I. MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor Presents February Award of Excellence to DeMon Wimes.
2. NEWS ADVISORY. Section of Holdrege Street to Close for Two Weeks.
3. NEWS RELEASE. Public Invited to Open House on Potential Surplus Property. March 18, 2008 at Lincoln High School, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

II. DIRECTORS

FINANCE/BUDGET
1. March Sales Tax Reports Memo from Steve Hubka, Budget Officer.
   a. Actual Compared to Projected Sales Tax Collections;
   c. City of Lincoln Sales Tax Refunds, 2002-2003 Through 2007-2008; and

HEALTH DEPARTMENT
1. Recycle “PET” #1 Plastic Containers and Help “Return the Warmth”

PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES
1. Memorandum from Greg MacLean, Public Works and Utilities Director. Little Salt Creek Watershed Master Plan Citizen Advisory Committee - Council Representative.

III. CITY CLERK

IV. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE

JONATHAN COOK
1. Request to Greg MacLean, Public Works & Utilities Director - RE: Snow Removal - (RFI#133 - 02/26/08)
DOUG EMERY
1. Correspondence from Steve Owen, Superintendent of Water Distribution, Replying to Mr. Knezovich’s Letter on Water Backflow Protection.

ROBIN ESCHLIMAN
1. Request to Greg MacLean, Public Works & Utilities Director; and Roger Figard, Public Works & Utilities Dept. - RE: SW 40th Bridge Project - (RFI#12 - 02/15/08) SEE RESPONSE FROM ROGER FIGARD, PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES (02/21/08) SEE RESPONSE FROM GREG MACLEAN, PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DIRECTOR (03/20/08)

2. Request to Rick Peo, City Attorney’s Office - RE: City employees who have contracts with the City (RFI#15-03/17/08)

V. MISCELLANEOUS
1. Faxed Letter from Dan Smith on Alley Paving District 08-21. (Letter Distributed to Council on 03/17/08 before Formal Meeting)
2. Email from Emily Paterson Regarding the Yaeger Family.
3. Correspondence from Fred Marks on Bad Service of Time Warner Cable.
4. Email from Richard Sutton. Against Selling Lincoln Park Land as Surplus.

VI. ADJOURNMENT
MAYOR PRESENTS FEBRUARY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Mayor Chris Beutler today presented the Mayor’s Award of Excellence for February to Animal Control Officer DeMon Wimes. The monthly award recognizes City employees who consistently provide exemplary service and work that demonstrates personal commitment to the City. The award was presented at the beginning of today’s City Council meeting.

Wimes has worked for the Animal Control Division of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department since 1994. Manager Jim Weverka nominated Wimes in the categories of valor and customer relations for his history of going above and beyond his duties to care for Lincoln’s people and animals.

A recent example involved a case in which Animal Control was working with Adult Protective Services. A 93-year-old, legally blind woman was having problems with cats and fleas at her home. Wimes was making a follow-up visit when he noticed a burning smell coming from the home. He discovered that popcorn she was cooking had ignited a grease fire. The lower level of the home was completely filled with smoke.

Wimes attempted to escort her outside, but she refused to leave. Wimes called Fire and Rescue, opened the windows and doors and began venting the house with a fan. After firefighters left, Wimes waited for all of the smoke to clear so that the doors and windows could be closed. He also called the woman’s caseworker. It was later learned that the woman was reluctant to go outside because she has agoraphobia (fear of open spaces). Wimes discovered that the woman loves popcorn, so he promised to bring her some the next day if she did not try to cook any more that evening.

Weverka reports that all of the cats have been captured and taken to the shelter, and the woman’s home has been cleaned. He thanked Wimes for handling difficult situations with great care and concern for human beings as well as their animals.

The other categories in which employees can be nominated are safety, productivity and loss prevention. Consideration also may be given to nominations that demonstrate self-initiated accomplishments or those completed outside of the nominee’s job description.

- more -
All City employees are eligible for the Mayor’s Award of Excellence except for elected and appointed officials. Individuals or teams can be nominated by supervisors, peers, subordinates and the general public. Nomination forms are available on the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: personnel) or from department heads, employee bulletin boards or the Personnel Department, which oversees the awards program.

All nominations are reviewed by the Mayor’s Award of Excellence Committee, which includes a representative with each union and a non-union representative appointed by the Mayor. Award winners receive a $100 U.S. savings bond, a day off with pay and a plaque. Monthly winners are eligible to receive the annual award, which comes with a $500 U.S. savings bond, two days off with pay and a plaque.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 20, 2008
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Brian Dittmann, Engineering Services, 441-7711
Doug Holle, The Schmmer Associates, 488-2500

SECTION OF HOLDREGE TO CLOSE FOR TWO WEEKS

Holdrege Street between North 76th and North 79th streets is scheduled to close at 9 a.m. Monday, March 24, for about two weeks. The closure is necessary to allow for the construction of a 54-inch water main across Holdrege at Carlos Drive.

Access to local homes and businesses will be available east and west of the street closure. Traffic on Holdrege will be detoured to Vine Street at North 70th and North 84th streets. The Public Works and Utilities Department reminds drivers that the speed limit is 25 mph on Vine Street between North 70th and North 84th streets.

For more information, contact Doug Holle, The Schmmer Associates, at 488-2500.

- 30 -
The Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department invites the public to an open house Tuesday, March 18 to learn more about several parcels of public land that may be declared surplus and sold. The meeting is from 5 to 7 p.m. at the media center at Lincoln High School, 2225 “J” Street (use north parking lot and north doors).

The sites that may be offered for sale include:
- Lots along the Dietrich Trail near 35th Street and Madison Avenue
- Lots along the Billy Wolff Trail near 52nd and Roose streets
- A vacated street right of way the City maintains near University Place Park at about 52nd Street and Lexington Avenue
- Two lots that make up Nevin Park at 32nd and Doane streets. This area is served by two nearby park areas – Woodside Playground and Fleming Fields.

Aerial images showing the sites under consideration will be presented, and Parks staff will be available to answer questions.

