DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2001 - 11:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

I. MAYOR - NONE

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

3. Request to Public Works & Utilities Department - RE: Infrastructure plans for West “O” Street (RFI#64 - 2/23/01) – 1.) SEE RESPONSE FROM DENNIS BARTELS, PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DEPARTMENT RECEIVED ON RFI#64-3/06/01

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)
COLEEN SENG

1. Request to the Police Department - RE: The speed of vehicles on N. 33rd Street (RFI#832-2/26/01) – 1.) SEE RESPONSE FROM CHIEF CASADY, LPD RECEIVED ON RFI#832-3/06/01

JONATHAN COOK

1. Request to the Public Works & Utilities Department, Allan Abbott - RE: Snow Removal (RFI#33 - 3/05/01)

2. Request to the Public Works & Utilities Department, Allan Abbott - RE: Crosswalk at 13th & Saratoga (RFI#34 - 3/05/01)

B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

FINANCE


FINANCE/CITY TREASURER


LIBRARY

1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Clifford Week at the Library! (See Release).

2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: “Using Clifford to Promote Learning!” (See Release).

STARTRAN

1. Two NEWS RELEASE - RE: Kenny Chesney/Lee Ann Womack Concert Shuttle Service (See Releases).
C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Two Letters - from Doug Wyatt, Market General Manager, Rural/Metro Medical Services & from Mark Hexum, Division General Manager, Rural/Metro Medical Services - RE: Rural/Metro membership reimbursement


3. E-Mail from Patricia Boswell, Assistant to the City Manager for Organizational Development and Communications - RE: Disruptions of meetings (See E-Mail).

4. E-Mail from Elyza Richmon Halev, Resident and Member, Irvingdale Neighborhood Association - RE: Cell Tower Controversy (See E-Mail).

5. Letter from Jack & Rosemary Wagener - RE: The Downtown Lincoln Association and the Business Improvement Districts (See Letter).


8. Letter from Jack Thompson - RE: A matter coming before the Planning Commission for a Public Hearing on March 21" - To rewrite the LMC pertaining to the O-3 sign regulations (See Letter).

9. Material from Roger Duerr - RE: L-12885, North 63rd Street and Walker Avenue (See Material).

IV. DIRECTORS

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

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

Council Member Absent: Jon Camp.

Others Present: Mayor Don Wesely, Mark Bowen, Ann Harrell, Jennifer Brinkman, 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; Karen Shinn, Aide to Council Member Fortenberry; Tammy Bogenreif, City Council Staff, and Chris Hain, Lincoln Journal Star Representative.

I. MAYOR

Mayor Don Wesely stated to Council that he has a number of things to go over with them. Mayor Wesely stated to Council if he could take a minute to start on a light note. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that Dana Roper just gave him a copy of it and asked Council if they read or heard about what is happening in Omaha. Mayor Wesely indicated to Council that they are buying new fire trucks and there to big for their doors.

Mayor Don Wesely stated to Chief Casady that he thought the article was really good regarding the Police Force. Council also stated that the article was very nice. Mr. Shoecraft asked Chief Casady about the lady that recently passed away, who had served on the Lincoln Police Department for 30 years. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Chief Casady that he was wondering if she had any family members here because he was thinking that maybe they can do some type of resolution, if she has any family still in Lincoln. Mr. Shoecraft stated that’s just in creditable. Chief Casady stated that her name was Hulda Roper. Chief Casady stated to Mr. Shoecraft that she has several family members here in town. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Chief Casady that they can do something and have her family accept it on her behalf, since she was the first female Police Officer hired and she served on the Lincoln Police Department for 30 years. Mr. Shoecraft stated that she served even beyond that upon her retirement really in a different capacity and he thought maybe they could do some type of resolution or something to one of the family members. Chief Casady stated to Mr. Shoecraft that would be neat. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mayor Wesely that he thinks it would be neat, if there was some family member here to accept it on her behalf from them. Mayor Wesely stated that he thinks that would be very nice. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mayor Wesely that maybe one of his aides could think about it and start putting something together right before a Council Meeting. Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Shoecraft that they will work on it.
Mayor Don Wesely stated to Council that he doesn’t know if Ms. Johnson and Ms. Seng made it to Arlan Stromberg’s funeral, but he wants to reemphasize again that when the vote was over on the Ambulance issue that Arlan Stromberg stepped in and did a lot. Mayor Wesely indicated that Mr. Stromberg was the one who said that they have to take over the whole thing economically because that’s the only thing that makes sense. Mayor Wesely indicated to Council that Mr. Stromberg was such a help to them, so it is a real loss. Mayor Wesely stated that Mr. Stromberg was a tremendous person and they are going to miss him.

