the Burlington Police Department, and probably the other agencies, looking ahead at those as well. So, right now I’ve got the sergeant’s position job description that was turned in and the detective position.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay.” Chief Roney, “Sorry about that.”

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Council Member Curtiss, “I move to approve the Police Department job description of Police Detective as presented. Council Member Strawder, “I second the motion.”

Mayor Luke, “Any additional discussion or questions for Chief (Roney)?” Council Member Strawder, “I think this is a big positive.” Council Member Curtiss, “I think it’s a move in the right direction, very much so.” Council Member Van Horn, “Well, if you even read the newspaper, you know that things have changed—” Council Member Curtiss, “Yeah.” Council Member Van Horn, “—and we need more...” Council Member Curtiss, “Yep.” Mayor Luke, “Alright. Any additional discussion?”

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

Council Member Curtiss, “I move to approve the Police Department job description of Sergeant as presented.” Council Member Strawder, “I second the motion.”

Mayor Luke, “This is just a revision of what was there to start with?” Chief Roney, “On the sergeant one?” Council Member Curtiss, “Yes.” Chief Roney, “Yes, sir. That is correct.” Mayor Luke, “Yeah.”

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

Mayor Luke, “Anything else, Chief?” Chief Roney, “Yep.” Council Member Curtiss, “Steve?” Chief Roney, “I didn’t hear you, I’m sorry.” Mayor Luke, “Anything else?” Chief Roney, “Nope.” Council Member Curtiss, “Oh, Chief.” Mayor Luke, “Okay.” Council Member Mays, “Steve?” Council Member Curtiss, “I thought he said Steve?” Mayor Luke, “Go to Parks.” Council Member Curtiss, “My hearing aids aren’t working right.”

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

PARKS DEPARTMENT: Update

General: Personnel have been doing normal duties: cleaning public buildings and restrooms, and building and equipment maintenance.

Tree Trimming: Superintendent Boyce, “We’re still working on trimming trees on decent days.”

Picnic Tables: Superintendent Boyce, “On crummy days, we’ve been working on redoing picnic tables. We had several that were in our scrap pile and not for use that we’ve rebuilt and made three out of five, I believe.”

PARKS DEPARTMENT: Update

Equipment – Grasshopper Mower: Superintendent Boyce, “And then, I worked with the Grasshopper company on getting a state contract price on the replacement of a mower. That contract period is from 2/28/2023-2/28/2026. I made contact with them prior to that 2/28/2026, and the quote price was good for 60 days, so we’re still good with that. The contract price will be \$19,110.00. With add-on goods \$326.40, that being Bar Tread tires instead of Turf tires, a Trimming roller kit on the mower, and an audible sound, so if you lose oil or are at a high temperature, it’ll be an audible sound instead of a visual temperature gauge. It’s something that you’ve got to see because they’re looking out here, not on the right-hand fender where all of that stuff is at. So, they’ll be able to hear it. The total price, \$19,436.40, with a trade-in of our 2021 unit of a 400D with 998 hours, the total price would be \$12,936.40, and we did budget for that for this year, so that would be my recommendation to go with the Grasshopper company.”

Council Member Strawder, “I move to authorize the purchase of a new Grasshopper Mower from Moridge Mfg. Inc. at the State Contract Price of \$12,936.40, including a discount of \$6,500.00 for trade-

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in of a 2021 Grasshopper Mower, which is in the best interest of the City.” Council Member Shove, “I second the motion.” Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.

PARKS DEPARTMENT: Personnel Evaluations

Superintendent Boyce, “And the next thing that I have is the personnel evaluation for Kyle MacFadgen. I have no complaints. He does a great job, he’s willing to learn, and he’s moving forward with education. Last year, he did pass his Public Playground Safety inspection stuff, and he’s taking classes to keep up with that stuff because that stuff changes yearly. So, if we can find the classes and we have the time to send him, then we send him, so... I think I had a 4% pay increase for a merit on that.”

Council Member Strawder, “So, which one?” Council Member Curtiss, “The second one.”

Council Member Strawder, “I move to accept Kyle MacFadgen’s annual evaluation as presented and to grant a pay increase to \$20.54 per hour, effective March 14, 2026.” Council Member Mays, “I second the motion.” Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.

Superintendent Boyce, “That’s all I had.”

