

BOOK 27
April 16, 2025

BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION 4-16-2025

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, April 16, 2025. Mayor Luke called the meeting to order.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: ☒ Stan Luke, Mayor

Council Members present:

☒ Jerilyn Curtiss (President of Council)

☒ Maxi Berryman

☒ Cara Mays

☒ Lila Van Horn

☒ Nathan Strawder

☒ Martin Ernst

Superintendents Present:

☒ Kevin Boyce (Parks)

☒ Alan Schneider (Electric)

☒ Mark Davidson (Street)

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

Also Present:

☒ Anne Brown (City Clerk)

☐ (Administrative Assistant)

☒ Philip Wright (City Attorney)

☒ Jimmy Hugunin (Zoning/Grants Clerk)

☐ Kerri Weltha (Deputy City Clerk)

Media Present: Mark Peterson (Coffey County Republican)

VISITORS: Kellie Roney, Sarah Strawder, Steve Lewis, Jay Hale, Brad Barrett, Adam Hoch

AGENDA: Mayor Luke, "The agenda for this evening, I have a couple things to add. Under appointments, we'll add Sarah Strawder, with respect to the Grange Craft Fair. And under finance, Claims Ordinance 2025-07, \$429,486.97. Under Payroll Ordinance 2025-08, \$109,581.23; for a total of \$539,068.20. Are there any other additions to the agenda? Hearing none, I would accept a motion to approve the agenda as amended."

Council Member Ernst, "I move to approve the agenda as amended." Council Member Van Horn, "Second." Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.

MINUTES 4/2/2025: Mayor Luke, "You have before you the draft minutes of our April 2, 2025, regular meeting. Are there any additions or corrections to those minutes?"

Council Member Curtiss, "I move to approve the draft minutes of April 2, 2025, as presented." Council Member Ernst, "Second." Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.

APPOINTMENT – Floyd Lewis Foundation – Steve Lewis – Donation

Steve Lewis, "Thank you for having me here tonight. I am here tonight, as you can see on your agenda, to ask for money." Mayor Luke, "We're done." Steve Lewis, "We're done here? I am the President of the Floyd Lewis Foundation here in town. We're a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation. We try to do a lot of things for Coffey County—Burlington and Coffey County. I am here to ask for a donation for our upcoming golf tournament. Our golf tournament and our bingo are our two main fundraising avenues that we have for our foundation. I just wanted to bring this by to show you a few of the things that we are involved with—there are others, but these are a few of the things we are involved with. I know that some of you are familiar with us; some of our main emphasis is on our mission statement, 'providing community support with emphasis on patriotism, compassion, and furthering education.' That's kind of where we are focusing a lot of our efforts and time.

"You can see that on veterans' projects that we've done, community projects, and education. You can look at those, and if you have any questions on any of them; we're kind of excited about the last project that we just did. We put the 62 flagpoles out at Graceland Cemetery, and we're really proud of that. We do raise all 62 flags coinciding with five different holidays – Flag Day, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day. We also raise them for veteran funerals, and we also raise them for veteran spouses as well. That's one of the things we're really proud of, along with our veteran banner project that we do every year. Countywide, we

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have over 240 total banners of veterans that we put up. I know I only have five minutes here, so I might not be able to get through all of this. This is just some stuff that we do, that we're proud of, that we might be able to raise some money for to continue our quest each year. As you can see in our community deal, we do a 'Christmas on Us' program, where we buy Christmas for those families who can't afford to have much for Christmas. We also do a 'Rest Easy' program where we provide bedding for—you'd be surprised how many folks in the county have kids that don't have a bed. It's kind of hard to believe, but that's the way it is in some places.

"We've done home makeovers in the past; we actually have another one planned that's coming up before too long. We're going to be putting a porch on a handicapped person's—a ramp with a level area so they can access their house. We've done that a couple times already, but we're about ready to do another one in the very near future. So, our 'Pay it Forward' and our 'Discretionary' funding programs are also something we're very proud of. We have a Board of Directors that do things to help pay and reward people for doing good deeds, and award money to groups and individuals who have worthwhile projects in the community that we deem as worthy.

