I. MAYOR

1. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Don Wesely and the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department will have a news conference at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 6th (See Release).

2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Presents Award Of Excellence For 2000 (See Release).


4. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Health Department Receives Major Tobacco Grant (See Release).

5. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Don Wesely will have a news conference at 9:45 a.m. Thursday, February 8th (See Release).

6. CITY OF LINCOLN - SNOW/TRAFFIC CONDITION REPORT - RE: A light drizzle continues to fall this morning in Lincoln, causing the pavement to freeze up and pose problems for early morning motorists - (See Report).

7. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Presents Key To City To World War II Veteran (See Release).

8. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: The plaque for the ship crest from the H.M.S. Lincoln was NOT dedicated this morning (See Release).

II. CITY CLERK

III. CORRESPONDENCE

A. COUNCIL REQUESTS

ANNETTE McROY

1. OUTSTANDING Request to Law Department - RE: Cars & Trucks driving on City streets that operate hydraulics systems (RFI#45 -5/05/00)
2. OUTSTANDING Request to LPD, Chief Casady/ Law Department - RE: To have bikes picked up by Police given to them for repairs and give away if no one claims them (RFI#62 - 11/16/00) — 1.) SEE RESPONSE FROM ASSISTANT CHIEF JIM PESCHONG, LPD RECEIVED ON RFI#62-11/20/00

JON CAMP

1. OUTSTANDING Request to Dana Roper, City Attorney - RE: EMS Outside Consultants/Attorneys (RFI#51 - 9/28/00)

JEFF FORTENBERRY

1. OUTSTANDING Request to the Law Department - RE: Inquiries re: Women’s Commission advocacy against Defense of Marriage Amendment (RFI#21-1/29/01)

B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS


HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Cold Weather Alert (See Release).

LIBRARY

1. Letter & Report from James Sherwood, President, Library Board of Trustee - RE: Mr. Sherwood, Library Board Member Maria Diaz and Library Director Carol Connor, had the opportunity to attend an Urban Libraries Council “Partners for Successful Cities” conference co-hosted by the Chicago Public Library and the Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago (See Material)(Copy of this Material is on file in the City Council Office).

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

1. Letter from Al Lee to Property Owner/Resident - RE: South Street - 56th Street to 70th Street - Change of Parking (See Letter).
2. Letter from Roger A. Figard, Executive Director RTSD to Katherine P. Renk - RE: The 3rd & “A” Street Project (See Letter).


C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. THREE - E-Mail’s from Lynn E. Robeson - RE: LMC -- 21.56.150 – Code Enforcement (See E-Mail’s).

2. E-Mail from Tom Cypert/American Signal - RE: Please review request to modify and extend Specification No. 01-018 Outdoor Warning Sirens (See E-Mail).

3. E-Mail from Jean L. Chicoine - RE: Surplus Property (See E-Mail).


10. Letter from Roger Rynolds, CGR, President, Home Builders Association of Lincoln to HBAL members - RE: Their 2001 president, Jon Carlson, resigned last week because of business and personal issues - Mr. Reynolds will assume the presidency for the remainder of the year (See Letter).
11. Letter from Dick Keller, President, Lincoln Senior Men’s Golf League - RE: Supports the proposal coming from the Parks & Recreation Department to amend the appropriate City ordinance in order to enable the granting of Special Designated Licenses (See Letter).

12. Material from LES - RE: Lincoln Electric System Legislative Guidelines for 2001 (See Material)(Copy of this Material is on file in the City Council Office).


IV. DIRECTORS

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VI. ADJOURNMENT
DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2001
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

Council Members Present: Jerry Shoecraft, Chair; Jeff Fortenberry, Vice-Chair; Coleen Seng, Jon Camp, Annette McRoy, Jonathan Cook, Cindy Johnson.

Others Present: Mayor Don Wesely, Mark Bowen, Jennifer Brinkman, Ann Harrell, Mayor’s Office; Teresa Meier-Brock, Deputy City Clerk; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Directors and Department Heads; Darrell Podany, Aide to Council Member Camp & Council Member Johnson; Tammy Bogenreif, City Council Staff, and Chris Hain, Lincoln Journal Star Representative.