Mayor Don Wesely stated that he wants again to congratulate Nicole Fleck-Tooze and indicated that the editorial over the weekend about Wilderness Park was very positive. Mayor Wesely stated that he thought it was really neat.

Mayor Don Wesely stated that Mr. Fortenberry and Mr. Cook has been very interested in the Entryway Standards this year and he just wants to reemphasize again that they are going to be following up with a meeting here shortly. Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Fortenberry and Mr. Cook that when they get the meeting set up they will let them know where they are at on it. Mayor Wesely stated that they will continue to try to work through it and figure out a way to move forward.

Mayor Don Wesely stated to Council that on the Floodplain Standards he wanted to share with them that they have had a number of meetings with the business community and [inaudible] community on the Floodplain-Interim Standards and these were scheduled to go back before the Planning Commission he thinks on April 4th. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that frankly what they have gotten back is that there was a strong desire by the business community to work with them on the standards, but a desire not to be rushed on the Interim Standards. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that their feeling is if there’s a positive working relationship and he believes there will be one; a joint effort on a study and it appears that will happen; that it is in their best interest perhaps not to go [inaudible] at this time and try to work out on a longer range basis what standards they adopted. Mayor Wesely commented to Council so this is their strategy. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that they feel there’s a consensus that they need to do something and the question is what to do know and how to do it. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that there will be a study initiated as they plan the Core of Engineers and they will form a working group here in the near future. Mayor Wesely stated to Council so if they have names of people that they want to be a part of the group to let him know. Mayor Wesely stated that they will have a group that will start the work and see what happens. Mayor Wesely indicated to Council that he thinks their strategy is a better one, that anytime you try to rush things it really seems to cause a lot of problems and there is good reason to be concerned. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that he knows they have
been already briefed about it, but there are other projects that he just recently become aware of that are pretty massive in nature of being floodplains that has him deeply concerned. So, if something happens that really threatens them, they may have to step in and sort of quick dash, but he hopes that will not happen. Mayor Wesely indicated to Council that he thinks this is the way to go.

Ms. Johnson stated to Mayor Wesely that in their discussions because she has just basically heard that they were concerned about the Interim Standards that she was wondering if they had come up with any solutions or any alternative solutions in their discussions that may go into this Task Force. Ms. Johnson commented that she was thinking about that just even driving here today, that if this is so terribly important that they can’t just be making the decision “yes” or “no”, that they have to reach a goal. Ms. Johnson stated to Mayor Wesely so she is really glad to hear that he is doing it, but she was also wondering if they had any solutions. Mayor Wesely stated to Ms. Johnson that they had a few, but the complexity of the issue and the feeling was that they don’t have time, that it is a few weeks to go before the hearing and the process. Mayor Wesely stated to Ms. Johnson that they do have some alternatives that they are thinking about, but they need the time to think it through. Mayor Wesely stated to Ms. Johnson that he thinks their attitude is very constructive to him, that he thinks they want to see something happen and there is acknowledgement that they do need to take some action.

Mr. Cook stated to Mayor Wesely that he just wanted to ask if there was anyway they would find the Interim Standards more acceptable. Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Cook that they were heading in that direction and that’s back to Ms. Johnson’s point that there were some ideas there, but he thinks that everybody was concerned about exactly what that would mean and how it would work and so the feeling was to back off of it. Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Cook that “ya”, he thinks there was a possibility that they could work on something, but the time wasn’t there. Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Cook that he thinks as they talk about it they can start to find a more common ground. Mayor Wesely indicated that he thinks that could be possible.

Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mayor Wesely that he is very happy because they all are consciousness on the issue of concerns and he is glad they are slowing down. Mr. Shoecraft indicated that he is happy they are involving the business community. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mayor Wesely that it is good that they are slowing down a little bit to see if they can come up and find some common ground. Mr. Shoecraft stated that even the business community is consciousness of the issue and concerned just as they are. Mr. Shoecraft indicated to Mayor Wesely that he is glad they are slowing down a little bit and taking another look at it and he is sure that they will find a solution. Mayor Wesely stated that part of the thing is trying to get ahead of it, instead of trying to react to it and the floodplain funding that they got really will help a lot with Wilderness Park.

