

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

Lincoln City Hall, Council Chambers  
700 Broadway Street | Lincoln, Illinois

**Tuesday, March 10, 2026**

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of Lincoln was called to order by Mayor Tracy Welch at 6:01 p.m., with proper notice given. City Clerk Peggy Bateman called roll.

**Present:**

- Alderman Robin McClallen, Ward 1
- Alderman Steve Parrott, Ward 1
- Alderman Tim Becke, Ward 2
- Alderman Sam Downs, Ward 2
- Alderman Kevin Bateman, Ward 3
- Alderman Dennis Clemons, Ward 3
- Alderman Stan Anderson, Ward 4
- Alderman Rhonda O'Donoghue, Ward 4

**Staff Present:**

- Peggy Bateman, City Clerk
- Chuck Conzo, City Treasurer
- John Hoblit, City Attorney
- Walt Landers, Streets Superintendent
- Wes Woodhall, Building and Safety Officer
- Ty Johnson, Fire Chief
- Joe Meister, Police Chief
- Andrew Bowns, Veolia Water, Project Manager

**Remote:**

- Scott McCoy, Tourism Director

**Presiding:**

- Mayor Tracy Welch

**Public Comment:**

There is no one present for public comment.

**Jennifer Kirby – Heartland Community College’s Regional Strategic Plan**

This plan began in the fall of 2024. It is to ensure that Heartland Community College is meeting all needs within the community.

There is a need for healthcare workers, trades, and CDL licensing. 28% of the class in 2024, across 17 schools, did not continue education beyond high school.

There are certificates for those who may take a break between High School and College.

**Request for Street Closure – Lincoln Park District Saturday, August 29, 2026 5K Run**

This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

**Request for Street Closure – Up in Smoke on the Square – August 28, 2026 & August 29, 2026**

This item will be placed on the regular agenda so that Alderman Bateman can still vote on the consent agenda.

#### **Certificates of Deposit for the General Fund**

Two CD's have come due. \$367,141.20 for 6 months and \$363,874.38 for 9 months.

Treasurer Conzo suggested reinvesting both cd's.

\$367,141.20 for 9 months @ 3.65%

\$363,874.38 for 12 months @ 3.60%

These will be listed separately on the regular agenda.

#### **Intergovernmental agreement between the City of Lincoln and Lincoln Park District – Addendum No. 1**

Due to staffing issues at the Lincoln Park District, the city will take over the maintaining the parks, owned by the city, this summer. This agreement is for 1 year. Superintendent Landers plans to go out for bid and contract this work out as the city doesn't have the man power or enough equipment to keep up.

This item will be placed on the regular agenda.

#### **Loan agreement between Heartland Bank and Trust Company and City of Lincoln**

The Lincoln statue that is currently on display at the Depot is owned by Heartland Bank. They are in agreement that it can remain there as long as its stays in the curved window, is insured, and is not replicated. This is a two –year agreement. There will also be measures taken to ensure its safety when the depot is rented out for events.

This item will be placed on the regular agenda.

#### **Lexipol proposal**

The fire department used Lexipol several years ago. The Police Department began using it in 2016. Lexipol is a policy management company. Its purpose is to replace hard copy policy manual geared more towards police and fire departments. They have attorneys on staff to keep the most up to date changes with the law. It will alert staff when there has been a change. It also offers training and daily bulletins.

Total initial cost is \$18,016.80. The cost will be budgeted in the FY26-27 budget.

The annual cost will be \$8,000.

This item will be placed on the regular agenda.

#### **Updated employee handbook**

The city uses Sirma for our employee handbook. Any law changes will be added as they come in.

This item will be placed on the regular agenda.

#### **Discussion regarding 5<sup>th</sup> Street Road Project**

The project was released to letting and the low bid that was awarded by IDOT came in at \$8,590,596.90. That includes the cost of construction engineering from CMT.

The council previously agreed to a cost of \$6,000,000.00 in bonds for the project. The ask today is to increase the bond funds to \$8.25 million. Superintendent Landers also asked for a 10% contingency. Treasurer Conzo suggested not taking the bonds out in the full amount. The city won't be paying for the entire project at once and doesn't want to pay interest on money that is just sitting there.

This item will be placed on the regular agenda.

The construction agreement for \$1.66 million (included in the \$8.25 million) from CMT will also be added to the agenda.

**Announcements:**

- Coffee with the Mayor this Saturday.
  - Congrats to the Mt Pulaski Lady Toppers on winning 2<sup>nd</sup> in State for 1A Basketball
  - Trash pickup at Latham park on March 28<sup>th</sup> for a community trash pick-up.
  - Camp out fundraiser for Tiny Homes. Contact Alderman Sam Downs to sign up or for more information.
  - The Landscape Waste Facility will reopen on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.
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**Adjournment:**

There being no further discussion to come before the City Council of Lincoln, Alderman Clemons motioned to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Downs. All were in favor. Mayor Welch adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

Charity Hutchison, Recording Secretary