By City Charter, proceeds from the sale of these parcels will go into the City’s account for advance land acquisitions. The account is used to buy new park land and other properties.
CONGRESS BEGINS TWO-WEEK RECESS

BUDGET
House and Senate clear budget resolutions, adjourn for two–week recess. The House and Senate each approved separate versions of a FY 2009 budget resolution this week and then quickly adjourned for a “district work period.”

As is tradition, the budget resolutions were approved over largely party lines. Only two Republicans (Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins of Maine) voted for the Senate resolution, while one Democrat (Evan Bayh of Indiana) voted against it. All of the voting GOP members voted against the House measure, while 16 Democrats – mostly freshman from Republican leaning districts – voted against the resolution.

The budget resolution does not require Presidential approval but outlines overall parameters for spending and tax legislation for the year. The House and Senate budget resolutions would each provide the 12 appropriations subcommittees with more discretionary spending than the $991.6 billion proposed by the Bush Administration last month. The House recommends $25.4 billion more, while the Senate version would provide $21.8 billion more. In the FY 2008 budget cycle, congressional Democrats were unable to overcome the President’s veto pen in their efforts to secure an additional $20 billion in spending through appropriations.

No changes were made to the House budget resolution during floor debate, as four amendments (including a Republican substitute) were defeated. While no major changes were made to the Senate version either, that chamber went through its annual tradition of considering scores of amendments on a variety of items related to tax cuts and spending priorities. However, all of the proposals are essentially recommendations to the appropriations and tax-writing committees, which have ultimate jurisdiction over those matters.

Earmarks once again took center stage during the Senate debate, all three remaining Presidential candidates signed on to an amendment to impose a one-year moratorium on congressional earmarking. The amendment was never formally voted on as it was ruled out of order, but a procedural vote to waive Senate rules and allow the vote was defeated 29-71. The Republican substitute to the House budget resolution that was defeated also included an earmark moratorium.

The next step for the budget resolution is a House-Senate conference committee to reconcile differences with the two measures. For example, the House would provide $14.553 billion in budget authority for programs under the Community and Regional Development function of the budget, while the Senate recommends $15.024 billion. The Senate would also provide more than the House in the Transportation function, $75.131 billion to $73.444 billion.

Sponsors hope to wrap up negotiations prior to the statutory budget resolution deadline of April 15.
Senate clears prisoner re-entry measure for the President.

Nearly 650,000 people are released from federal and state prisons each year, and recent studies indicate that over two-thirds of the released state prisoners will be rearrested for a felony or serious misdemeanor within three years. According to the legislation, studies also show that: between 15 and 27 percent of prisoners expect to go to a homeless shelter upon release; 70 percent of state prisoners used drugs regularly before going to prison, and less than 32 percent of state prison inmates have at least a high school diploma.

HR 1593 would reauthorize, for two years at $55 million annually, a Department of Justice program that provides demonstration grants to state and local governments and non-profits for programs that address prisoner reentry issues. Among the other initiatives that the measure would authorize over the next two years include:

- $15 million per year for programs in jails to continue or improve drug treatment programs;
- $15 million per year for grants to nonprofit organizations that run mentoring programs for released prisoners and their families;
- $10 million per year for demonstration projects in jails that provide family-based substance abuse treatment, and
- $10 million per year for programs that provide alternatives such as mandatory drug treatment to reentry to prison.

The House approved HR 1593 last November, and a month later approved minor changes to the bill to accelerate its approval in the Senate. The bill will now be sent to the President – who has not threatened to veto the legislation -- for his signature.

Democrats close to deal on foreclosure prevention package while the Bush Administration unveils a plan to restructure oversight of financial industry.

Under both proposals, the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) would insure refinanced mortgages for homeowners facing foreclosure. In return for having the FHA absorb the risk on the refinanced mortgage, the bank holding the mortgage would have to agree to reduce the loan’s principle to no more than the home’s current value and rewrite the mortgage on terms the homeowner can afford.

Both proposals appear tailored to avoid White House opposition. President Bush opposes a bailout of either lenders or homeowners and neither proposal includes a direct federal spending to rescue homeowners or lenders. Both Frank and Dodd underlined that they are still taking input and that their proposals are not final, thus the timeline for the House and Senate to consider either proposal remains unclear.

At the same time Frank and Dodd unveiled their proposals, the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets issued a report calling for a broad overhaul of the regulatory framework for almost the entire financial industry, including national standards for mortgage lenders, greater oversight of credit-rating firms and stricter capital requirements for financial institutions. The Working Group report does not detail a strategy for making its recommendations law.

The new standard received criticism from both sides. Industry groups such as the Edison Electric Institute, which represents private sector electric utilities, argue that the new standard will increase prices for consumers and harm the economy. Environmental groups and public health advocates counter that EPA should have set the standard somewhere between 0.60 and 0.07 as recommended by an EPA scientific review committee. The panel found that doing so would prevent thousands of illnesses and premature deaths.

According to EPA officials and EPA documents, the agency will issue a proposed rule for monitoring requirements under the new standard in June and a final rule in March, 2009. The EPA will then issue final designations of attainment, non-attainment and unclassifiable for individual counties by March, 2010. States will then have until March, 2013 to develop State Implementation Plans. Target dates for meeting the new standard will vary according to the severity of the problem.

Additional information on the new regulations, as well as a list of how counties across the country would fare under the new standard, may be found at:
http://www.epa.gov/groundlevelozone/act ions.html#mar07s
GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Department of Health and Human Services
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services is accepting applications for the Sober Truth for Preventing Underage Drinking Act Grants. This program helps communities to coordinate programs to prevent and reduce alcohol use among youth. The program encourages grantees to establish community coalitions to work together to reduce underage drinking. There will be approximately $3.93 million available and 80 awards. Applications are due April 24, 2008. For more information, see: http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/2008/sp_08_004.aspx.

