

Minutes – Lynd City Council Minutes

May 21, 2025

Mayor Justin Guggisberg called the regular meeting of the Lynd City Council to order at 6 P.M. Mayor Justin Guggisberg, Councilman Jerry Sodemann, Councilman David Reaves, Councilman Josh Bruley, and Councilwoman Shantel Williams were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Minutes

April 15th, 2025, Council Minutes – a correction was noted to update the reference from Fire Truck A-12 to 812. Shantel made a motion to approve the minutes with this correction. David seconded the motion, and all members voted in favor.

Approval of the Agenda:

The agenda was reviewed, and the following additions and deletions were proposed: Under the Public Forum, the topic of irrigation meters was added. In Old Business, the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) was included. Under New Business, items added were the sewer base rate and the garbage fund. Josh made a motion to approve the agenda with the proposed additions and deletions, Jerry seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

Public Forum

Options for irrigation meters were discussed, along with the letter that had been previously sent to residents. Proposed options included installing a new irrigation meter, using seasonal water usage averages citywide, and allowing residents to manually report their readings. Additionally, Sara Oberloh, City Auditor, presented the 2024 City Audit Report.

Council Member Input

Mayor Justin Guggisberg:

Councilman Jerry Sodemann:

Councilman David Reaves:

Councilman Josh Bruley:

Councilwoman Shantel Williams

Fire Report

Fire Chief Dillon Schultz reported on recent incidents, which included two first responder calls, one structure fire, one mutual aid call, one controlled burn, and one landing zone call. He also informed the council about a 2007 Ford F-350 6.0 Diesel truck, currently being sold by the DNR, which the Fire Department intends to purchase for future use as a grass rig. Josh made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2007 Ford F-350; Shantel seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

Law Enforcement Report

Sheriff Eric Wallen presented the April 2025 Incident Analysis Report, noting a total of six calls for service during the month. During the discussion, concerns were raised about drivers not exercising caution near the school play yard on County Road 5. It was suggested that a speed trailer be placed in the area to monitor and address the issue. Shantel made a motion to approve the sheriff's report; Jerry seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

Public Works Report

Dillon reported that the water heater in 103 A had to be replaced. They also repaired a venting issue that should extend the life of this new water heater. Our metal detector was no longer working. A new one was purchased and has been delivered. David made a motion to approve the Public Works Report; Jerry seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

Accounts Payable

Jenni presented the May 2025 Accounts Payable. Jerry made a motion to approve the bills, Shantel seconded, and all voted in favor.

Financial Report

Jenni presented the financial reports for April 2025. David made a motion to approve the financial report, Shantel seconded, and all voted in favor.

City Clerk's Report

Jenni reported:

1. The Water Loss Ratio for April 2025 was -4%. The city billed residents for 605,564 gallons. LPRW billed the city for 582,000 gallons.
2. The LMC Grant Navigator Fund has been submitted.

Jerry made a motion to approve the clerk's report, Josh seconded, and all voted in favor.

Legal Issues

The Fence Ordinance was discussed and will be tabled until next month's meeting.

Justin made a motion to Adjourn for a short break, Jerry seconded, and all voted in favor.

Old Business

The Safe Routes to School Grant has been completed. The Bike Rodeo was held on Saturday, the 17th, and received a great deal of positive feedback from attendees. Zoning issues at the Trailer Park were discussed. Council also addressed the funding necessary to complete the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) related to increasing the city's sewer capacity, emphasizing that this report must be finalized before the city can proceed with any infrastructure improvements or apply for additional grants. The estimated total cost for the PER is \$40,000, and the city is currently awaiting a response on the LMC Grant, which, if awarded, would cover \$10,000 of this cost. With the city's sewer system operating at full capacity, upgrades will be essential to meet future demand. Justin moved to allocate \$30,000 from the Permanent Improvement Fund toward the PER, with the remaining \$10,000 to be provided by the LMC Grant if awarded; if not, the additional funds will be drawn from the Water Fund. Shantel made a motion to approve, David seconded, and all in favor.

New Business

Council discussed options for irrigation meters and seasonal water meters. It was noted that Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water will increase its rate by \$0.15 per 1,000 gallons beginning July 1st. To maintain consistent pricing, the City will also increase its tiered water rates by \$0.15 per 1,000 gallons. Justin made a motion to approve the rate increase, Jerry seconded, and all were in favor.

The City's utility billing system, Banyon, will be upgraded. The liquor license for Savannah Oak was discussed and renewed. The City office phone has been transitioned to a Verizon cell phone to comply with updated dual verification security requirements.

A building permit request from Corey Prins to construct additional storage units at his current property was reviewed. Shantel made a motion to approve the permit, Jerry seconded, and all were in favor. A special meeting to approve Corey Prins' Lyon County Tax Abatement has been scheduled for June 17th at 5:45 p.m.

Council also discussed increasing the base sewer rate to ensure the fund remains self-sufficient. The base rate will increase to \$40.00 beginning July 1st. Justin made a motion to approve the sewer rate increase, Jerry seconded, and all were in favor.

A decrease in the Garbage Fund was discussed, which appears to be due to a change in payroll allocation. A motion was made to remove the City Clerk's payroll allocation from the Garbage Fund and reassign it to other appropriate funds. Shantel made a motion to approve the adjustment, Jerry seconded, and all were in favor.

Committee Reports:

Roads – Shantel & Josh: Bituminous paving is expected to begin in Fall 2025.

EDA – Justin & David

Adjournment

David made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jerry seconded, and all were in favor.

Mayor Justin Guggisberg

City Clerk Jennifer DeRuyter