Ms. Seng stated to Mayor Wesely that she has a name for him and Mr. Cook stated to Mayor Wesely that he has a couple of names for him. Mayor Wesely stated to Ms. Seng and Mr. Cook okay. Mayor Wesely stated to Council so they will be moving forward on this issue, but a little slower on the thought of it.
Mayor Don Wesely stated to Council that he has some bad news for them in regards to the Pauley-Amigo’s issue with the project over there. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that they are not able to work out what they had hoped too. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that they made an offer to purchase the property and he thought it was a generous offer, that they did an appraisal and looked at it’s value and it was substantially more than what they thought. Mayor Wesely indicated that they had a partner locally from the private sector so they went in and made the offer, but it didn’t work out. Mayor Wesely indicated to Council that they are wanting to go forward with this project. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that they’re creditors are still trying to find ways to get the sign moved, but that hasn’t been successful. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that they worked with them on that and to a degree they found it, but that one didn’t work out very well either. Mayor Wesely stated to Council so they have some remaining issues to deal with when the property was sold to them that there were severe errors or something. Mayor Wesely commented to Council that remember when they sold it to them for $5,000 and part of the bridge was included in the sale and they would like it back. Mayor Wesely indicated to Council that there were some mistakes that were made on it and they are having some difficulties here.

Mr. Shoecraft asked Mayor Wesely when was this ground sold to them. Someone stated that it was in the late 80’s. Lynn Johnson stated that the north was part of the railroad right-of-way and the southern portion of it the City sold to them. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that it is not completely clear to him, that all he knows is that they have been meeting he thinks since the fall when it came out and they tried to negotiate all of this out and they have been trying to find a way through it. Mayor Wesely indicated to Council that it wasn’t a close gap, that it was a huge gap between what they wanted and what they thought was fair in the price. Mr. Fortenberry commented to Mayor Wesely onto plan D, along Capitol Parkway on the south side to build encouragement of good building design and signage designs on where they talked about improving it that it would help that transition. Mr. Fortenberry stated to Mayor Wesely so he was wondering if they are thinking about this now. Mayor Wesely indicated to Mr. Fortenberry that “yes” they are thinking about it. Ms. Seng stated that the other piece will still be the road on 26th Street (coming off of Randolph St.) that runs right through there and so those businesses are really in jeopardy and she was wondering if this was correct. Lynn Johnson stated to Ms. Seng that “yes” it is. Lynn Johnson stated to Council that they have asked and they may want to explorer further on the idea of vacating that roadway to them to making it a private roadway. Mr. Shoecraft asked Lynn Johnson if it is a Concrete Company and a Construction Company back there. Mr. Shoecraft asked Mr. Johnson is it because of their fear of the traffic that is going to be created down there. Mr. Johnson indicated to Mr. Shoecraft that the cut through traffic will be particularly the Lincoln High School students. Mr. Shoecraft asked Mayor Wesely if Antelope Valley was effecting this area at all. Mr. Johnson stated to Mr. Shoecraft that “no” it isn’t, that Antelope Valley ends at ‘J’ Street. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mr. Johnson okay. Mayor Wesely commented to
Council that he is really disappointed and he is sorry; but they tried and they listened and held back and spent months talking to them about it. Mr. Fortenberry stated to Mayor Wesely that well, the restaurant bid did go pretty nice along Fletcher. Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Fortenberry that this isn’t going to be anything like that one, that this one is just going to be a drive-thru. Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Fortenberry that this one is going to be closer like the one they have on West “O” Street.

II. CITY CLERK

Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that in regards to Items 1 & 2 [Application of Lancaster County Agricultural Society Inc. for a Class “C” liquor license at 4100 N. 84th Street & Manager’s Application for the Lancaster County Agricultural Society, Inc. at 4100 N. 84th Street] she would like to call these items together.

Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that in regards to Items 3 & 4 [Application of Speakeasy, Inc. dba Speakeasy for a Class “C” liquor license at 3233 ½ S. 13th Street & Manager’s Application for Speakeasy Inc. dba Speakeasy at 3233 ½ S. 13th Street] she would like to call these items together.

Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that in regards to Items 5 & 6 [Application Wadsworth Old Chicago Inc dba “Old Chicago” for a Class “I” liquor license at 2918 Pine Lake Rd. & Manager’s Application for Wadworth Old Chicago Inc. dba “Old Chicago” at 2918 Pine Lake Rd.] she would like to call these items together.

Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that in regards to Item 8 [Approving the establishment of a decommissioning fund to allow LES to designate & account for the costs associated with decommissioning generation plants & electrical facilities] that this item is up for Public Hearing with 2nd Reading and it is also on 3rd Reading.

Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that on the Pending list in regards to Item 34 [Vacating N. 40th St. from the John Dietrich Trail north to the terminus of N. 40th St., generally located at the north end of 40th St., north of Adams St.] they received a request from the Planning Department to remove this item from Pending and indefinitely postpone it.