"I know most of you know we do educational scholarships every year for graduating high school seniors in Coffey County. We're really proud of our new endeavor, which we've partnered with Flint Hills Technical College in Emporia, and we now are offering eight \$1000 scholarships to Coffey County graduates that are attending Flint Hills Technical College every year. We're hoping to grow that number as we go on, because we've kind of deemed that is kind of where the future may be heading, and we think it's been a long-neglected area, so it's something we've settled in with. We've developed a good relationship with the folks there, and we're just really proud of it because we think we need to get more kids in crafts and those types of markets.

"But anyway, these are just some of the things we do, and I wanted to come here and ask the City Council and see if there's a way—the sponsor levels are down there below. We've never raised our sponsor levels since we began. We started this in 2011, a couple of months after my father passed away. And we've been going ever since. We kind of became incorporated and became a charitable organization in 2014, was our first year that we made it official, and became a tax-exempt organization at that time. Our sponsorships have never gone up, they never will. We always allow people to donate more, if they want to, but the sponsor levels down there at the bottom. You'll see the gold sponsorship, the silver sponsorship, and the hole sponsorship with the amounts there. If you wish to contribute to our cause.

"If anyone has any questions on the things we do, I'd be more than happy to give you a little bit of insight. Other than that, if you have any questions on your donation or anything like that, I'd be happy to answer any questions that you do have. I will tell you one thing for sure, that the money you donate to us will be spent wisely, it won't be wasted. We do have to buy thank you cards for people who donate, but the vast majority—just about all of our donations, go to the Floyd Lewis Foundation and its cause. We don't have virtually any administrative costs to speak of too much, other than insurance. That's one of the things that we make sure of, that people knew when they were giving to the Floyd Lewis Foundation, you're giving your money and it's going to be used in a way that we hope is wisely used and something you'll be proud of us for doing it in such a manner. So that's all I've got. If you have any questions."

Council Member Van Horn, "So, Steve, how do people access—how do you know what needs are and how do people access them?" Steve Lewis, "I'm sorry, what was the first part?" Council Member Van Horn, "I said how do you find out about needs?" Steve Lewis, "Needs?" Council Member Van Horn, "Yeah, and how do people access them?" Steve Lewis, "Well, we do have a form on our website that you can fill out if you have a request for assistance." Council Member Van Horn, "Okay." Steve Lewis, "Most of the time, people call me. I know for our ramp that we're going to be doing, handicapped ramp, or anything like that, people just call me and asked me if it's something we can do. I called some folks that might be able to help with the construction of it, the cost of it, the foundation will take care of a lot of the material, labor, stuff like that. And then we find folks that can actually do the job, because not a lot of us on the board are very good in construction and things like that. So, we find people to do the jobs for us. Just like we did for putting in the flags at the cemetery—just about every job we've ever had, we have to find people that can do the job for us, and then we try to do our best to supplement what they need. If you know of anybody or have a request for something, all you need to do is contact the Floyd Lewis Foundation Board of Directors. We have nine individuals on our Board of Directors. We're proud to say now that we started out as an organization just here in Burlington, Kansas—representing Burlington, Kansas, and

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we now have a director on our board from every town in the county.” Council Member Curtiss, “That’s good.” Steve Lewis, “So, we’re trying to make head rows in LeRoy, Jeff True is our representative over there, and in Gridley, Dawn Freeman. Karen Foster is a representative in Waverly, and Lesa Robke in Lebo, and then we have our three representatives in Burlington.

“So, we are trying to—and there is a card if you have anything or know of anybody that has anything, feel free to contact us. That’s one of those—the flagpole project that we had at Graceland, we are going to be focusing on the cemetery at Gridley and the cemetery at Waverly as well, to do something for them.” Mayor Luke, “What’s the governing body’s pleasure?” Council Member Ernst, “How much did we donate last year?” City Clerk Brown, “I think we—.” Council Member Ernst, “Did we do \$500?” City Clerk Brown, “I think we did, yes.”