I. MAYOR

Mayor Don Wesely stated to Council that today is Lincoln’s Birthday. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that the Abe Lincoln Birthday Celebration on Sunday went really well and they had at least 1,000 people. Diane Gonzolas stated to Council that they had about 700 people at the afternoon performance and about 300 people at the night performance and then there were probably several hundred people who attended, but didn’t go to either performance just attended the activities. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that the whole Lied Center was packed with kids on both the 1st and 2nd floor doing the activities. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that it was really fun and it was a good time. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that the concerts were really good, that they brought down this band called “The Civil War” from Fremont and he had never heard of them before, but he thought they were terrific and the impersonator, Professor Fritz from Montana did a nice job. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that also Jay Ungar and Molly Mason were unbelievable last night. Mayor Wesely stated that it was really a great day and the celebration went very well. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that he thinks they will be doing this event again.

Mayor Don Wesely stated to Council that this morning they announced the Technology Council, that this involves the previous discussions that they have had about technology concerns. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that they had a Technology Task Force last summer and the Task Force examined the status of technology & competitiveness of the City and came back with recommendations. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that the Technology Council will be co-chaired by Bill Johnston and Ed Paquette and then they are sending out letters inviting basically anybody in technology to be part of it and he is hoping that Mr. Fortenberry will be a part of it. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that they will start in the next couple of weeks.
Mayor Don Wesely indicated to Council that he was wondering what they thought about the snow removal, that he thought the snow removal went a lot better this time. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that the responses he got were much more positive, but there were still a few folks that were not happy. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that he thinks they are getting it down.

Mr. Fortenberry stated to Mayor Wesely that he keeps on hearing different things and he was wondering if they are out of money or do they still have money. Mayor Wesely indicated to Mr. Fortenberry that they are actually doing much better than he thought. Allan Abbott stated to Council that he has some information for them regarding the Snow Removal Budget. [Mr. Abbott handed out information to the Council] [SEE ATTACHMENT]

Mr. Abbott commented to Council that it is always embarrassing to admit that you weren’t smart enough to ask the right questions, that if you want the right answer you have to ask the right questions. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that is basically what happened that he asked the question - what’s the balance in the snow plow before the last storm and that’s what he got was the balance in the snow plow. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that they had about $1.6 million in the carry over from last year and they had appropriated approximately $1.9 million from this year. Mr. Abbott indicated to Council that off to the left on the hand out, part of that came from wheel tax and part of it comes from a transfer that goes from Engineering Services over to make up that $1.9 million. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that they have spent today (today being prior to the last storm) $1.1 million, which means they have $2.4 million left in the Snow Budget, counting last year’s carry over prior to the storm. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that on the bottom of the hand-out that was cash on hand because as the money comes in from the wheel tax and whatever is deposited into the account, the cash on hand was only $929,000. Mr. Abbott stated to Council so when he asked the question - what’s our balance for the snow fund, that what he got was the cash on hand amount and not what was left in the Snow Budget. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that hopefully this will clear up the error that he made regarding the Snow Removal Budget. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that after this last snow, if they didn’t have the carry over money that they would have been in trouble, but with the carry over money it appears that they are in pretty good shape. Mr. Abbott indicated to Council but if again, they get another storm like they just had last week that they go through it again. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that the weekends are expensive to plow because everybody is on over-time. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that he hopes this clears it up a little bit. Mr. Shoecraft thanked Mr. Abbott for this information.

Mayor Wesely stated to Council that Allan Abbott came in 2nd to the Abe Lincoln look alike contest, but there were only two contestants. [laughter] Mayor Wesely stated to Council that he also wanted to note that Diane Gonzolas spent a lot of time organizing this event and a lot of other folks helped out on it. Diane Gonzolas thanked Mayor Wesely. Diane Gonzolas stated that Abraham Lincoln is 192 today.
Mayor Wesely stated to Council that Abe Lincoln and the musicians are going to the schools today, so they stayed over an extra day and are now at the schools. Mayor Wesely commented to Council that as they speak he thinks Abe Lincoln is also supposed to be over at the Capitol today.