Mr. Shoecraft asked if this trail would have been a benefit to the trails. Ray Hill stated to Mr. Shoecraft that “no” it would not. Ms. Seng asked the Public Works & Utilities Department if this was the one that they were paving illegally, that they went ahead and put down the concrete even though they were ordered not to do it. Ray Hill stated to Ms. Seng that “yes” it is. Mr. Shoecraft asked Lynn Johnson what would the trail people say about it. Lynn Johnson’s comments to Mr. Shoecraft inaudible.
Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that on the Pending list in regards to Item 43 [Appeal of Arlon E. & Corrine D. Bartels, Dale & Jenine M. Meiner, Deanna Mumgaard, Mary Mumgaard, David Watts, Drennen Watts, M. Laimons Iesalnieks, & Larry & Denise Maack, from the Planning Commission approval of Special permit 1892 authorizing Qwest Wireless L.L.C. to construct a 123’ tall personal wireless facility with associated ground equipment & a waiver of the fall zone requirement on property generally located at N. 7th St. & Fletcher Ave.] that this item is to come off Pending for Monday, March 19, 2001. Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that this item had Public Hearing once and she wanted to know if they wanted to have an additional hearing on it or just action on it on March 19th. After, Council discussed this issue, they decided to have just Action on this item on Monday, March 19th. Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council okay.

Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Council that on the Pending list in regards to Item 48 [Adopting a Supplemental Budget for LES amending the 2001 LES Operating & Capital Budget] that this item is to be remove from Pending for Public Hearing and Action on Monday, March 19, 2001.

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

3. Request to Public Works & Utilities Department - RE: Infrastructure plans for West “O” Street (RFI#64 - 2/23/01) – 1.) SEE RESPONSE FROM DENNIS BARTELS, PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DEPARTMENT RECEIVED ON RFI#64-3/06/01. — NO COMMENTS
JON CAMP

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

COLEEN SENG

1. Request to the Police Department - RE: The speed of vehicles on N. 33rd Street (RFI#832-2/26/01) – 1.) SEE RESPONSE FROM CHIEF CASADY, LPD RECEIVED ON RFI#832-3/06/01. — NO COMMENTS

JONATHAN COOK

1. Request to the Public Works & Utilities Department, Allan Abbott - RE: Snow Removal (RFI#33 - 3/05/01). — NO COMMENTS

2. Request to the Public Works & Utilities Department, Allan Abbott - RE: Crosswalk at 13th & Saratoga (RFI#34 - 3/05/01). — NO COMMENTS

B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

FINANCE


FINANCE/CITY TREASURER

1. Material from Don Herz & Melinda Jones - RE: Resolution & Finance Department Treasurer Of Lincoln, Nebraska Investments Purchased between February 26 and March 2, 2001. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS
LIBRARY

1. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Clifford Week at the Library! — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: “Using Clifford to Promote Learning!” — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

STARTRAN

1. Two NEWS RELEASE - RE: Kenny Chesney/Lee Ann Womack Concert Shuttle Service. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Two Letters - from Doug Wyatt, Market General Manager, Rural/Metro Medical Services & from Mark Hexum, Division General Manager, Rural/Metro Medical Services - RE: Rural/Metro membership reimbursement. — Mr. Shoecraft asked Chief Spadt if they are going to respond to this letter. Chief Spadt stated to Mr. Shoecraft that “yes” they are going to respond to it. Chief Spadt stated to Mr. Shoecraft that the letters were with respect to the membership program and maybe them not understanding the Medicare guidelines. Chief Spadt stated to Mr. Shoecraft that this is not true, that they perfectly understand the new regulations with respect to the billing practice and they have adopted those as they said in the beginning of this operation that they were going to follow those practices. Chief Spadt indicated to Council that one particular element says that those people that are on Medicare and Medicaid that they as an ambulance provider have to accept the assignment and, that they can not send them a bill beyond that. Chief Spadt stated to Council that essentially the membership program to these people would be meaningless and it would be wrong of them to charge them a $50.00 up front cost when they don’t need too, that they can provide the same service. Chief Spadt stated to Council that the government mandates that they have to follow this practice. Chief Spadt stated to Mr. Shoecraft that he is going to respond to this letter. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Chief Spadt okay.

2. Post Card from Vincent Sullivan. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

3. E-Mail from Patricia Boswell, Assistant to the City Manager for Organizational Development and Communications - RE: Disruptions of meetings. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS
4. E-Mail from Elyza Richmon Halev, Resident and Member, Irvingdale Neighborhood Association - RE: Cell Tower Controversy. — Mr. Shoecraft stated that he doesn’t know if they should be responding to these letters or not. Mr. Shoecraft asked Lynn Johnson if he is getting copies of these letters regarding this issue. Lynn Johnson stated to Mr. Shoecraft that they are getting copies of these letters. Mr. Johnson stated to Mr. Shoecraft that the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board conducted a hearing last Thursday, prior to that Qwest indicated that they would renew negotiations between Lincoln Public Schools and Qwest. Mr. Johnson stated to Mr. Shoecraft that the Board tabled action on the location of the park pending the out-come of these litigations and also asked that a letter be drafted for signature by the Chair of the Board encouraging Lincoln Public Schools and Qwest to find a suitable location. Mr. Johnson stated to Mr. Shoecraft that he was going to draft a letter that explains where they are with the process. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mr. Johnson okay.