Council Member Ernst, “I make a motion that we donate \$500 to the Floyd Lewis Foundation.” Council Member Curtiss, “I second the motion.” Council Member Curtiss, “Who’s going to be on the team?” Steve Lewis, “You can, you can put in a team.” Council Member Curtiss, “‘Entry of one team in our tournament.’ There you go, Stan.” Council Member Van Horn, “Well, it won’t be me.” Mayor Luke, “We’ll find somebody.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay.” **Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.**

Mayor Luke, “And I will get you a check to match that \$500.” Steve Lewis, “Oh, well, thank you very much, I appreciate that. I know you were throwing around figures there in the thousands of dollars, I just thought maybe I was dreaming too high there. But seriously, we do appreciate it.” Council Member Van Horn, “But by the hour, I think this last ten minutes probably paid you well.” Steve Lewis, “Yeah, you’re right. I’ve probably gone over my five minutes; I apologize about that. But I do like whenever I get the chance to talk about the Floyd Lewis Foundation, I love to do it. I told Sandy—she said you’ll be done in five minutes; I said not me. It’s something I’m passionate about, and I hope that we can continue to do things to make our city and everybody else here in Coffey County great and better off.” Council Member Curtiss, “Thank you, Steve.” Mayor Luke, “Thank you.” Steve Lewis, “Thank you so much.”

APPOINTMENT – Sarah Strawder – Grange Vendor Fair

Sarah Strawder, “Good evening, everybody. I just wanted to give a quick update on where we are with our craft and vendor fair that we’re holding on April 26th. Here is our event insurance. We are currently up to 40 vendors who will be coming to town. And I had three or four more today reach out to me wanting to reserve a spot, so it looks like it’s going to be a very good event. The only other question I had is how early can we get into Kelley Hall and the 4H Building to try to make the booths, and get them set up? Who do I need to talk to?” City Clerk Brown, “Kevin. How early can they—?” Sarah Strawder, “Can we get in there Friday evening, Friday afternoon after work?” Chief Roney, “Absolutely, I’ll work with you. Just call me down at the PD, and I will get with somebody, and we can get you in.” Sarah Strawder, “Perfect.” Superintendent Boyce, “I can probably just give a key to each building, and you can let yourself in and out.” City Clerk Brown, “As long as no one’s in there, and right now they’re open.” Sarah Strawder, “Yeah, if there is someone there, of course we won’t impede on their stuff. But that would be great, because some of them are wanting to start setting up at 6 o’clock. Thank you very much.

“We have signs and banners put up—would it be possible to put a banner up down by the corner of Neosho and 75, there at the Veterans Park, is that like city?” Mayor Luke, “What do you mean by banners? Something to—in the ground or attach to something?” Sarah Strawder, “No, in the ground, they would go on like T-posts.” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “Not at Veterans Park.” Superintendent Boyce, “At Veterans Park, we don’t allow that. But the chain-link North of the Caboose in that parking lot, where the bridge...” Council Member Van Horn, “Over the creek there.” Mayor Luke, “The chain-link by the fire department. The banner can go on there on the fence.” Superintendent Boyce, “We don’t allow things in the ground because we have a sprinkler system.” Sarah Strawder, “Oh, that makes sense. Does anyone have any questions for me?” Council Member Van Horn, “Good luck.” Sarah Strawder, “Thank you. Spread the word. We do have two food trucks right now, Doug Henry is coming, and David Lendo, they’ll be there. I’m trying to get the Chinese restaurant from Garnett to come over, because I think that will be a good draw to have a variety. There’s also a big food truck thing that day in Emporia, so I can’t really

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pull anybody from out there. But just keep spreading the word. Hopefully, it brings a lot of people to town that day and some commerce back to Burlington. Buy your Mother's Day gifts. Thank you, guys." Mayor Luke, "Thank you."

APPOINTMENT – Brad Barrett – Presentation of Certificate

Representative Barrett, "So before I pull those out, my name is Brad Barrett, I'm your new State Representative for the 76th House District. And I'm here today, one to introduce myself, but two on behalf of the Kansas House of Representatives, to present two certificates, one to Adam (Hoch) and one for Mike (Chief Roney) for their brave, heroic actions in January. So, if you two want to come up, if that's okay with the council?" Mayor Luke, "Yes." Representative Barrett, "Adam, here is your certificate. Mike, here is your certificate. Now, these do have to have approval by the House; they were voted on, that's why I can say I'm here on behalf of the House of Representatives, but talking to the Speaker, who is really honored and grateful that we're even able to do this and honor you guys. Obviously, we've had house fires in town before, and they haven't always worked out that way. So, your guys' actions were brave—you know, in communities like this, small towns, we rely on you guys to do all the work. We're not Johnson County. We don't have full-time fire departments that come out and do all the work. We have volunteers, and we have law enforcement that do the job. I'm grateful, and I know the community is grateful for your service and the actions that you guys did that day. So, thank you very much."