Department of Interior
The National Parks Service (NPS) has announced the availability of funds in FY 2008 Save America's Treasures grant program. NPS will allocate funding for programs that intend to preserve and/or complete conservation work on nationally significant properties or artifacts. The minimum grant request for historic property is $125,000 and the maximum is $700,000, and a dollar-for-dollar non Federal match is required for all applicants. NPS estimates $11 million is available for the Save America's Treasures and approximately 75 projects will be awarded. The deadline for all applications is May 20, 2008. For more information see: http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures/index.htm.
Attached are the March sales tax reports reflecting January activity. There was a decent rebound from the prior month in the gross sales tax collections. The State also had a better month than the previous one. In talking to Dept. of Revenue personnel, one theory is that since gift cards don't have sales tax collected until they're used, some of the Christmas revenue fell in January activity rather than December. At this point, it is an unverified theory that will take them about a month to test. In spite of a better month of gross collections, we fell a little bit short of our monthly projections which can be attributed to the relatively high amount ($325,269) of refunds.
### Actual Compared to Projected Sales Tax Collections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2007-08 PROJECTED</th>
<th>2007-08 ACTUAL</th>
<th>VARIANCE FROM PROJECTED</th>
<th>$ CHANGE FR. 06-07</th>
<th>% CHANGE FR. 06-07</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>$4,547,456</td>
<td>$4,521,738</td>
<td>($25,718)</td>
<td>($24,509)</td>
<td>-0.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTOBER</td>
<td>$4,747,528</td>
<td>$4,973,261</td>
<td>$225,733</td>
<td>$427,436</td>
<td>9.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER</td>
<td>$4,747,528</td>
<td>$4,659,859</td>
<td>($87,669)</td>
<td>$5,261</td>
<td>0.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DECEMBER</td>
<td>$4,418,533</td>
<td>$4,723,609</td>
<td>$305,076</td>
<td>$453,288</td>
<td>10.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JANUARY</td>
<td>$4,529,683</td>
<td>$4,590,789</td>
<td>$61,106</td>
<td>$120,442</td>
<td>2.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY</td>
<td>$5,752,343</td>
<td>$5,106,677</td>
<td>($645,666)</td>
<td>($559,857)</td>
<td>-9.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARCH</td>
<td>$4,189,288</td>
<td>$4,096,136</td>
<td>($93,152)</td>
<td>$104,635</td>
<td>2.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td>$3,978,102</td>
<td>$4,061,219</td>
<td>$83,117</td>
<td>$158,233</td>
<td>3.97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY</td>
<td>$4,617,219</td>
<td>$5,106,677</td>
<td>$489,458</td>
<td>$489,458</td>
<td>11.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUNE</td>
<td>$4,478,281</td>
<td>$4,539,414</td>
<td>$61,133</td>
<td>$61,133</td>
<td>1.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JULY</td>
<td>$4,845,078</td>
<td>$5,106,677</td>
<td>$261,600</td>
<td>$261,600</td>
<td>5.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>$5,752,343</td>
<td>$5,106,677</td>
<td>($645,666)</td>
<td>($559,857)</td>
<td>-9.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$55,390,453</td>
<td>$32,672,069</td>
<td>($260,290)</td>
<td>$526,696</td>
<td>1.87%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Actual collections through the first six months of the fiscal year are .79% below projected collections.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>$4,239,938</td>
<td>$4,453,875</td>
<td>$4,648,160</td>
<td>$4,630,210</td>
<td>-0.39%</td>
<td>$4,573,597</td>
<td>-1.22%</td>
<td>$4,612,020</td>
<td>0.84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCTOBER</td>
<td>$4,464,191</td>
<td>$4,670,587</td>
<td>$4,706,690</td>
<td>$4,823,369</td>
<td>2.48%</td>
<td>$4,712,519</td>
<td>-2.30%</td>
<td>$5,052,950</td>
<td>7.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER</td>
<td>$4,407,744</td>
<td>$4,526,166</td>
<td>$4,687,792</td>
<td>$4,799,275</td>
<td>2.38%</td>
<td>$4,658,480</td>
<td>-2.93%</td>
<td>$4,818,715</td>
<td>3.44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>DECEMBER</td>
<td>$4,034,958</td>
<td>$4,314,111</td>
<td>$4,500,338</td>
<td>$4,511,403</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
<td>$4,445,761</td>
<td>-1.46%</td>
<td>$4,753,456</td>
<td>6.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JANUARY</td>
<td>$4,046,633</td>
<td>$4,335,924</td>
<td>$4,264,010</td>
<td>$4,342,902</td>
<td>1.85%</td>
<td>$4,554,634</td>
<td>4.88%</td>
<td>$4,617,097</td>
<td>1.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY</td>
<td>$5,224,986</td>
<td>$5,531,405</td>
<td>$6,086,841</td>
<td>$5,797,893</td>
<td>-4.75%</td>
<td>$5,993,653</td>
<td>3.38%</td>
<td>$5,596,617</td>
<td>-6.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARCH</td>
<td>$4,076,943</td>
<td>$3,980,041</td>
<td>$4,158,874</td>
<td>$4,247,908</td>
<td>2.14%</td>
<td>$4,125,074</td>
<td>-2.89%</td>
<td>$4,421,405</td>
<td>7.18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td>$3,711,803</td>
<td>$3,889,388</td>
<td>$4,097,988</td>
<td>$3,991,159</td>
<td>-2.61%</td>
<td>$4,018,709</td>
<td>0.69%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY</td>
<td>$4,184,028</td>
<td>$4,602,788</td>
<td>$4,730,317</td>
<td>$4,543,369</td>
<td>-3.95%</td>
<td>$4,895,921</td>
<td>7.76%</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUNE</td>
<td>$4,169,550</td>
<td>$4,599,245</td>
<td>$4,557,735</td>
<td>$4,539,614</td>
<td>-0.40%</td>
<td>$4,664,470</td>
<td>2.75%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JULY</td>
<td>$4,105,554</td>
<td>$4,391,257</td>
<td>$4,519,466</td>
<td>$4,655,061</td>
<td>3.00%</td>
<td>$4,772,617</td>
<td>2.53%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>$4,402,156</td>
<td>$4,893,438</td>
<td>$4,803,665</td>
<td>$4,991,723</td>
<td>3.91%</td>
<td>$4,887,329</td>
<td>-2.09%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$51,068,484</td>
<td>$54,188,225</td>
<td>$55,761,877</td>
<td>$55,873,886</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
<td>$56,302,764</td>
<td>0.77%</td>
<td>$33,872,259</td>
<td>2.45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year to date vs. previous year
## CITY OF LINCOLN
### SALES TAX REFUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>($48,531)</td>
<td>($69,997)</td>
<td>($135,858)</td>
<td>($80,882)</td>
<td>-40.47%</td>
<td>($27,350)</td>
<td>-66.19%</td>
<td>($90,282)</td>
<td>230.10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCTOBER</td>
<td>($64,605)</td>
<td>($110,193)</td>
<td>($165,219)</td>
<td>($358,866)</td>
<td>117.21%</td>
<td>($166,695)</td>
<td>-53.55%</td>
<td>($79,688)</td>
<td>-52.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER</td>
<td>($134,088)</td>
<td>($219,454)</td>
<td>($101,531)</td>
<td>($173,972)</td>
<td>71.35%</td>
<td>($3,881)</td>
<td>-97.77%</td>
<td>($158,855)</td>
<td>3993.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DECEMBER</td>
<td>($177,459)</td>
<td>($390,445)</td>
<td>($325,510)</td>
<td>($6,319)</td>
<td>-98.06%</td>
<td>($175,440)</td>
<td>2676.56%</td>
<td>($29,848)</td>
<td>-82.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JANUARY</td>
<td>($306,467)</td>
<td>($59,315)</td>
<td>($220,967)</td>
<td>($269,713)</td>
<td>22.06%</td>
<td>($84,287)</td>
<td>-68.75%</td>
<td>($26,308)</td>
<td>-68.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY</td>
<td>($61,404)</td>
<td>($323,218)</td>
<td>($394,324)</td>
<td>($73,395)</td>
<td>-81.39%</td>
<td>($327,119)</td>
<td>345.70%</td>
<td>($489,939)</td>
<td>49.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARCH</td>
<td>($17,601)</td>
<td>($22,759)</td>
<td>($99,240)</td>
<td>($165,869)</td>
<td>67.14%</td>
<td>($133,574)</td>
<td>-19.47%</td>
<td>($325,269)</td>
<td>143.51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td>($281,861)</td>
<td>($199,018)</td>
<td>($69,900)</td>
<td>($196,682)</td>
<td>181.38%</td>
<td>($130,611)</td>
<td>-33.59%</td>
<td>($108,764)</td>
<td>-16.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY</td>
<td>($275,081)</td>
<td>($155,787)</td>
<td>($122,283)</td>
<td>($166,567)</td>
<td>36.21%</td>
<td>($381,653)</td>
<td>129.13%</td>
<td>($130,611)</td>
<td>-16.73%</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUNE</td>
<td>($138,914)</td>
<td>($194,593)</td>
<td>($34,811)</td>
<td>($14,085)</td>
<td>-59.54%</td>
<td>($186,252)</td>
<td>1222.34%</td>
<td>($569,595)</td>
<td>887.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JULY</td>
<td>($563,339)</td>
<td>($42,086)</td>
<td>($162,998)</td>
<td>($39,492)</td>
<td>-75.77%</td>
<td>($155,825)</td>
<td>294.58%</td>
<td>($569,595)</td>
<td>887.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>($341,868)</td>
<td>($531,884)</td>
<td>($148,028)</td>
<td>($57,700)</td>
<td>-61.02%</td>
<td>($569,595)</td>
<td>887.17%</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>($2,411,218)</td>
<td>($2,318,751)</td>
<td>($1,980,668)</td>
<td>($1,603,541)</td>
<td>-19.04%</td>
<td>($2,342,280)</td>
<td>46.07%</td>
<td>($1,308,955)</td>
<td>24.79%</td>
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Year to date vs. previous year
## CITY OF LINCOLN
### NET SALES TAX COLLECTIONS