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Council Member Strawder, “I have a question, and it’s a really simple one. If something gets left in the refrigerator at the 4-H building, where does it go? We might have left something there on Saturday.” Superintendent Boyce, “It depends on what it is.” Council Member Strawder, “Okay. It was a dish.” Superintendent Boyce, “Actually, over the weekend, I think we had two items.” Council Member Strawder, “Okay.” Superintendent Boyce, “One of the dishes we have at the shop. We cleaned it out. We cleaned the dish, and it’s at the shop. The dish is at the shop. And the other one, I don’t remember what it was, but I think it went to the dumpster.” Council Member Strawder, “Okay. So, I’ll get with you afterwards then because I stopped by to talk to the police officer—or Police Chief, to get a key, and it was empty, but it smelled nice and freshly cleaned, so I imagine I just hit the wrong time on it.” Mayor Luke, “Okay. Go to Finance.”

FINANCE: Claims Ordinance & Payroll Ordinance

a. Claims Ordinance	2026-05	\$	<u>321,512.42</u>
b. Payroll Ordinance	2026-05	\$	<u>113,097.20</u>
	TOTAL	\$	<u>434,609.62</u>

CLAIMS 2026-05: *Council Member Curtiss moved to approve City of Burlington Claims Ordinance 2026-05 for the amount of \$321,512.42. Council Member Strawder gave the second.* Mayor Luke, “Anne (City Clerk Brown), you have some highlights?” City Clerk Brown, “We have Cottonwood/Neosho Rivers Water for \$8,334.25, Dave’s Pumping, LLC for \$5,320.00, Foley Equipment Company for \$44,135.00, Mark Harris for \$3,336.62, Summit Supply Corp. of Colorado for \$4,588.00, and TankSpek Corp. for \$32,172.00. We also had the G.O. Bond payment to the state for \$144,023.25.” **Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke instructed City Clerk Brown to poll Council for a vote. Mayor Luke declared, “Claims Ordinance 2026-05 passed unanimously, 6:0.”**

PAYROLL 2026-05: *Council Member Curtiss moved to approve City of Burlington Payroll Ordinance 2026-05 in the amount of \$113,097.20.” Council Member Strawder gave the second. Hearing*

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no further discussion, Mayor Luke instructed City Clerk Brown to poll Council for a vote. *Mayor Luke declared, "Payroll Ordinance 2026-05 passed unanimously, 6:0."*

FINANCE: Personnel - Employees' Salary & Consumer Price Index Recommendation

City Clerk Brown, "You had two of those in your file. One of them is where the employees and everything stayed the same; the other one is with the detective added, which you approved. Our CPI came in at 2.2% this year, and we have always followed, so I would recommend that we do the 2.2% CPI."

Council Member Curtiss, "I move to make a recommendation to approve a 2.2% Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase to City of Burlington employees, beginning April 4, 2026, and to adjust the wage band." Council Member Van Horn, "I second the motion."

Council Member Strawder, "Just really quick, so does this have to do with what we're talking about with the motion?" City Clerk Brown, "Yes." Council Member Strawder, "Okay." Mayor Luke, "2.2%." Council Member Strawder, "Just the 2.2%? Mayor Luke, "Yes." City Clerk Brown, "Yes." Council Member Strawder, "And then we're going to be approving an ordinance following?" City Clerk Brown, "Yes." Council Member Strawder, "Okay. That was—I was just making sure." Mayor Luke, "Yeah. Any other discussion?"

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

Mayor Luke, "Anything else?" City Clerk Brown, "Not on that." Mayor Luke, "Any questions for Anne (City Clerk Brown)?"

PLANNING & ZONING: Update

Nuisance Grass/Weeds Update: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "Believe it or not, grass is starting to grow, and I've already talked to one person about, kind of, starting early this year instead of waiting like they did last year. But now it's muddy."

Permits: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "I had a gentleman who built his fence out in the road right-of-way. He didn't have a fence permit. I talked to him yesterday. He actually is pretty well in the ditch, but he wanted to know how far back to move it, and I told him to get a survey. It looks like he's going to have to go about 15 feet back with that fence." Council Member Van Horn, "Wow." Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "So, he was off quite a ways. He said it would be moved this weekend."

Purplewave.com: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "I contacted Purplewave, they will be here Tuesday at 8:00 a.m., and so I guess whoever has got a vehicle, if you want to meet him up here at eight o'clock Tuesday morning, and then that way he can go over the details of the vehicles with them, so that way they can get them listed."

Census Update: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "I did a census update."

Permits: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "And I have been kind of busy with some fence permits."