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT: DISTRIBUTION Update

General: Electric personnel have been doing many line locates, customer service requests, tree trimming, shop maintenance, preventative line maintenance, street light maintenance, and vehicle and equipment maintenance.

Wind Storm Damage: Superintendent Schneider, "We're doing normal line maintenance; we're replacing quite a few power poles still."

Tree Trimming: Superintendent Schneider, "We've done a little bit of tree trimming."

Customer Requests: Superintendent Schneider, "Working with customers on their service requests."

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT: PRODUCTION Update

General: Power plant personnel have been performing normal power plant and equipment maintenance, overcurrent relay maintenance, plant reports, DC power supply, and substation maintenance.

Reports: Superintendent Schneider, "We are still completing plant reports."

Maintenance: Superintendent Schneider, "Doing normal plant maintenance. Our DC power supply, our breaker station, and our two substations."

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

KPP Membership Appreciation: City Clerk Brown, "KPP puts on every year, it's a membership appreciation event. They are holding it this year on Thursday, April 24th, beginning at 6 p.m. It is at the Norton's Brewing Company in Wichita. I do have a vehicle that we will be taking; we will be leaving at 3:30 in the afternoon. Council members, anybody that would like to go to that are welcome to. Just let me know, because I need to register you, so they who to—" Superintendent Schneider, "It's safe to say that there is room for two council people, because Denny Noonan, over at the power plant, will be riding with Anne as well that day." City Clerk

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Brown, “Lila has said she would like to go that day, is there anyone else that would? They have entertainment there too, it’s not just go for dinner. They had ‘Alec Lang from Capybara will be on site to capture your best or funniest features.’ I’m not sure who he is...” Mayor Luke, “He’s a cartoon artist.” City Clerk Brown, “Okay.” Mayor Luke, “Caricature. You will not recognize yourself.” City Clerk Brown, “So you can have a portrait drawn if you wanted to, too. Just let me know. I’d like to get us registered by tomorrow; no rush.”

WATER AND WASTEWATER: Distribution Update

General: Personnel have been doing the normal duties: line locates, work orders, reading meters, meter rereads, cleaning sewer lift stations, maintenance on trucks and equipment, attending safety meetings, customer call-outs, and concerns.

Water Leaks: Superintendent Hawkins, “We’ve been really busy on water leaks. We’ve fixed four water leaks within the last week or so. One was out at 12th and Heather, which was a big project; it was an 8-inch line that was feeding Western Coffey County, so we asked for Cody Burkdoll to come and assist us with some of that. We just needed a little bit more help, but we got it done. We did not intend for the water to be off, but the valves that we had designated wasn’t going to have everybody off, it just wasn’t holding completely. So, we had to back up and shut a few more valves off so we could isolate it, so the water was off for a little while. Then we also had another water leak downtown at 4th and Neosho on Saturday afternoon. That was another 8-inch line; we were able to get in there and clean that up and get that fixed. We had another one at 1087 Lynx Road; we completed that. And then we had another one at 926 Miami. I want to thank Mark for allowing us to use his dump truck. I really appreciate that. I want to thank the Police Department, too. Randy Stuart helped us get the cars out of the way downtown, so we could get in there and get the work done. So, I appreciate those guys.”

Flushing Fire Hydrants: Superintendent Hawkins, “We’ve also been flushing fire hydrants around town on dead-end lines.”

Training: Superintendent Hawkins, “The staff have been working on their sewer books. Several of them have completed their sewer books, which I’m really glad about that. So, they are scheduled to start attending the Kansas Rural Water Association classes here within the next couple of weeks. And then they’ll be taking their exams this year.”

Pretreatment Facility: Superintendent Hawkins, “Jeff Shamburg was going to be here tonight. He’s still working with KDHE with the waste-stream permit So, he will be at the next meeting on May the 7th. So, he’s working on those.”

WATER AND WASTEWATER: Production Update

General: Normal duties. The plant has been running really well. Usage is normal for this time of year.

Polymer Pump: Superintendent Hawkins, “We did get the new polymer pump installed at the water treatment plant. It’s running really good.”