Mayor Don Wesely stated to Council what didn’t go well was the plaque for the ship crest from the H.M.S. Lincoln was not dedicated because that was the bad day of the snow, so the guy wasn’t able to come down to Lincoln from Omaha due to road condition. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that they tentatively plan to reschedule the dedication for next Thursday (February 15th) at 9:30 a.m.

Mayor Wesely stated to Council that they presented a key to the city to Mr. Meyer’s, a World War II veteran from Lincoln who was one of the veterans on board the boat. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that it was really moving.

Ms. Seng stated to Mayor Wesely that she was going to tell him that she had so many compliments on the snow removal until late yesterday afternoon and then the Region Heights people (the oldest part of Region Heights) started calling her and they said to her that you know Coleen they pay taxes too. Ms. Seng stated to Mayor Wesely that she did drive out there and they still had a lot of snow late in the afternoon, so she called Roger Figard at home and he was going to send somebody out there to look at it. Ms. Seng stated that evidently some of the City trucks had gotten stuck, so they must have had a little more blowing in or something out in that area. Ms. Seng stated that it was the cul-de-sacs where they were really having trouble.

Allan Abbott stated to Ms. Seng but again, if they did miss it obviously they have to find out why they did and get it done. Ms. Seng stated to Mr. Abbott that they said there had been City trucks out there, but they just couldn’t get it cleaned. Ms. Seng indicated that she went out there and it was deep. Mayor Wesely commented to Ms. Seng so they had the trucks come by, they just didn’t get in there. Ms. Seng indicated to Mayor Wesely that the trucks had gotten stuck. Ms. Seng stated that is why she called Mr. Figard about it because she thought probably somebody needed to know.

1. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Don Wesely and the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department will have a news conference at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 6th. — NO COMMENTS

2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Presents Award Of Excellence For 2000. — NO COMMENTS

4. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Health Department Receives Major Tobacco Grant. — NO COMMENTS

5. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Don Wesely will have a news conference at 9:45 a.m. Thursday, February 8th. — NO COMMENTS

6. CITY OF LINCOLN - SNOW/TRAFFIC CONDITION REPORT - RE: A light drizzle continues to fall this morning in Lincoln, causing the pavement to freeze up and pose problems for early morning motorists. — NO COMMENTS

7. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Mayor Presents Key To City To World War II Veteran. — NO COMMENTS

8. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: The plaque for the ship crest from the H.M.S. Lincoln was NOT dedicated this morning. — NO COMMENTS

II. CITY CLERK

Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that in regards to Items 12 & 13 [Accepting and approving the preliminary plat of Stevens Creek Pointe for 7 single family lots, with waivers of the required sidewalks, street trees, street lighting, landscape screens, and block length, on property generally located at N. 134th and Adams Streets & Special Permit 1883 - Application of Gerry and Dianne Krieser to develop Stevens Creek Pointe Community Unit Plan for seven single family lots, on property generally located at N. 134th and Adams Street] she would like to call these items together.

Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that in regards to Items 15 & 16 [Accepting and approving the preliminary plat of Knights Court to develop 26 lots with a waiver of the requirements for roadway width and centerline curve radius, on property generally located at 5900 South Street & Special Permit 1869 - Application of Council Building Association to develop Knights Court Community Unit Plan consisting of 25 dwelling units on property generally located at 5900 South Street] she would like to also call these items together.

Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that nothing is scheduled or requested to come off Pending.

Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that they don’t have a Miscellaneous Referral Sheet because they don’t have anything for it. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock okay.
III. CORRESPONDENCE

A. COUNCIL REQUESTS

ANNETTE McROY

1. OUTSTANDING Request to Law Department - RE: Cars & Trucks driving on City streets that operate hydraulics systems (RFI#45 - 5/05/00). — NO COMMENTS

2. OUTSTANDING Request to LPD, Chief Casady/ Law Department - RE: To have bikes picked up by Police given to them for repairs and give away if no one claims them (RFI#62 - 11/16/00) — 1.) SEE RESPONSE FROM ASSISTANT CHIEF JIM PESCHONG, LPD RECEIVED ON RFI#62-11/20/00. — NO COMMENTS