5. Letter from Jack & Rosemary Wagener - RE: The Downtown Lincoln Association and the Business Improvement Districts. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

6. Letter from Alene Swinehart, President, Irvingdale Neighborhood Association to Lynn Johnson, City of Lincoln, Parks & Recreation Director - RE: The Cell Tower controversy. — “Council discussed this issue with Lynn Johnson under “C. Miscellaneous - #4” (See that discussion). Lynn Johnson stated to Council that he will keep track of these letters regarding this issue. Mr. Fortenberry stated to Mr. Johnson that he thinks when he drafts the letter that he should also mention that the City Council and the Mayor has received their letter, so that they know. Mr. Johnson stated to Mr. Fortenberry okay.

7. Material from Thomas M. Price, President, Capital Sports Foundation Ethel S. Abbott Sports Complex - RE: Indoor Ice Facility Task Force. — Mr. Shoecraft stated that Thomas Price called him and he needs to get back with him. Mr. Shoecraft stated that his head is spinning off because there’s three different concepts out there with ice arenas. Mr. Shoecraft indicated that they all recognize that there’s a strong community input in regards to this issue, that they want it. Mr. Shoecraft stated that they know that Lincoln wants it just from the Task Force that they sat on. Mr. Shoecraft stated that there are three different concepts out there, that they have Abbott who is trying to find a way to make this work from a private stand point; and the City may be thinking about something different. Mr. Shoecraft stated that he thinks they all have to get on the same page and indicated that he thinks this would be a great amenity for the City, but there is like three different concepts out there and it is getting a little wacky. Mr. Shoecraft stated that he visited a little bit with Administration and the Parks & Recreation Department and he knows that they will work this out on what direction the City wants to go, but everybody needs to get on the same page. Mr. Shoecraft
indicated that he thinks at one point in time he talked to his colleagues about this issue and they may have some different opinions, but he wishes that they all would get on the same page. Mr. Shoecraft stated that he visited with the Mayor about it and he understands.

Ms. Seng stated to Mayor Wesely that she thinks they need to have a Pre-Council Meeting in regards to this issue, when they are all ready to do it because they can’t be on the same page until they hear from Administration. Mayor Wesely stated that they talked to Mr. Shoecraft about having a Pre-Council Meeting on this issue next Monday and he thinks they will be ready, so he would like to do it next Monday.

Lynn Johnson stated to Council that there is a meeting on Wednesday and they are trying to get all of the parties together to see if they can’t reach some consensus in that group. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Council if they have some thoughts or concerns to let him know or let someone know because he knows before the new Administration came on board they were talking about this concept and they had some thoughts or how they envisioned it. So, that they are all on the same page or going the same direction if they want this to happen for the community. Mr. Shoecraft commented to Council that he is just saying let’s not react after it, so let him know or Administration know prior to that because he knows they are thinking something and they’re not saying it right now.

Ms. Johnson asked Mr. Shoecraft if he wants them to say it now. Ms. Johnson stated that she just wants them to be real weary that owning the ice skating rink for the purpose that they did do a bond issue and it failed. So, she thinks that could be seen pretty negatively within the community if the City owned it. Ms. Johnson stated that she doesn’t have a problem with where it is located, that it just be privately maintained and operated and she doesn’t care if they give land by public private partnership, but she would much rather see it be privately maintained just for the purpose of the bond issue. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Ms. Johnson okay. Ms. Seng stated that she thinks the City was always criticized after that bond issue failed, that they had not given enough support from the City Administration to get that bond issue passed, but now that’s been a long time ago. So, they may be in a different day and age, but she has heard some really choice comments from neighborhood folks that really wants an ice skating facility and they just left it hanging and they didn’t do their side of it. Ms. Seng stated that she thinks that they are problem passed that now. Ms. Johnson stated that she seen the Administration from the very beginning trying to work with these people from that organization, so she does think that they have put out an effort in the last few years. Ms. Seng stated that she does agree with Mr. Shoecraft that they all do need to be united, but they have to bring the rest of them into the discussion, so they need to have a Pre-Council Meeting on it. Mayor Wesely stated to Council that he apologizes for that, but it was one of things where more came out and they had different ideas going forward. Mayor Wesely indicated to Council that part of it was this Keno thing because they were looking
at it as additional revenue and now that fell through and so it has been sort of difficult. But he thinks that they should lay out for them what their options are on it and what people are thinking and what their thinking is on it. Mayor Wesely indicated to Council that he thinks there are ways to pull all of this together, but it’s just not going as easy as they thought it would. Mr. Shoecraft stated that when they have the meeting they will get a sense of what they are thinking, so they just have to put everything together and see what happens.