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Council Member Ernst, “Danny, were you able to get the valves replaced that were having issues?” Superintendent Hawkins, “So, what we’re doing is, we started an exercise program with the Kansas Rural Water Association with Chris Kline. So, we went back and we’re exercising them again. We have a tool now that we can go back through. It’s going to take a little bit of up and down and up and down on them. We do have a list of some valves that are going to have to be replaced, we’re going to work on that this year. For the most part, sometimes they just don’t hold well enough to fix a leak; that’s the issue that we had.” Council Member Ernst, “Why do you think that we’re having more leaks right now? Is there a reason, possibly why? I mean, is it weather-related or seasonal?”

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Superintendent Hawkins, “I don’t know if it’s necessarily dry, I think, basically, the one at Heather Street was a 90 that when it was installed, it should have been in the pipe almost 4 ½ inches, and it was roughly ¼ of an inch. So, I can’t explain that. We don’t want an 8-inch line falling off, so that’s the reason why—with it feeding Western Coffey County, that’s the reason why I called Cody to help assist us with that. That was one that we needed to fix immediately. The one that was downtown was a service corp that was underneath the ground, and it just blew off the top of the main. So, ground shifting...possibly, but I don’t know. The other ones were smaller, they were on meter setters and stuff like that. We’re hoping it’s about over with. We’re tired of fixing them, let me tell you that.” Council Member Ernst, “Thank you.” Superintendent Hawkins, “You bet, absolutely.”

STREET DEPARTMENT: Update

General: Personnel have been doing the normal duties: cleaning ditches, sweeping curb and gutter, fixing potholes and ruts, blading rock roads, repairing and re-rocking alleys, tree trimming, fixing and replacing street signs, and truck and equipment maintenance.

Road Maintenance: Superintendent Davidson, “We’ve been rocking alleys and doing some road rocking. Patching potholes.”

USD #244: Superintendent Davidson, “We had a request from Craig Marshall to help clean up leaves along 6th and Niagara. The fence had a lot of leaves piled up along there, so we went up with the sweeper and assisted them in cleaning them up.”

Assist Other Departments: Superintendent Davidson, “Put some dirt along the foundation at the Police Department.”

Ditch: Superintendent Davidson, “We dug a ditch at 7th and Juniatta.”

Equipment Maintenance: Superintendent Davidson, “Our Kubota skid steer started to have a hydraulic leak, so I took it to Iola almost a month ago. I’ve been calling; they’re telling me the parts are on backorder. So, I went ahead and rented a skid steer from Victor L. Phillips in Topeka, that is one of our main machines. Hopefully, in the next couple of weeks, they’ll have the Kubota done.”

Citywide Trash Clean-up: Superintendent Davidson, “We did the trash clean-up. We started on Monday, and we finished up about 2 o’clock yesterday. We had 18 loads of solid waste for 16.28 tons, had three loads of metal for 2.13 tons. Comparing that to the total for October of last year, we had 16 loads of solid waste for 15.93 tons and two loads of metal for 1,860 pounds. So, just slightly up this year on weight.”

Council Member Curtiss, “Any problems?” Superintendent Davidson, “Certainly. Yes. Paint, tires. We did find a deer carcass that was put in a plastic tote.” Council Member Van Horn, “Eww.” Superintendent Davidson, “It felt a little heavy, so the guys pulled the lid off and there was a portion of a deer carcass in it.” Council Member Van Horn, “Did you leave a lovely note?” Superintendent Davidson, “We just moved along.”

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Update

General: Chief Roney, “Normal duties.”

Activities/Cases: Chief Roney, “Officers and myself have been keeping busy. We’ve worked multiple drug arrests, criminal threat cases, some battery and criminal damage reports. Multiple theft reports throughout the city; we’ve got a porch pirate. Multiple harassment reports. On the night shift, the officers are doing building checks, located a bunch of open doors, so officers have been busy.”

Nuisance Properties: Chief Roney, “The officers have been around talking to people. A lot of people were taking trash and stuff out to the curbs. They’ve utilized the trash pickup. We will re-evaluate on Monday, I’m going to get with Jimmy; I know he has a list of nuisance vehicles and other nuisance properties that were brought to his attention, as well as I have. We’re going to work together on this to get them located, and we’re going to start back in, start putting the pressure back on getting the stuff cleaned up and starting the 10-day letters.”