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>$4,191,407</td>
<td>$4,383,878</td>
<td>$4,512,303</td>
<td>$4,549,328</td>
<td>0.82%</td>
<td>$4,546,247</td>
<td>-0.07%</td>
<td>$4,521,738</td>
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<td>OCTOBER</td>
<td>$4,399,587</td>
<td>$4,560,394</td>
<td>$4,541,471</td>
<td>$4,464,503</td>
<td>-1.69%</td>
<td>$4,545,825</td>
<td>1.82%</td>
<td>$4,973,261</td>
<td>9.40%</td>
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<td>NOVEMBER</td>
<td>$4,273,655</td>
<td>$4,306,712</td>
<td>$4,586,261</td>
<td>$4,625,303</td>
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<td>$4,654,599</td>
<td>0.63%</td>
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<td>DECEMBER</td>
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<td>$4,174,828</td>
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<td>$4,270,321</td>
<td>-5.21%</td>
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<td>JANUARY</td>
<td>$3,740,166</td>
<td>$4,276,609</td>
<td>$4,043,044</td>
<td>$4,073,189</td>
<td>0.75%</td>
<td>$4,470,347</td>
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<td>FEBRUARY</td>
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<td>$5,692,517</td>
<td>$5,724,498</td>
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<td>$5,666,534</td>
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<td>MAY</td>
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<td>JUNE</td>
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<td>JULY</td>
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<td>5.95%</td>
<td>$4,616,793</td>
<td>0.03%</td>
<td>$3,542,215</td>
<td>5.95%</td>
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<td>AUGUST</td>
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<td>$4,655,637</td>
<td>$4,934,023</td>
<td>5.98%</td>
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<td>$48,657,267</td>
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<td>$53,781,209</td>
<td>$54,270,346</td>
<td>0.91%</td>
<td>$53,960,485</td>
<td>-0.57%</td>
<td>$32,672,070</td>
<td>1.64%</td>
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*Year to date vs. previous year*
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 19, 2008
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Harry Heafer, 441-8035

RECYCLE ‘PET’ #1 PLASTIC CONTAINERS AND HELP
"RETURN THE WARMTH"
Help provide fleece jackets to children

Recycle your plastic soda bottles, water bottles and other types of #1 PET plastic containers to help provide fleece jackets for children through Bubba’s Closet, a project of the Lincoln Elementary School Principal Organization. All efforts are aimed at helping Bubba’s Closet obtain funds to assist children and families next fall.