JON CAMP

1. OUTSTANDING Request to Dana Roper, City Attorney - RE: EMS Outside Consultants/Attorneys (RFI#51 - 9/28/00). — NO COMMENTS

JEFF FORTENBERRY

1. OUTSTANDING Request to the Law Department - RE: Inquiries re: Women’s Commission advocacy against Defense of Marriage Amendment (RFI#21-1/29/01). — NO COMMENTS

B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Letter & Report from Larry Williams & Ernesto Castillo - RE: The Lincoln Commission on Human Rights - 2000 Annual Report(Copy of this Report is on file in the City Council Office). — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Cold Weather Alert. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS
LIBRARY

1. Letter & Report from James Sherwood, President, Library Board of Trustee - RE: Mr. Sherwood, Library Board Member Maria Diaz and Library Director Carol Connor, had the opportunity to attend an Urban Libraries Council “Partners for Successful Cities” conference co-hosted by the Chicago Public Library and the Honorable Richard M. Daley, Mayor of Chicago(Copy of this Material is on file in the City Council Office). — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

1. Letter from Al Lee to Property Owner/Resident - RE: South Street - 56th Street to 70th Street - Change of Parking. — Mr. Shoecraft stated to the Public Works & Utilities Department that he has some comments in regards to this issue. Allan Abbott stated to Mr. Shoecraft the letter that went out was advising them. Mr. Shoecraft commented to Mr. Abbott right, but his comment is that he thinks this might be a nice potential traffic solution, not obviously solving all of the traffic problems, but he thinks this would be a good concept. Mr. Abbott indicated to Mr. Shoecraft that they have done that on some streets already, but the down side of course is people losing their parking.

2. Letter from Roger A. Figard, Executive Director RTSD to Katherine P. Renk - RE: The 3rd & “A” Street Project. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS


C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. THREE - E-Mail’s from Lynn E. Robeson - RE: LMC -- 21.56.150 – Code Enforcement. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

2. E-Mail from Tom Cypert/American Signal - RE: Please review request to modify and extend Specification No. 01-018 Outdoor Warning Sirens. — Mr. Shoecraft stated that he will forward this E-Mail to Emergency Management, so they can respond to it.

3. E-Mail from Jean L. Chicoine - RE: Surplus Property. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS
4. E-Mail from Karen L. Youker - RE: Sale of Holmes Park Land to Talent +. — Mr. Fortenberry asked when is this issue going to be before the City Council. Lynn Johnson stated to Mr. Fortenberry that it is going to be introduced on February 26th and Public Hearing will actually be on March 5th.

5. E-Mail from Gary A. Pickering, Pickering Boe Graphic Arts - RE: Sale of Park Ground. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

6. Letter from A Concerned Taxpayer - RE: Tax-Levy Override. — Mr. Shoecraft stated that he will forward this letter to the schools.

7. Letter from Lester C. Woodrum - RE: The Emergency Ambulance Service. — Ms. Seng stated to Mr. Shoecraft that she talked with Mr. Woodrum last night and she gave this letter to the Fire Department, so they can respond to it. Ms. Seng stated that they think the rotation is because of the change over in service. Mr. Shoecraft and Ms. Seng stated that’s not the case it is because of the hospitals. Mr. Shoecraft commented that maybe the newspaper can help them out.


9. Letter from Karen L. Youker - RE: Opposed to the proposed sale of Holmes Park land to Talent + for their new office complex. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

10. Letter from Roger Rynolds, CGR, President, Home Builders Association of Lincoln to HBAL members - RE: Their 2001 president, Jon Carlson, resigned last week because of business and personal issues - Mr. Reynolds will assume the presidency for the remainder of the year. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

11. Letter from Dick Keller, President, Lincoln Senior Men’s Golf League - RE: Supports the proposal coming from the Parks & Recreation Department to amend the appropriate City ordinance in order to enable the granting of Special Designated Licenses. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

12. Material from LES - RE: Lincoln Electric System Legislative Guidelines for 2001 (Copy of this Material is on file in the City Council Office). — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