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Mayor Luke, "Any questions for Jimmy (Zoning Clerk Hugunin)?" Council Member Strawder, "So, Jimmy, I got a hold of Mike (Chief Roney), and it sounds like there are conversations on the real estate signs that have been popping up on power poles and stuff like that, but I did notice they're still up there this evening. I'm just making sure we're, you know, following up with that and everything, just because I don't want to have that start being a practice by other real estate agents if it's not permitted."

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Chief Roney, "I did reach out to that realtor." Council Member Strawder, "Okay." Chief Roney, "He was going to try to get it down this morning. With the rain and stuff in, and I believe he had a sick child, he didn't get to it. I will touch base with him again. If they're not down tomorrow, I'll touch base with him, or Jimmy (Zoning Clerk Hugunin) will. I don't know which one of us, but one of us will." Council Member Strawder, "Okay." Mayor Luke, "Anything else? Okay. Let's go to Legal."

LEGAL DEPARTMENT: Update

General: City Attorney Wright, "I don't have anything. It's almost eight o'clock."

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

CITY CLERK: Update

General: City Clerk Brown, "City Hall staff has been busy with customers paying utility bills, work orders, preparing vouchers for bill paying, payroll, and minutes for council meeting."

Kansas Set-off Program: City Clerk Brown, "For February, we will be sending \$29.42 in delinquent utility accounts to the Kansas Set-off Program for collection."

Finance Meeting: City Clerk Brown, "I attended the Finance Meeting on Thursday, February 26th."

Personnel Evaluations: City Clerk Brown, "Just a reminder for the evaluations to be in by Friday, March 13th."

6th Street Bridge: City Clerk Brown, "And I've been working on the easements and stuff for the 6th Street Pedestrian Bridge. We're moving forward slowly, but we're getting things done there, so that's exciting to see that moving."

Daylight Savings Time: City Clerk Brown, "And just a reminder that Daylight Savings Time starts March 8th, so don't forget to turn your clocks forward one hour."

Calls/Inquiries: City Clerk Brown, "And just normal duties, normal calls and inquiries."

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

ORDINANCE 923 Wage and Salary

Mayor Luke, "With the City Clerk's information, then we go to Ordinance 923, which is on the salaries, work plans, and evaluation guidelines. We will need an ordinance to put that all in motion." Council Member Strawder, "So, just to clarify, it's the second one in there, right?" City Clerk Brown, "Right. The one that the detective is listed on the list." Mayor Luke, "Right."

Council Member Strawder, "I move to adopt Ordinance 923, Determining and Establishing Salaries and Compensation of Officers and Employees, Pursuant to the Personnel Policies and Procedures, of The City of Burlington, Kansas." Council Member Curtiss, "I second the motion."

Council Member Strawder, "Just noting one thing, she said the detective was on there. It also does drop off that part-time position, so..." City Clerk Brown, "Yes." Council Member Curtiss, "Yeah." City Clerk Brown, "Sorry, I forgot to mention that." Council Member Curtiss, "Yep." Mayor Luke, "Anything else?"

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Hearing no additional discussion, Mayor Luke instructed City Clerk Brown to poll the Council. All votes were in favor. Mayor Luke declared motion unanimously passed, 6:0.

Mayor Luke, “Any questions for Anne (City Clerk Brown) on anything else?”

OTHER COMMITTEE OR COUNCIL BUSINESS

Kansas Municipal Energy Agency - Appoint Director #2: Mayor Luke, “Okay. We also have to fill the position for Director #2 for the KMEA Board of Directors.”

Council Member Curtiss, “I move to appoint Mayor Stan Luke as Burlington’s Director #2 to the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency Board of Directors, to serve a two-year term from May 1, 2026, to April 30, 2028.” Council Member Shove, “I second the motion.”

Mayor Luke, “Any discussion?” Council Member Strawder, “I do have just a couple of quick questions, for clarity. So, I see it says, ‘We do not appoint an alternate’. That means there’s no alternates available, or we choose not to?” City Clerk Brown, “We choose not to.” Mayor Luke, “We have a Director #1 and a Director #2.” Council Member Strawder, “Okay.” Mayor Luke, “Alan (Superintendent Schneider) is Director #1, and we’re elected on different years, but there’s always one of us available.” Council Member Strawder, “But do other places that have those positions, do they choose an alternate as well?” Mayor Luke, “Normally not.”