Lincoln’s seven public high schools are participating in the Keep America Beautiful Great American Cleanup “Return the Warmth” program by encouraging the recycling of #1 PET plastic bottles to support Bubba’s Closet. Everyone can help by recycling their #1 PET plastic bottles at any recycling drop off site or with their curbside recycler, if using that service. Every #1 plastic container counts.

Local partners in the “Return the Warmth” program include Midland Recycling, Recycling Enterprises, Star City Recycling and Journal Star Recycling who have generously agreed to contribute a minimum of a penny a pound to Bubba’s Closet for all #1 PET plastic recycled during the Great American Cleanup, March 1 - May 31. Additional partners include the Lincoln Public School’s Recycling Program and the City of Lincoln Recycling Program.

The “Return the Warmth” program is sponsored nationally by SAM’S CLUB, Aquafina and Keep America Beautiful and locally by the Keep Lincoln & Lancaster County Beautiful Program. SAM’S CLUB and Aquafina are awarding $1,000 SAM’S CLUB gift cards to the top -more-
Recycle “PET” cont.

50 top collecting schools in the nation that participate in the “Return the Warmth” program.
The top 100 schools will receive fleece jackets. Help Lincoln’s public high schools be one of these winning schools.

“Return the Warmth” is a project of Keep America Beautiful’s Great American Cleanup, the nation’s largest annual community improvement program with over 30,000 cleanup, green-up and fix-up events in over 17,000 communities involving nearly 3 million volunteers. Local affiliate, Keep Lincoln & Lancaster County Beautiful, is a program of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (KLLCB) and is partially funded by a Litter Reduction and Recycling Grant administered by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality.

###
PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION
NOTIFICATION

TO : Mayor Chris Beutler
     Lincoln City Council

FROM : Jean Preister, Planning

DATE : March 17, 2008

RE : Special Permit No. 08015
     (Mining/extraction of soil - N.W. 56th Street and West O Street)
     Resolution No. PC-01111

The Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission took the following action at their
regular meeting on Wednesday, March 12, 2008:

Motion made by Taylor, seconded by Larson, to approve Special Permit No.
08015, with conditions, as amended, requested by Roger H. Schwisow, for
authority to allow mining/extraction of soil on Agricultural zoned property located
northwest of the intersection of N.W. 56th Street and West O Street.

Motion for conditional approval, as amended, carried 8-0: Esseks, Cornelius, Taylor,
Sunderman, Francis, Larson, Gaylor-Baird and Carroll voting 'yes'.

The Planning Commission's action is final, unless appealed to the City Council by filing a Letter
of Appeal with the City Clerk within 14 days of the date of the action by the Planning
Commission.

(Please Note: The applicant has appealed the condition limiting the hours of operation to the
City Council. The public hearing before the City Council is scheduled for Monday, March 31,
2008, at 5:30 p.m.)

Attachment
cc: Building & Safety
    Rick Peo, City Attorney
    Public Works
    Lyle Loth, ESP, 601 Old Cheney Road, Suite A, 68512
    Mark Hunzeker, 600 Wells Fargo Center, 1248 O Street, 68508
    Roger Schwisow, 1354 Pelican Bay Place, 68528
    Eunice Cemohlavek, 6205 West O Street, 68528
    Karen Kurbis, 17500 N. 84th Street, 68517

i:\shared\wp\jlu2008 ecnotice.spl\SP.08015
RESOLUTION NO. PC-01111

SPECIAL PERMIT NO. 08015

WHEREAS, Roger H. Schwisow has submitted an application designated as Special Permit No. 08015 for authority to allow mining/extraction of soil on Agricultural zoned property located northwest of the intersection of N.W. 56th Street and West O Street, and legally described as:

Lot 25 I.T. in the Southwest Quarter of Section 24, Township 10 North, Range 5 East of the 6th P.M., Lancaster County, Nebraska;

WHEREAS, the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission has held a public hearing on said application; and

WHEREAS, the community as a whole, the surrounding neighborhood, and the real property adjacent to the area included within the site plan for this mining/extraction of soil will not be adversely affected by granting such a permit; and

WHEREAS, said site plan together with the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth are consistent with the comprehensive plan of the City of Lincoln and with the intent and purpose of Title 27 of the Lincoln Municipal Code to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission of Lincoln, Nebraska:

That the application of Roger H. Schwisow, hereinafter referred to as "Permittee," to operate a mining/extraction of soil be and the same is hereby granted under the
provisions of Section 27.63.360 of the Lincoln Municipal Code upon condition that the operation
of said mining/extraction of soil be in substantial compliance with said application, the site plan,
and the following additional express terms, conditions, and requirements:

1. This permit approves a soil, sand and gravel excavation operation for a
period of three years from the date of approval of this special permit with administrative review
annually from the date of approval until the expiration of this special permit or completion of the
operation, whichever first occurs.

2. Before beginning the excavation operations, the Permittee shall:
   a. Revise the plans to meet the requests of the Watershed Management memo from Edwin Kouma dated February 21, 2008.
   b. Receive review and permits, if required, for the Federal NPDES and 404 Permits.
   c. Receive required permits from the NDOR.
   d. Add a note that soils and topography shall conform to the grading plan.
   e. Post and maintain a '4'x8' sign on the property at the entrance clearly visible and legible to the public showing the special permit number, the name of the permittee and operator and the telephone numbers where the permittee, operator and the Building & Safety Department can be contacted.
   f. Post a $5,000 performance bond or escrow agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney/County Attorney.
   g. Grant an aviation and noise easement to the Lincoln Airport Authority on all or that part of the land located within the Airport Environs Noise District.

3. The construction plans shall substantially comply with the approved plans.

4. Operating hours shall be limited to daylight hours Monday through Friday only

5. At the conclusion of the operation, the permittee shall provide to the
   Building & Safety Department a certificate from an engineer stating that the final grading
substantially reflects the finish contours shown on the approved site plan and request a release
of the performance bond or escrow agreement.