13. E-Mail from Mark D. Spiers, Esq. - RE: Cellular Tower in Irvingdale Park. --- Mr. Shoecraft asked how are they going to address this issue, that he heard in an article that they jumped the gun on it and he was wondering what are they going to do about that. Mr. Shoecraft commented that sends a bad message.
Kathleen Sellman stated to Mr. Shoecraft that’s a 83 foot tower that is replacing tennis court lights and it was reviewed and approved by the Urban Design Committee. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Ms. Sellman, but it hasn’t had final approval yet and he asked if this was correct. Dana Roper stated to Mr. Shoecraft that is correct. Mr. Shoecraft indicated that they should not have been starting construction. Mr. Roper stated to Mr. Shoecraft that Steve Huggenberger talked with them this morning and that it may be a communication problem as much as anything, but they are trying to get it squared away. Mr. Roper stated to Mr. Shoecraft that they were given Mr. Huggenberger’s letter that gave them permission to go out and survey and obviously construction could not start until Council has approved it. Mr. Roper stated to Mr. Shoecraft that the Parks & Recreation Department has the authority to stop it basically at anytime if it is not what they want. Mr. Roper stated to Council that they are trying to work through it. Mr. Roper stated to Council that they have final approval.

Mr. Fortenberry stated that it seems like this organization is fairly new to the town. Mr. Fortenberry commented that didn’t they previously have something else involving this organization. Mr. Cook stated that they come down from Omaha. Mr. Shoecraft asked if this was the group that had come before them with a bold attitude. The rest of the Council stated to Mr. Shoecraft that “yes” it is. Mr. Shoecraft stated to the rest of the Council okay, that he remembers them now.

ADDENDUM

I. MAYOR

1. CITY OF LINCOLN - SNOW/TRAFFIC CONDITION REPORT - RE: As a light drizzle continued to fall this morning in Lincoln, the pavement began to freeze up and pose problems for early morning motorists (See Report - 2/08/01–11:00 a.m.) (Council received their copies of this Report in their Thursday packets on 2/08/01). — NO COMMENTS

2. CITY OF LINCOLN - SNOW/TRAFFIC CONDITION REPORT- RE: As the combination of sleet and freezing rain continues to fall this afternoon, city material spreaders are again distributing salt on the main arterials and emergency routes (See Report -2/08/01 – 4:00 p.m.) (Council received their copies of this Report in their Thursday packets on 2/08/01). — NO COMMENTS

3. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Plans Announced For City’s First Abraham Lincoln Birthday Celebration - Local and national performers to be on Lied Stage February 11th. — Mayor Don Wesely mentioned this event during his comments to the Council under “I. Mayor”. (See that discussion)
4. CITY OF LINCOLN - SNOW/TRAFFIC CONDITION REPORT - RE: As the combination of sleet and freezing rain continues to fall early this evening, city material spreaders are continuing their efforts in distributing salt on the main arterials and emergency routes (See Report - 2/08/01 - 7:00 p.m.) — NO COMMENTS

5. CITY OF LINCOLN - SNOW/TRAFFIC CONDITION REPORT - RE: As over eight inches of snow blanketed Lincoln overnight, City Street crews were out at midnight to begin the digging out process (See Report - 2/09/01 – 5:30 a.m.). — NO COMMENTS

6. CITY OF LINCOLN - SNOW/TRAFFIC CONDITION REPORT - RE: Mayor Don Wesely has declared a Snow Emergency Parking Ban effective at 9:00 a.m. today (See Report - 2/09/01 – 8:00 a.m.). — NO COMMENTS

7. CITY OF LINCOLN - SNOW/TRAFFIC CONDITION REPORT - RE: Mayor Don Wesely has announced that a residential parking ban will go into effect at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, February 10th (See Report - 2/09/01 – 11:30 a.m.). — NO COMMENTS

8. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Don Wesely and Public Works & Utilities Department officials will hold a briefing on snow removal and cleanup operations at 2:00 p.m. Friday, February 9th (See Release). — NO COMMENTS

9. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Don Wesely will announce the formation of the Mayor’s Technology Council at a news conference at 9:00 a.m. Monday, February 12th. — Mayor Wesely mentioned this issue during his comments to Council under “I. Mayor”. (See that discussion).