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Flex CAD: Chief Roney, “Down at the Police Department, our Flex CAD system is down again. Brad Schiebmeir is working diligently, trying to get it up. It is the CAD system itself; it is the company where the problem is at. Initially, we thought it was an internet issue. It is not an internet issue; it is a company issue. So, Brad has been keeping up with us and trying really hard to get that straightened away.”

National Animal Control Officer Week: Chief Roney, “This week is National Animal Control Officer Week. I would like to recognize Bonnie; she did not want to come down here tonight, but I’m still going to throw her name out there. Bonnie is a very dedicated employee, she’s very dedicated to her position. She’s passionate, she’s caring. We decided this week that we’ll celebrate with her, and we got her a t-shirt, a mug, and a card to tell her thank you for all that she does for the city and the county with the dogs and animals that come in. I couldn’t ask for a better Animal Control Officer. I’m very proud of her.”

National Telecommunicator Week: Chief Roney, “It is also National Telecommunicator Week. I want to say thank you to our dispatch, who talk on the phone; you don’t get to see them, but they do one heck of a job for us.”

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Personnel – Recommendation to Hire

Chief Roney, “We met with the police committee last week. Last Wednesday, we had an interview, and I would like to throw out there that we had a good meeting with Dieter Mark Ashley, he goes by Mark. He is currently employed at the Water Department with Danny. I did talk with Danny, because I want to keep on good working terms with Danny, and I would like to steal Mark over to the Police Department.”

Council Member Berryman, “I move to extend an offer of employment to Mark Ashley for the position of Police Officer at the starting hourly wage of \$21.47, effective May 5, 2025.” Council Member Ernst, “I second the motion.” Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.

Council Member Van Horn, “I move to approve to advertise for the position of Water/Wastewater Operator Trainee until filled.” Council Member Curtiss, “I second the motion.” Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.

Mayor Luke, “Anything else?” Chief Roney, “I’ve got a couple more applications in as of today. We’ll be starting backgrounds this afternoon, and we’ll be working through those applications and looking at the current ones we have in, and hopefully set up some more interviews with the police committee and try to fill that final position that we have.”

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

Council Member Berryman, “I would like to say I appreciate the progress on the nuisance properties that has not been there for years. You guys are really doing super.” Chief Roney, “Yes, ma’am.”

PARKS DEPARTMENT: Update

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

Seasonal Restrooms: Superintendent Boyce, “We do have all the seasonal restrooms opened up.”

RV Campsites: Superintendent Boyce, “At the RV campsites, water is hooked up for them.”

Mowing: Superintendent Boyce, “We have started mowing. This will be our second week.”

Citywide Trash Clean-up: Superintendent Boyce, “We did have one employee that helped with the trash pick-up for two days.

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Beautification Project: Superintendent Boyce, “The flower planting will be May 14th at 5:00 p.m., meet at the caboose.”

FINANCE: Claims Ordinance & Payroll Ordinance

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| a. Claims Ordinance | 2025-07 | \$ | <u>429,486.97</u> |
| b. Payroll Ordinance | 2025-08 | \$ | <u>109,581.23</u> |
| | TOTAL | \$ | <u>539,068.20</u> |

CLAIMS 2025-07: Council Member Curtiss moved to approve City of Burlington Claims Ordinance 2025-07 for the amount of \$429,486.97 for payment of city bills. Council Member Ernst gave the second. City Clerk Brown, “The larger expenses we have tonight are Dave’s Pumping, LLC for \$4,960, Foley Equipment Co. for \$5,735.59, Kansas Power Pool \$138,229.89, U.S. Bluebook \$5,595.23. And another big one for the Kansas State Treasurer for \$140,401.33, and this is to pay off our G.O. Bond that we refinanced back in 2012. So, all of those that we refinanced back then are paid off as of now. We still have other G.O. Bonds out there, but those are done.” **Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke instructed City Clerk Brown to poll Council for a vote. Mayor Luke declared, “Claims Ordinance 2025-07 passed, 6:0.”**

PAYROLL 2025-08: Council Member Curtiss moved to approve City of Burlington Payroll Ordinance 2025-08 in the amount of \$109,581.23, as presented. Council Member Ernst gave the second. Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke instructed City Clerk Brown to poll Council for a vote. Mayor Luke declared, “Payroll Ordinance 2025-08 passed, 6:0.”

PLANNING & ZONING: Update

General: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “Normal duties.”

Permits: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “I’ve been working on permits.”