8. Letter from Jack Thompson - RE: A matter coming before the Planning Commission for a Public Hearing on March 21st - To rewrite the LMC pertaining to the O-3 sign regulations. — Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mr. Fortenberry and Mr. Cook that he knows they have been involved with this issue. Mr. Shoecraft asked Mr. Fortenberry and Mr. Cook, if they had any comments in regards to this issue. Mr. Fortenberry stated that the only thing is if they remember after the Union Bank had requested the exception and they were all talking about it, that here’s the other side of it, that if they don’t allow them to do it the sign can go against the abutting neighborhood. Mr. Fortenberry stated that after they talked about it and proposed to the Planning Department to take a second look at changing it.

   Mr. Cook stated that this is an amendment that he thinks if him and Mr. Fortenberry had a chance to discuss it or understand the implications of it before the initial one came forward, that this is probably the amendment they would have proposed at that time. Mr. Cook stated so in a way it’s kind of a clean up.

   Mr. Shoecraft asked Ray Hill what is the business community saying in regards to this issue. Ray Hill stated to Mr. Shoecraft the only ones he thinks that they have had any discussion with was Jack Thompson and Bob Norris on this particular one. Mr. Shoecraft asked Mr. Hill what does Mr. Norris think about it. Mr. Hill stated to Mr. Shoecraft that they are basically saying why are they changing them when they just changed it a year ago, when they thought everything was worked out and now they are coming back and changing it. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Mr. Hill okay.

9. Material from Roger Duerr - RE: L-12885, North 63rd Street and Walker Avenue. — Ms. Seng commented that this is her district, right at the end of the block. Ms. Seng stated that they asked her to sign the petition and she told them that she will wait until it comes. Ms. Seng stated that she is sure that the Building & Safety Department knows Mr. Duerr very well, that he has had a lot of problems in Bethany. Ms. Seng indicated that a lot of the neighbors don’t have a lot of respect for him, but none the less, he got one of his other neighbors to go out and get a petition going for wanting something done at 63rd & Walker. Ms. Seng stated that at 63rd Street they will drive from Leighton in to the Northeast High School and it is heavily traffic, but there’s a stop street on either side of Walker Avenue.
Allan Abbott stated to Council that he has dealt with Mr. Duerr in the past when he was the Director of Roads and he was also persistent there on some of the issues. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that basically they have offered to meet with him and the neighborhood. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that if the neighborhood could agree that they want stop signs when there not warranted that they will talk about putting the stop signs up. But he knows if he puts the stop signs up, then they will have other people (more than 30 people) coming to them asking why did they do this stupid thing. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that they have offered to meet with them and they have told Mr. Duerr this, but he apparently would rather try his case in the newspapers and on TV and whatever else he wants to do. Mr. Abbott indicated to Council that they are willing to sit down and negotiate and work it out, but he doesn’t want anybody thinking that they will not listen. Mr. Abbott indicated to Council that as they have dealt with other neighborhoods in this area, the minute you start talking about putting stop signs up where it is not warranted, that everybody in that neighborhood has to stop every time they have to go through the area they change their mind real quickly. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that they don’t want an accident to happen there anymore than anybody else.

Mr. Cook stated to Mr. Abbott the other question in that area would be the traffic calming considerations and anything to do with the parking removal. Mr. Cook asked Mr. Abbott if it was true that they removed parking due to the neighbors requesting it some time ago. Mr. Cook asked Mr. Abbott why did they want that parking removed and would they want to put it back. Mr. Abbott indicated to Mr. Cook that these are all methods that they are willing to go out and talk to them about it, but when the one individual starts firing up and making all sorts of threats that it is difficult to work with them. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that he didn’t want to give anybody the impression that they are not willing to sit down with them and talk about it, but they are not going to be pushed in doing something just because he happens to get his name in the newspaper or that type of thing. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that they will continue to try to work with him. Mr. Shoecraft thanked Mr. Abbott for this information.