10. CITY OF LINCOLN - SNOW/TRAFFIC CONDITION REPORT - RE: Mayor Don Wesely announced earlier today that a residential parking ban will go into effect at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, February 10th (See Report - 2/09/01 - 4:00 p.m.). — NO COMMENTS

11. CITY OF LINCOLN - SNOW/TRAFFIC CONDITION REPORT - RE: Mayor Don Wesely has announced that the snow emergency parking ban for Lincoln will be lifted at midnight tonight (See Report - 2/09/01 - 5:45 p.m.). — NO COMMENTS

12. CITY OF LINCOLN - SNOW/TRAFFIC CONDITION REPORT - RE: The residential parking ban that went into effect at 9"00 a.m. today remains in effect for Lincoln (See Report - 2/10/01 - 5:00 p.m.). — NO COMMENTS
II. CITY CLERK - NONE

III. CORRESPONDENCE

A. COUNCIL REQUESTS - NONE

B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

PLANNING DEPARTMENT


2. Letter from Kathleen Sellman to Officials Committee Members - RE: Amendment to the FY 2000-2001 Unified Planning Work Program for the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County, Nebraska. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

C. MISCELLANEOUS


2. Letter from Ken Vice - RE: Writing to formally complain about the approach that you take to snow removal. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mayor Wesely before he leaves he would like to bring up one thing real quick and that he has already talked to Marc Wullsleger and Dallas McGee about it. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mayor Wesely that the City is planning the parking garage north of “Barry’s” in that lot. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mayor Wesely that he is asking them to take consideration of delaying that project 4 or 5 weeks to help out those businesses down there. Mr. Shoecraft commented to Mayor Wesely whether they realize it or not it is going to be an incredible football season from an economic stand point for all of those businesses. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mayor Wesely that he doesn’t think it would hurt anything with delaying construction on it until they are through the football season because the schedule is just incredible. Mr. Shoecraft stated that it would do all of those businesses and the Police Department good if they could delay that construction for them and let them receive all of the benefits and they as a City from sale tax. Mr. Shoecraft stated that he thinks they would be doing the Downtown and the Haymarket area a tremendous favor, if they could delay construction on that project 4 or 5 weeks and have them get through the football season.
Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Shoecraft that it is not uncommon to schedule construction projects around the football season. Mr. Shoecraft indicated to Mayor Wesely that he is asking for consideration from him, the Urban Development Department and Council, if they could delay the project for about 4 or 5 weeks, so they can give those businesses an opportunity to process as much as possible this upcoming season. Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Shoecraft that he will see what they can do.

Mr. Fortenberry stated that he noticed that on the People’s Natural Gas bills that if you pay by a certain point it is such-an-such a price, that you will have a low finance charge and it is pretty minimum. Mr. Fortenberry stated that they don’t do that for example on the water bills or the electric bills. Mr. Fortenberry stated that in talking about the arrangements to begin expanding stormwater that this might be something for them to look at because they are paying the price now, carrying across all of that money and it doesn’t hurt anybody unless they want them to finance it for them. Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Fortenberry that he can talk to Allan Abbott about it. Mayor Wesely indicated to Mr. Fortenberry that they are looking at that now on regular parking tickets because that is the case with parking tickets they don’t get any late charges. Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Fortenberry that is a good idea.

IV. DIRECTORS

PLANNING DEPARTMENT - Kathleen Sellman stated to Council that the Planning Department has reviewed the items on the Pending list that relates to the land use and they will be moving six items forward for Council’s Action. Ms. Sellman stated to Council that these items are all with recommendation of denial for work and indicated that these items have been on Pending for quite a while. Ms. Sellman stated to Council that the other items they are working with the applicants and they expect to see those move forward too. Mr. Shoecraft asked Ms. Sellman if the applicants know that they are moving the items forward. Ms. Sellman stated to Mr. Shoecraft that they will be notified of it before they move the items forward.