6. The construction entrance shall be closed when not in operation.

7. All privately-owned improvements shall be permanently maintained by the Permittee.

8. This resolution's terms, conditions, and requirements bind and obligate the Permittee, his successors and assigns.

9. The physical location of all setbacks and yards, buildings, parking and circulation elements, and similar matters must be in substantial compliance with the location of said items as shown on the approved site plan.

10. The Permittee shall sign and return the letter of acceptance to the City Clerk within 60 days following the approval of the special permit, provided, however, said 60-day period may be extended up to six months by administrative amendment. The City Clerk shall file a copy of the resolution approving the special permit and the letter of acceptance with the Register of Deeds, filling fees therefor to be paid in advance by the applicant.

The foregoing Resolution was approved by the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission on this 12 day of March, 2008.

ATTEST:

Eugene Corral
Chair

Approved as to Form & Legality:

Chief Assistant City Attorney
Special Permit #08015
NW 56th & W O St

Zoning:

One Square Mile
Sec. 24 T10N R05E

Zoning Jurisdiction Lines
City Limit Jurisdiction

R-1 to R-8 Residential District
AG Agricultural District
AGR Agricultural Residential District
O-1 Office District
O-2 Suburban Office District
O-3 Office Park District
R-T Residential Transition District
B-1 Local Business District
B-2 Planned Neighborhood Business District
B-3 Commercial District
B-4 Lincoln Center Business District
B-5 Planned Regional Business District
H-1 Interstate Commercial District
H-2 Highway Business District
H-3 Highway Commercial District
H-4 General Commercial District
I-1 Industrial District
I-2 Industrial Park District
I-3 Employment Center District
P Public Use District

W Holdrege St
NW 56th St (NW 70th St)
W O St
GENERAL EROSION CONTROL NOTES:

1.) AREA OF LAND DISTURBANCE: 37.34 ACRES, MORE OR LESS IN A SITE 
ENCOMPASSING 40.74 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

2.) ALL EROSION CONTROL MEASURES AS OUTLINED IN THIS PLAN SHALL BE 
INSTALLED AND IN OPERATIONAL ORDER PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF SITE 
GRADING.

3.) WHEN AN EROSION CONTROL STRUCTURE IS DISMANTLED TO FACILITATE 
ORDERLY CONSTRUCTION AND/OR GRADING, THE ENTIRE STRUCTURE SHALL BE 
REASSEMBLED AND OPERATIONAL BEFORE WORK IS FINISHED ON THAT DAY.

4.) ALL STRUCTURES SHALL BE INSPECTED AFTER EACH RAIN AND REPAIRED 
AS NECESSARY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE REMOVAL OF EXCESS 
SEDIMENT BUILDUP. THE GRADING CONTRACTOR WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE 
UP KEEP AND INSPECTION OF THE INITIAL EROSION CONTROL MEASURES FOR A 
PERIOD OF ONE YEAR AFTER FINAL SEEDING HAS BEEN COMPLETED, OR 
APPROVAL OF THE ENGINEER IS ACQUIRED.

5.) A DISTURBED AREA MUST BE SEEDED, FERTILIZED, & MULCHED IF ACTUAL 
EARTH MOVING ACTIVITIES ARE NOT TO BE PERFORMED ON AN AREA FOR MORE 
THAN SEVEN (7) DAYS.

6.) UPON COMPLETION OF SITE GRADING THE ENTIRE SITE SHALL BE LEFT 
CLEAR OF DEBRIS, CLEAN GRADED, FERTILIZED, SEEDED, AND MULCHED 
ACCORDING TO SEEDING SPECIFICATIONS, OR AS APPROVED BY OWNER.

7.) UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, ALL VEGETATIVE AND STRUCTURAL EROSION 
AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PRACTICES AND STORM WATER MANAGEMENT 
PRACTICES WILL BE CONSTRUCTED AND MAINTAINED ACCORDING TO THE 
MINIMUM STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS OF THE LINCOLN DRAINAGE CRITERIA 
MANUAL, DATED MAY, 2004, AND APPROVED SUPPLEMENTS.

8.) ALL SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL PRACTICES WILL BE INSPECTED AT 
LEAST ONCE EVERY SEVEN CALENDAR DAYS AND AFTER ANY STORM EVENT OF 
GREATER THAN 0.5 INCHES OF PRECIPITATION DURING ANY 24-HOUR PERIOD 
BY RESPONSIBLE PERSONNEL. ANY NECESSARY REPAIRS OR CLEANUP TO 
MAINTAIN THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES SHALL BE 
MADE IMMEDIATELY.

9.) FOLLOWING SOIL DISTURBANCE, PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY STABILIZATION 
SHALL BE COMPLETED WITHIN SEVEN (7) CALENDAR DAYS TO THE SURFACE OF 
ALL PERIMETER CONTROLS, TOPSOIL STOCKPILES, AND ANY OTHER DISTURBED 
OR GRADED AREAS ON THE PROJECT SITE WHICH ARE NOT BEING USED FOR 
MATERIAL STORAGE, OR ON WHICH ACTUAL EARTH MOVING ACTIVITIES ARE NOT 
BEING PERFORMED.

Special Permit #08015 
NW 56th & W O St
Date: March 20, 2008

To: City Council

From: Greg MacLean, Public Works and Utilities Director

Subject: Little Salt Creek Watershed Master Plan
Citizen Advisory Committee - Council Representative

cc: Trish Owen, Nicole Fleck-Tooze

The City of Lincoln and Lower Platte South NRD are beginning a process to develop a Watershed Master Plan for Little Salt Creek to assist in planning for future growth in the watershed. As part of the process, the Mayor is appointing a Citizen Advisory Committee comprised of landowner, business, developer, and environmental interests. We are also requesting that the City Council, County Board, and NRD Board each appoint one Council/Board member to serve as a liaison on the Committee.

At this time, the Citizen Advisory Committee is anticipated to meet three times during 2008 to provide guidance for the development of the plan with the first meeting expected to be April 15, 2008. The Committee’s mission will be to provide review and input on preliminary study results, offer advice and oversight, and to serve as a liaison to the rest of the community.