ADDENDUM

I. MAYOR - NONE

II. CITY CLERK - NONE

III. CORRESPONDENCE

A. COUNCIL REQUESTS - NONE
B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

PLANNING

1. Material from Jean Walker - RE: Change of Zone No. 3307 (Text Amendment to Title 27 regarding signs in the O-3 District). — Mr. Shoecraft stated that they discussed this issue under “C. Miscellaneous - #8” (See that discussion)

2. Report from Kathleen Sellman - RE: Reprint of 1994 Comprehensive Plan with all amendments as of January 1, 2001 (Copy of this Report is on file in the City Council Office)(Council copies handed out to them on 3/12/01). — Mr. Shoecraft stated that he is assuming the purpose of this report as he understands it, is that when they are done with the current update of the Comprehensive Plan that they want to take a look at their existing trends and where they have been to compare where they want to go. So, the purpose of the reprint of the 1994 Plan with amendments is that this gives them a clear understanding of their existing trends, work they have been doing and than as they get more community input and a better vision they’ll know where they want to go on it. Mr. Shoecraft asked if this was correct. Ray Hill stated to Mr. Shoecraft that is correct.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Faxed Letter from Denise & Larry Maack - RE: Concerns on the Cell Tower issue at 7th & Fletcher in Northwest Lincoln. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

2. E-Mail from Faye James - RE: Shopping Center – The article on the front page of the Lincoln Journal Star for March 8th. — NOTED WITHOUT COMMENTS

3. Letter from John Hibberd, General Manager, Greater Lincoln Ice Arena, LLC - RE: They would like to make the following proposal to the City of Lincoln for the purpose of building a year round ice skating arena for the citizens of Lincoln and the surrounding communities. — Mr. Shoecraft stated that this letter is on John Hibberd’s concept and they all received this material. Mr. Shoecraft stated that they will work with the Parks & Recreation Department and Administration to try to work something out on it.

IV. DIRECTORS

PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DEPARTMENT - Allan Abbott stated to Council that some of them may have heard that Margaret Remmenga had to under go surgery on Friday. Mr. Abbott stated to Council that Ms. Remmenga called him last night and she is home already, but she will be out for about four weeks. Mr. Abbott stated to Council
that they may have heard about her because he knows that some of the Directors had heard about it, but she is at home and doing well. Mr. Shoecraft asked Tammy Bogenreif to get a card for Ms. Remmenga. Ms. Bogenreif stated to Mr. Shoecraft okay.

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

JONATHAN COOK

Mr. Cook indicated that he was going to ask the Public Works & Utilities Department if they did what was recommended by one of the complainants that they go out and plowed ahead of time before the snow. [laughter]

Mr. Cook stated to Allan Abbott that he actually has a question about snow plows because he saw one on Highway 77 near Capitol Parkway on the west intersection and it had orange and blue lights on it and he was wondering why would a snow plow have blue lights, that it seems like these lights should be reserved for emergency vehicles.

Mr. Abbott commented to Mr. Cook that he doesn’t know if it was a City truck or if it was a State truck, but the reason they have blue lights on them is because so many snow plows are hit during snow storms and they found out through a lot of resources that blue lights show up better. Mr. Abbott stated to Mr. Cook that there was some legislation approved about two years ago that allowed blue lights to be put on snow plows, but the blue lights can only be on the snow plows during the winter season and then they take them off afterwards. Mr. Abbott stated to Mr. Cook the reason for the blue lights for what ever reason do get peoples attention better now. Mr. Abbott indicated to Mr. Cook that the legislation was changed to allow them to be put on during winter.

ANNETTE McROY - NO COMMENTS

CINDY JOHNSON

Ms. Johnson stated to Chief Casady that they have a problem with Studio 14 again and several of them have talked about whether they should look at the Law Department informing them or should they have the Internal Liquor Committee take a look at it and bring them forward. Ms. Johnson asked Chief Casady for some advice on what he thinks they should do about the problems because she thinks there needs to be some action done on it. Chief Casady stated to Ms. Johnson that right now they have two pending violations at the State Liquor Control Commission. Chief Casady stated that he is sure they have discussed this issue at the Internal Liquor Committee on a number of previous violations. Ms. Johnson stated to Chief Casady that there has been times though, that they have been advised by the legal staff to let him take care of it at the State level, so she is trying to figure out what is the best thing for them to do. Ms. Johnson stated to Chief Casady, if he is going to come in the middle of something on the State that
they don’t want to interfere, but if it is time for them to move forward on it and have them come and give them a “Show Cause” Hearing. Ms. Johnson stated to Chief Casady that they are doing things they promised they wouldn’t do. Chief Casady stated to Ms. Johnson that he just don’t want to speak for Joel Pedersen, that all he can tell her is that they have had two violations, which are Pending right now. Chief Casady stated to Ms. Johnson that one violation is for serving after hours, that some of them were drinking about 1:30 a.m. in the morning; and the other one is from a disturbance that happened last week and these two violations are Pending. Chief Casady stated to Ms. Johnson that he doesn’t know what Mr. Pedersen’s advice would be on the legal issue, whether they wanted to try to revoke their license as a City Council.