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT - Lynn Johnson stated to Council back to the issue regarding the cell tower at Irvingdale Park, the Parks & Rec. Advisory Board has not reviewed it and has not taken action on it yet. Mr. Johnson stated to Council that they missed a step in sequencing of getting it to the Urban Design Committee. Mr. Johnson indicated that he talked to a few members of the neighborhood, who feel like from a process stand point that they haven’t had a chance to be heard on it. Mr. Johnson stated to Council that he thinks they have two options at this point; one is for them to brief the Parks & Rec. Advisory Board and let it go forward to Council so they can hear from the neighbors, or if Council feels they would like the Parks & Rec. Advisory Board to conduct a Public Hearing on it that this could happen on March 8th and then both
recommendations would come forth. Mr. Johnson indicated to Council that the disadvantage of the ladder is that obviously the Urban Design Committee would not have had the opportunity to take any consideration or to consider the recommendations coming from the Board. Mr. Shoecraft asked Mr. Johnson if the Parks & Rec. Advisory Board gave preliminary approval. Mr. Johnson stated to Mr. Shoecraft that the Parks & Rec. Advisory Board hasn’t given any approval. Mr. Shoecraft asked Mr. Johnson so who gave the preliminary approval for them to start the construction. Mr. Johnson stated to Mr. Shoecraft that they have not given them written approval to do any work in the park and so they have neighbors who are feeling like this process is broke right now. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mr. Johnson that this is where they come into play or with the perception that falls back on them. Mr. Shoecraft indicated that he is not trying to play hard ball with an outside entity, but at the same time if they are going to disrespect the process, the neighbors and everything else that he’s not inclined to them once they do get to him voting “yes” for the project. Mr. Shoecraft stated that he wants to send them a message that one they have to go through the process and lesson two for them to say okay to the neighbors that they understand their concerns and recognize it. Mr. Shoecraft stated that he didn’t like their behavior the last time they were before them on another issue, so he’s not inclined to be very supportive of this project just from a neighbors stand point and the process stand point. Mr. Shoecraft stated that he hopes they realize that, and stated that he doesn’t know what everybody else is thinking, but this is his feeling on it.

Ms. Seng stated to Mr. Johnson that she thinks they should go to the Park & Rec. Advisory Board first, that she thinks they need to go through that process. Mr. Johnson stated to Ms. Seng okay.

Mr. Fortenberry asked Dana Roper if he could make a recommendation to him that he send this organization a letter explaining the process and an outline of the steps once again. Mr. Fortenberry stated to Mr. Roper that then maybe they can convey that they have encountered thoughts that probably are a different set of expectations based on where they initially do business in terms of process and cultural; and that this is serious to them and they expect these guidelines to be followed because they certainly want to encourage reasonable locations of cellular towers. Mr. Fortenberry stated to Mr. Roper like Mr. Shoecraft said this is the second time and so it might just be a lack of understanding of how our City does business. Mr. Fortenberry asked Mr. Roper if he could do that. Mr. Roper stated to Mr. Fortenberry sure he can.

Mr. Johnson stated to Council that they will ask that they not proceed with any further work. Mr. Johnson stated to Council that they will schedule a Public Hearing before the Parks & Rec. Advisory Board on March 8th and they will also notify the Neighborhood Association. Mr. Shoecraft commented so the construction has stopped. Mr. Johnson stated to Mr. Shoecraft that as soon as they finish the Director’s Meeting, that he will let them know that they can not do any further work in the park. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mr. Johnson okay.
Mr. Shoecraft stated to Chief Casady that he keeps getting phone calls and questions regarding the meth issues that are cropping up in Lincoln. Mr. Shoecraft asked Chief Casady if he has any comments about this issue. Chief Casady stated to Mr. Shoecraft that methamphetamines exploded in Lincoln and that this has been going on for about 5 years now. Chief Casady stated to Council that he thinks it was about 2 years ago when he last spoke to them and warned them that this problem was going to do nothing, but get worse and that’s pretty much as predicted. Chief Casady stated to Council that they continue to make lots of arrests, they make a huge number of seizures and that they have accounted for almost half of all the Federal indictments in the State of Nebraska on methamphetamine charges. Chief Casady stated to Council the only thing that has changed dramatically here has been the discovery of several labs and they knew that was coming eventually. Chief Casady stated to Council that he is surprised that it took this long for them to start seizing some labs in Lancaster County. Chief Casady stated to Council that they have had four inside the City limits and two outside the City limits, since the first of the year and he thinks that this will probably continue. Chief Casady stated to Council that not many meth labs are discovered in urbanized areas simply because it’s pretty difficult to make methamphetamine without stinking up the place and making yourself pretty obvious. That in fact, several of the labs that they have had in Nebraska have been brought to law enforcements attention because people have smelled ether or have smelled anhydrous ammonia. Chief Casady commented to Mr. Shoecraft so nothing really new. Chief Casady indicated that they are doing quite a bit of training and the lab cases that occurred two weeks ago stimulated enough public interest that they received a few more requests for presentations to groups and employers. Chief Casady stated to Mr. Shoecraft that other than this information, there is not much to report. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Chief Casady okay and thanked him.