Council Member Strawder, “Okay. I was just curious because how I saw that was, ‘We do not appoint’, I didn’t know if that was an error or not. Also, just looking, kind of, into the future because I think you two have been that for a long time, is there anybody, you know, employee-wise, that maybe needs to start that motion of getting used to what this position looks like?” Mayor Luke, “I think that we have talked to the staff at the Electric Department, and so far, none of them have been showing interest.” Council Member Strawder, “Okay. That was the only reason for mentioning it.”

Superintendent Schneider, “If we get to that point, I can volunteer somebody.” Council Member Strawder, “No, I was just seeing if that was an opportunity to try and get somebody’s foot in the door since, you know, they’re two-year terms and all that, so...” Superintendent Schneider, “Well, I think, a few years down the road, because I think Stan (Mayor Luke) is getting close, and I’m getting really close, and I’ve been trying to fill the void when I leave by getting those guys understanding what’s going on and how certain things work, and so...” Council Member Strawder, “Yeah, I just didn’t know.” Superintendent Schneider, “We’ve kind of been working on it, but we will have to get more serious about it here in a few years.” Council Member Strawder, “I just think a succession plan is good, and I think an alternate there, even if they don’t fill in or whatever, but it’s just maybe something to think about. Not a necessity for this year, obviously, but, you know, just something to think about.”

Superintendent Schneider, “You all may get rid of me, so you may need to find someone sooner rather than even I was expecting, I don’t know.” Council Member Van Horn, “We don’t want to get rid of you, Alan (Superintendent Schneider).” Superintendent Schneider, “Well... Just be careful who you talk to.” Mayor Luke, “Alright. Any other discussion?”

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

REPORT BY CITY OFFICERS:

Mayor Luke, “I think that’s all of our motions for the night.” City Clerk Brown, “Yeah.” Mayor Luke, “Okay. Alright, anything the Governing Body wishes to bring before us?” Council Member Strawder, “I have a question, Anne (City Clerk Brown). This was something that was brought up to me a couple of weeks ago. I think it was Ash Wednesday or something, so I had to leave really quickly and everything. I

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know we're late tonight, but...on the trash bins that Republic (Services) provides? I had heard this from my mom because she asked me where to get them, or, you know, how to get them. I said it was my understanding to contact City Hall to get the number. She did that, she called them, and they said that all of the allotted trash bins for Burlington per the contract had been dispersed and there were no more to hand out, so she ended up having to go and buy one."

Council Member Berryman, "I had the same thing probably two months ago. They said that if you want one, you can rent it at a ridiculous fee from them." City Clerk Brown, "Yeah." Council Member Strawder, "I know, myself, I've contacted them three or four times over the last couple of years living down here trying to get one, and being told, 'Oh, it will be here next week,' and I've never seen one. So, I just thought I would just mention that, in case that is something to look into."

City Clerk Brown, "And that is something that is between the customer and them. We don't have anything to do with the trash bins." Council Member Van Horn, "Of course, it would be nice if they'd allot us more since we obviously need more." Council Member Strawder, "That was the reason why I was asking, because she specifically referenced the contract. So, yeah." City Clerk Brown, "Well, and I don't know. I don't even know what that allotted number is." Council Member Berryman, "So, you can rent them, but it's just an exorbitant amount." City Clerk Brown, "Yeah, it is. I don't want to say it."

Mayor Luke, "We can check with her and see if she can explain it to us." City Clerk Brown, "Yeah, I can check with her and see." Council Member Strawder, "I don't remember when that contract with her is up." City Clerk Brown, "It's at the end of the year. It's always at the end of the year." Council Member Strawder, "Yeah. I just thought I would mention it." City Clerk Brown, "Okay." Mayor Luke, "We can check that out."

MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Luke, "Question for you, Jimmy (Zoning Clerk Hugunin)? Has the county set their trash pickup?" Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "Yeah, they just got it today. I think it's on April—I'd have to look again." Mayor Luke, "We want to set out brush pickup two weeks prior to or two weeks after?" Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "Yeah. I don't know. What did we do? Two weeks after?" Mayor Luke, "Two weeks after that?" Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "Yeah, I think it's the week of the 13th, but I'd have to look at the paper." Mayor Luke, "I think the 13th-18th, I think." Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "They haven't given me an email like they normally do, but it sounds like they're not coming through or something, so..." Mayor Luke, "Well, we'll tentatively look at two weeks after, and then we'll go from there." Zoning Clerk Hugunin, "Yep." Mayor Luke, "For the brush pickup. Anything else?"

Mayor Luke declared the meeting adjourned.

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