Mr. Shoecraft commented that “Guitars” is opening back up again, under a different name. Chief Casady asked Mr. Shoecraft if it was going to be Country Western. Mr. Shoecraft stated to Chief Casady that he doesn’t know and asked Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock if this was coming forward. Deputy City Clerk Teresa Meier-Brock stated to Mr. Shoecraft that “yes” it is.

Ms. Johnson stated to Allan Abbott that she has been asking for information regarding the water meter reading because she has been getting some calls in regards to this issue. So, she has done a little bit of research on it and she might be bringing some stuff forward, so she would like to sit down with him to see how this would impact their budget. Mr. Abbott stated to Ms. Johnson okay.

Mr. Shoecraft stated to Leon Vinci that for the Board of Health that he thinks they signed a letter or a couple of them did in regards to the Teen ?Abstinence Program and Mr. Schneider the President of the Board of Health just sort of brushed their letter to the side. Mr. Shoecraft asked Mr. Vinci if he could give him any comments about it because this is a concern to him. Mr. Vinci stated to Mr. Shoecraft that he doesn’t understand it the same way he doesn’t understand it. Mr. Vinci stated to Mr. Shoecraft that the Board of Health had a meeting last month and there was a presentation made about a citizen who was interested in this particular topic as well. Mr. Vinci indicated to Mr. Shoecraft that he thinks Ms. Johnson did introduce and mention that the City Council had an interest in it and he believes it is on the Agenda for the next Board of Health Meeting for further discussion. Mr. Vinci stated to Mr. Shoecraft that he thinks it is moving forward, but how far or how fast he can’t predict. Ms. Johnson stated to Mr. Vinci that she thinks what they are wanting to see is an Internal Task Force to see how they can possibly use this organization to impact some of the goals for the Healthy People 2010. Mr. Vinci stated to Ms. Johnson that they have talked about that at the staff level, but they haven’t organized none of it yet. Ms. Johnson indicated to Mr. Vinci that she thinks this is what she heard from Mr. Schneider, that they may not go to the next level of a Task Force and she really would like to see that happen just to see what is possible. Mr. Vinci stated to Ms. Johnson okay.
JEFF FORTENBERRY

Mr. Fortenberry stated to Mayor Wesely that back to the Entryway Beautification, that he thanks him on the regulations that he has been so helpful on. Mr. Fortenberry stated to Mayor Wesely the other thing that he wanted to ask was if maybe they could sit down in the near future again and try to look at the other two limitations strategy regarding the Business Equipment Districts and the other District Administration things like in Urban Development that will occur too. Mayor Wesely stated to Mr. Fortenberry okay, that he knows they have been looking at some of those things. Mr. Fortenberry indicated that it just gets real complicated because there are various implementation strategies. Mr. Fortenberry asked Karen Shinn if she found that Request For Information for him. Ms. Shinn stated to Mr. Fortenberry that they didn’t send it out. Mr. Fortenberry stated that he had the idea of forwarding a Request For Information to the Planning Department to see if there would be a need to use the B.I.D. concept in the Comprehensive Plan as a mechanism for implementing entryway designs. Mr. Fortenberry stated that he will send a Request For Information out in regards to this issue.

Mr. Fortenberry stated to Council that the only other thing he had was also in regards to Studio 14, which they have already discussed.

COLEEN SENG

Ms. Seng stated that they have today the item about the junk yard or sort of a tow lot that is close by the City’s tow lot; and the Planning staff approved it and the Planning Commission denied it. Ms. Seng asked if someone from the Planning Department is going to be at the Council Meeting today to tell them all about it. Ray Hill stated to Ms. Seng that “yes” they will be at the Council Meeting today to tell them all about it.

Mr. Shoecraft stated that he would rather see a business using it for the purpose of maybe trying to sale and auction off some cars vs. someone coming in and trying to build apartments in there, which is in the floodplain. Ms. Seng stated to Mr. Shoecraft that she doesn’t think they can. Mr. Shoecraft stated that someone’s vision is to come in and put some fill in there and possibly have some student housing there. Mr. Shoecraft stated that this is what he has heard. Ms. Seng asked the Planning Department staff to please be at the Council Meeting today to help them on this item.

JON CAMP - ABSENT

JERRY SHOECRAFT - NO COMMENTS

VI. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:54 A.M.  DM31201/ tjb