City Emails: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “I’ve spent a lot of time working on our emails and passwords for all the departments. I’m going to get a list and give it to each department head, and they’ll have it and we’ll have it on file up here.”

Assist Other Departments: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “That kind of ties in with doing some work with Mike down at the Police Department on some computers, emails, and passwords. Just trying to get that all locked down and make sure we’re straight on everything.”

Webpage & Facebook: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “I’ve been updating the webpage and Facebook. I got the new online payment system; the links for that are on the webpage and Facebook. They can click that and make a payment.”

Arbor Day: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “I’ve been working on our Arbor Day. Which we have the proclamation; it’s in the packet, I believe.”

Council Room Windows: Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “Still working on quotes for these windows here. A lot of people have said they want to be here. It’s just when they get here, they get here...I guess.”

Nuisance: Grass/Weeds Update: None.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT: Update

General: Attorney Wright, “Normal duties.”

Municipal Court: Attorney Wright, “We had municipal court last week, it went really good.”

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CITY CLERK: Update

Meridian Roofing – Soffit Removal/Replacement: City Clerk Brown, “The first thing that I have is, you did have a quote in your packet from Meridian Roofing. We had tried to get ahold of other companies; we contacted Alpha Roofing. There were not people responding. Meridian Roofing was the only one that responded to our quote to repair and replace the soffit around City Hall, which is in pretty bad shape. So, I would like to recommend that we hire Meridian Roofing Solutions to do that work for us. It will probably be September before they can get started on that.” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “I wanted to clarify, they were the only ones that would do that kind of work. Alpha Roofing, they’re just roofing. Meridian does a lot of different things. That’s why when we talked to Alpha, they were out on it, a lot of them were. So, the only one that we could find was Meridian. We’ve been working on this for—” City Clerk Brown, “A long time.” Council Member Van Horn, “Where are they from?” City Clerk Brown, “They’re out of Topeka.”

Council Member Curtiss, “I move to approve the quote from Meridian Roofing to remove and replace old soffit on the City Hall building, not to exceed \$59,851.00, as being in the best interest of the city.” Council Member Van Horn, “I second the motion.” Council Member Ernst, “So, this is just the soffits and stuff, this isn’t like the roof or anything like that?” City Clerk Brown, “No, the roof had already been done previously. Under the old—” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “The roof was done in 2019 after we got up here.” Superintendent Boyce, “And they did the roof, right?” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “Yes, Meridian did the roof. Which that was all done through 4Rivers. That’s who contracted them to do the roof, it was an insurance deal on the roof here.” Council Member Ernst, “And this is something we already budgeted?” City Clerk Brown, “Yes.” Council Member Van Horn, “If you step outside the door, you can see how awful it is right there.” Council Member Ernst, “Yeah, I’m not saying that there’s not a need for it or anything, that’s for sure.” Council Member Strawder, “So, how many companies were contacted?” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “Five or six.” Council Member Strawder, “Five or six...this was the only one that does this in the area?” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “The only one that was even willing to look at it.” Council Member Strawder, “Okay.” City Clerk Brown, “And they almost didn’t want to do it because it was stucco, and we’re not going back with stucco.” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “We even had a guy come down that does stucco, and he didn’t want to mess with it.” **Hearing no further discussion, Mayor Luke called for a vote. Motion unanimously carried, 6:0.**

City Clerk Brown, “Thank you.”

General: City Hall staff have been busy with customers paying utility bills, many calls and inquiries, preparing work orders, vouchers for bill paying, payroll, and council meeting minutes.

Thank yous: City Clerk Brown, “I would like to thank the girls out front also, because they’ve been picking up extra duties where Mary is absent now. They have been helping keep things running smoothly for me.”

Reports: City Clerk Brown, “I’ve handed out the first quarter financials. You also have a copy of the March utility and sales tax revenue reports.”

Survey: City Clerk Brown, “I did the APPA’s 2025 Governance Survey. That’s completed.”

G.O. Bonds: City Clerk Brown, “We’ve paid off the 2012 G.O. Water Bond tonight.”

2026 Budget: City Clerk Brown, “Next month, I will start in with the superintendents on the line items in preparing for budget 2026.”

LEPC Meeting: City Clerk Brown, “I did also attend the LEPC meeting this morning at the courthouse.”