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

JONATHAN COOK - NO COMMENTS

ANNETTE McROY - NO COMMENTS

CINDY JOHNSON - NO COMMENTS

JEFF FORTENBERRY

Mr. Fortenberry asked Chief Casady what is the status of the change in permitted time of parking on residential streets. Mr. Fortenberry stated to Chief Casady that he didn’t understand whether it was actually a proposal that was being forward or if
somebody suggested it because he has gotten a lot of comments on it. Chief Casady stated to Mr. Fortenberry that they discussed this issue at a Council Meeting about six months ago on whether it would be better to have a 72 hour parking rather than a 24 hour parking. Chief Casady stated to Mr. Fortenberry to the best of his knowledge nothing has been brought forward by anyone, so it remains 24 hours right at the moment.

Ms. Johnson stated to Mr. Fortenberry that she and Ms. McRoy meet with Chief Casady and John McQuinn about this issue. Ms. Johnson indicated to Mr. Fortenberry that they are working on some of it and so she will update him on this issue. Mr. Fortenberry stated to Ms. Johnson okay and thanked her.

[Dana Roper passed a letter out to Council in regards to Irvingdale Park on the cell tower] Mr. Shoecraft asked Dana Roper to explain to them what he just passed out. Mr. Roper stated to Council that this is the letter that Steve Huggenberger had received from Qwest and he thought they might want a copy of the letter, since they are getting calls about this issue. Mr. Cook asked Mr. Roper, if they could get a copy of Steve Huggenberger’s letter that he sent back to Qwest. Mr. Roper stated to Mr. Cook that he will get them a copy of Mr. Huggenberger’s letter. Mr. Roper stated to Council that they don’t know exactly what they have done in the park. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mr. Roper okay. Mr. Shoecraft stated that Lynn Johnson is going to follow up on this matter after the Director’s Meeting.

COLEEN SENG

Ms. Seng stated to Council that yesterday afternoon she had the opportunity to hear the 911 dispatch audio tape on the fire that was out at 41st & Huntington and she thinks it really would be great if they all heard the tape. Ms. Seng stated that it was really something to hear what the dispatch people go through and the Fire Department and the Lincoln Police Department was all involved in it. Ms. Seng stated to Council that she talked to the Fire Department about it and she was going to ask Chief Casady if he could have the same person who did the presentation yesterday do it for the rest of the Council members because it is worth it for all of them to hear it and know what they go through at the time of a fire. Ms. Seng stated to Chief Casady that she was hoping that him and Chief Spadt could do a Pre-Council Meeting on it and asked if they could line this up for sometime because it was very good.

Ms. Seng stated that they received a critical letter and she doesn’t see it on the Agenda. [The letter was on the Director’s Addendum for February 5th] that it came from Doug Beran out on Smoky Hill Road and he was really unhappy about a lot of things. Ms. Seng stated that a lot of it deals with where the finances are coming from and she was wondering if Don Herz and Dana Roper could look at this letter together and respond to it. Ms. Seng stated that it is not a very pleasant letter, that they are really unhappy about a
lot of things, such as baseball, ambulance, the Police officers receiving a raise, unnecessary Police Officers and nude dancing and on and on of things.

Ms. Seng stated that Larry Williams was at her Citizen Meeting this morning and she wanted to thank Mr. Williams for a great presentation this morning.

JON CAMP - NO COMMENTS

JERRY SHOECRAFT - NO COMMENTS

VI. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:42 A.M.