Attached for your reference is a draft list of 18 members with whom initial contact has been made to request they serve on the Advisory Committee. We would like to request that you appoint a Council member to serve on the Committee. If possible, it would be desirable for the Council to discuss this at your noon meeting on Monday March 24th.

Please contact Nicole Fleck-Tooze at 441-6173 or ntooze@lincoln.ne.gov to let her know who will be the Council representative or to request any further information that you need.

Thank you.
Little Salt Creek Watershed Master Plan  
Citizen Advisory Committee - Draft List  
March 20, 2008  

Kevin Christiansen - Landowner  
David Grimes - Farmer  
Gary Hellerich - Farmer  
Don Helmuth - Landowner  
Chris Helzer - Conservation Group  
Merle Jahde - Developer  
Susan Kuck - Landowner  
Marian Langan - Conservation Group  
Jim Nagel - Farmer/Landowner  
Gene Petersen - Landowner  
Harold Roper - Landowner  
Dave Sands - Landowner/Conservation Group  
Leo Schumacher - Developer  
Vicky Wheeler - Landowner  
Mark Whitehead - Business Owner  
City Council representative  
County Board representative  
NRD Board representative
Dear Councilman Emery:

John Chess with the Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department asked me to follow up on your RIF specifically regarding backflow protection.

Backflow protection devices are used to protect the public water supply by preventing potential contaminants at the customer's premise from entering the water system by way of back siphonage or back pressure. Water main breaks, maintenance of the water system, fire fighting and private pump systems may create conditions where backflow can occur. In simple terms backflow devices act as check valves, but they are sophisticated mechanisms that require testing and maintenance by certified technicians to ensure proper operation.

The Lincoln Water System is required by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to have a cross connection control program that identifies potential sources of contamination. Once a potential source is identified, DHHS further requires our utility to ensure the customer installs a proper type of backflow protection device. DHHS then requires our utility to ensure the device is tested on an annual basis and repaired or replaced when the device is found to be defective.

The Public Works and Utilities (PWU) Department considers a secondary source of water on a premise, such as a well, as a potential hazard. The Lincoln Municipal Code, Title 17, Chapter 17.10.100 requires the secondary source of water to be entirely separate from the City's water system AND a backflow protection device must be installed on the service line suppling City water. The data that the Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department references in their response below provides clear evidence that private wells can be a source of contamination if introduced into the public water system. the PWU Department is also aware of incidents where property owners have connected their well directly into their home plumbing system either permanently or temporarily. This is the reason that backflow protection is required whenever a secondary source of water is present, irregardless of whether it is connected or not.

Previous to 2004, the PWU Department tested backflow devices at no charge to the customer. These costs were simply absorbed by all rate payers. At the same time is was becoming impossible for City staff to test all devices in the system as required by the State. Since these testing services were available through private sector providers, the PWU Department elected not to pursue additional FTEs and advised customers to seek these services from local contractors.

We do acknowledge that Mr. Knezovich has seen significant cost increases in maintaining his private well and backflow testing is a large part of these costs. However, testing is a complex procedure and must be
performed by a State certified Grade 6 Water Operators. These individuals receive significant training
due to their role in protecting the public water supply and public health, and their fee for service is
commiserate with the skill level necessary.

I hope this answers your questions. Please feel free to contact me if you have additional questions or I'm
more than happy to discuss this with Mr. Knezovich.

Steve R. Owen
Supt. of Water Distribution
Lincoln Water System
Dept. of Public Works and Utilities
Voice: 402.441.5925
Fax: 402.441.8493
email: sowen@lincoln.ne.gov

----- Forwarded by Steve R Owen/Notes on 03/13/2008 07:35 AM -----

John J Chess/Notes
03/12/2008 04:37 PM
To dougemerypm@aol.com
cc Bruce D Dart/Notes@Notes, Steve R Owen/Notes@Notes
Subject Response to Mr. Knezovich's request

Dear Councilman Emory,

Mr. Knezovich asked you to look into why he had both a permit on his well from the City and a
separate requirement for evidence of an inspection for backflow protection as required by the
Lincoln Water System. These are two related, but separate issues.

**Water well requirements**

Lincoln Municipal Code 8.44 Water Wells was enacted to protect the groundwater and the health
of the citizens of Lincoln through inspecting, testing and permitting wells in the City of Lincoln.
This ordinance requires a permit fee of $105 to be paid every two years (biennially).
Historically this fee was $50 every year. Typically we conduct inspections of such wells within
the two year permit period. We were to Mr. Knezovich’s property twice in May of 2007 to
conduct the well inspection, but were not able to complete that work as the person available did
not know where the well was located. Historically this would not have been a problem as the
same person had conducted the well inspections for over 20 years and knew where almost every
well was. Unfortunately, he retired and our new person did not know where the well was located.
Due to other responsibilities, this inspection was not completed in 2007, but will be completed
this year.

One of the most important components of the program is the physical inspection of the well by
an Environmental Health Specialist with special knowledge and training to ensure the well is
safely constructed prior to sampling. The physical inspection may identify well deficiencies that
may contaminate the well and surrounding groundwater. Once the inspection is completed, a
water sample is obtained and tested for coliform bacteria and Nitrates.

The importance of having a program that inspects and tests wells is illustrated in the following
elements.
Within the last year, the Health Department sampled a well in the City that was positive for E. Coli. The presence of E. Coli is considered a health emergency. A family was consuming the contaminated water. An infant was soon to begin formula mixed with the well water. The week prior to the discovery that the well water was contaminated by E. Coli, another child had been seen by the family physician for symptoms of an intestinal infection and was on antibiotics. Repairs were made to the well by a licensed well contractor. The well was chlorinated, retested and eventually approved for use. We believe a tragedy was averted by preventing the infant from being exposed to E. coli contaminated water.

Last summer, Health Department staff found an irrigation well in the City that had been damaged, perhaps during lawn mowing. When the well seal was opened, a large dead snake was found in the well. The snake was removed and the well repaired and chlorinated to kill potentially disease causing organisms. While this well was only being used for irrigation, nearby neighboring wells were being used for drinking water. All of these wells share the same groundwater.