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Council Member Ernst, “How’s the search?” City Clerk Brown, “We have gotten several applications, I need to start doing background checks and setting up interviews. I think we’ve got a couple two or three good ones, so...” Council Member Ernst, “Good.”

REPORT BY CITY OFFICERS:

BOOK 27
April 16, 2025

Council Room Windows: Council Member Curtiss, “Jimmy, I forgot. Anything on the windows?” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “Yeah, I touched on that.” Council Member Curtiss, “Oh, I didn’t hear it.” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “If you’re going to be in my classroom, you’re going to pay attention.” Council Member Curtiss, “Did you? Did you pay attention in the classroom?” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “What are we talking about? I’ve gotten a hold of several people, just waiting on them to get here to give us estimates on different measurements.” Council Member Curtiss, “Okay, thank you for the second time.” Council Member Berryman, “Jimmy, I’ll tell her later, don’t worry, it’s okay.” Zoning Clerk Hugunin, “She’ll ask tomorrow.”

Jake Braking: Council Member Van Horn, “So I was curious, Nathan, last meeting you were talking about the Jake Braking problem. Have you contacted anyone with the county?” Council Member Strawder, “I haven’t.” Mayor Luke, “Mike was supposed to.” Chief Roney, “So I did, I reached out to Wade and talked to him a couple times about it. The county could put an ordinance in, again, who’s going to enforce that ordinance? Again, it’s outside of the city’s jurisdiction, and he could put that ordinance in. But the deputies have a lot of other stuff on their plates, so they’re not going to be able to sit at the south end of Burlington and enforce that. I think if the people in the county want to reach out to the county and talk to their commissioners, maybe get something going through them. I appreciate you bringing it up to us, unfortunately, there’s nothing the police department can do on this end of it.” Council Member Strawder, “Yeah, I was just saying it’s just unfortunate that city limits extends a significant way down but ends at the right of way. A lot of times, a sign is all it takes.” Chief Roney, “And if you go around the entire city, our city limits are broken up and pushed...I mean, it’s not a big square. And you’re right, 16th Street, you have houses on the west side of 16th Street that some are in the city and some are not. So, I understand your concern. Maybe somebody can square us off, I don’t know. It’s going to be a county issue, and maybe we need to take that up with the commissioners through their board.”

MAYOR’S COMMENTS:

Senate/House Update: Mayor Luke, “We have Brad here, he can tell us what they did do right at the close of the session instead of me.” Representative Barrett, “I’ve got most of the update on my phone if you want me to go through it, but that’s completely up to you guys.” Mayor Luke, “I guess the main thing is when they came back, when you guys came back for the last two days, did anything progress other than budget?” Representative Barrett, “Well, they had a couple—a record amount, actually, of veto overrides. But you’re saying specifically on the budget?” Mayor Luke, “Yeah.” Representative Barrett, “Well, the budget that they sent out, they got that approved—the House budget. It was less than what the original budget had been proposed by the Governor’s office, but it’s still 500 or 600 million more than what the state is projected to take in. So, obviously, now, the state has a rainy-day fund, not the actual reserves; we’re not touching that. But money that had been built up due to COVID. I think a lot of cities...if you got a lot of money from COVID, then you’re able to take care of some expenses. Well, now that the COVID money is gone, and some of those things are still there. So, I think the state is figuring that out. Those are some conversations we will be having this next Legislative session, you know, what can you do to go back on budget?”

Mayor Luke, “The only thing that scared me was when I got the message, they were going to bring the property tax up without any input from the cities.” Representative Barrett, “Oh, so you’re talking about property taxes. So, there were different talks on that. They’re talking about bringing back—obviously, you guys used to have what LD&R, I think, is what they used to call it. Now it’s the astro fund, it was a budget proposal to have an astro fund for cities that stayed below. If you stayed below revenue-neutral, you get 100% of this fund. If you’re between like one to 2% you’re going to get a little bit more. Until it’s 4%, once you go over 4% or other talks about it being the CPI, whatever it is for the year, then you wouldn’t get any of that fund. And if you were going to raise the budget above that 4%, there was talks about having to have an 80% vote of your council. That was the last talk. But that wasn’t approved.” Mayor Luke, “Yeah, it never got out for vote. See, it was better for you to tell them instead of me.” Representative Barrett, “Yeah.”

Mayor Luke declared the meeting adjourned.

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