These are just recent examples of problems discovered through the inspection and testing program of private wells in the City. The Health Department has been inspecting and sampling wells in the city, the 3-mile limit and county for many years. Our data from these inspections indicate that about 25% of the wells have deficiencies or water that may present health risks. These poorly constructed wells (either domestic or irrigation) present direct threats to contaminate the groundwater, and potentially impact wells in the surrounding area. Ensuring the correction of these deficiencies protects groundwater that may serve wells hundreds of feet apart.

**Backflow Requirements to Protect Lincoln Waste System**

The backflow prevention inspection requirements are administered through the Lincoln Water System and are intended to protect Lincoln’s municipal water system. Steve Owen of the Lincoln Water System is going to provide you some more information on backflow.
Roger and I discussed this matter when the RFI was submitted and Roger's letter was a result of that discussion.

Over time, projects tend to grow in cost, above and beyond the original projected costs, particularly in light of unforeseen physical challenges like subsurface conditions. This project has spanned multiple years and design adjustments due to detailed engineering analyses.
To: Tammy Grammar

From: Dan Smith

Re: Alley Paving District 08-21

Date: 3-17-08

Hi Tammy, I hope you can get this to the City Council for their 1:30 meeting today.

My name is Dan Smith, 945 S. 34th St.

I spoke at the March 10th council meeting in favor of this Alley Paving District, 33rd to 34th Street, 'O' to 'F' Street.

A petition was submitted with 14 signatures against this district. After last Monday's meeting I spoke with two neighbors who signed the petition but they are now leaning towards paving the alley, thus taking away the majority, 14 of 24 would be 12 of 24 signing the petition against this district. The two names are Christensen & Ridge.

I am asking that you give the original petition of this paving district one year to secure a majority for paving.

Thank you,

Dan Smith
Dear City Council Member-

I read about the poor Yaeger family on the internet. Please help get the warden to allow the father to be with his daughter. The poor girl needs her dad, and he needs her. Stand up for this family. This is bad press for your city.

Emily Paterson in Virginia
At some point...Time Warner Cable is going to say that we need to pay more for High Speed Internet service. Tell them no! There are plenty of people that do not use the bandwidth that they pay for now. Tell them that when they can prove that everybody overloading the system...they need to come up with new ways to handle the overload. When TWC slows down...they don't send me a rebate check. When they deliver shoddy service, they don't take it off my bill. Hell, they do not even use their own technicians anymore...they contract it out. They can pay contractors a lot less. It is not like they are going to give anybody a raise with an increase in rates.

Fred Marks
6701 Vine Street
Lincoln, NE  68505
402-261-5346

P.S. As you can see...I use TWC for everything. As a consumer...I would have to stop. And I would encourage all my friends to stop should they ask for an increase.

This email is sent in the spirit of friendship and fellowship. This email list is maintained by me and I make mistakes. If I made a mistake sending this to you, please accept my amends. If you have received this in error, I am sorry, I have no intent to offend anyone. If this message was forwarded by someone other than beatlerockin1959@gmail.com, please reply to the person sending the mail. To subscribe, type "Subscribe" in the Subject Box and send email to: beatlerockin1959@gmail.com. To unsubscribe, type "Unsubscribe" in the Subject Box and send email to: beatlerockin1959@gmail.com. To contact the editor about the content of this email send an email to: beatlerockin1959@gmail.com
Council Members-

Tuesday evening I attended an open house to view park land parcels deemed “surplus”. I understand that the Parks and Recreation Department was directed to make such a review by you, our Lincoln City Council. It seems like every council meeting I attend or catch on Channel 5 that Robin Eschliman (a realtor by trade) is asking about surplus park property.

While this was an interesting exercise,

I STRONGLY DISAGREE THAT ANY PARK LAND IN THE CITY OF LINCOLN IS SURPLUS ! ! ! SELLING PARK LAND IS SHORT-SIGHTED. SETS A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT AND DEGRADES THE OVERALL QUALITY OF OUR COMMUNITY. IF ANYTHING, WE NEED MORE PARKLAND.

I own property across the street from one of the affected parcels (Nevin Park). That park happens to be a memorial to Mr. Nevin who once served its residents as a pharmacist. That park provides much needed open space for neighborhood children and increases my property’s value. Studies have shown that closeness to park land increases property values whose taxes in the long-run more than pay for it and its upkeep. I would suggest instead of surplussing it that the city put money into improving Nevin Park.

As seen by the recent Taylor Park detention pond controversy, our park land is not merely wasted open space that should have been developed, but all park land parcels provide a wide variety of benefits. Park land soaks up and cleans storm water, provides aesthetic relief from urban scenes, and connects us with the natural world.

To paraphrase John Muir, “There is a class of people who are astonished that we haven’t build on every square inch of the earth.” Let’s hope that the Lincoln City Council is not counted in that class!

Richard K. Sutton
1326 N. 38th
I. MAYOR -

1. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule Week of March 22 through March 28, 2008 - Schedule subject to change.

II. CITY CLERK - NONE

III. CORRESPONDENCE -

A. COUNCIL REQUESTS/CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

B. DIRECTORS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS -

HEALTH -


C. MISCELLANEOUS -

1. E-Mail from Pat Eiche - RE: Vote Yes on the contract between Capital Humane Society and the City of Lincoln.
Date: March 21, 2008
Contact: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule
Week of March 22 - 28, 2008
Schedule subject to change

Monday, March 24
- Annual Mayor’s Award of Excellence - 1:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, 555 S. 10th St.

Tuesday, March 25
- Lincoln Chaplaincy Corp annual banquet, remarks - 6:30 p.m., Ortner Center Union Market, Union College, 48th and Prescott

Wednesday, March 26
- Fair Housing Conference, remarks - 9 a.m., Embassy Suites, 1040 “P” St.
- Nebraska Municipal Power Pool annual meeting and conference, remarks - noon, Cornhusker Marriott, 333 S. 13th St.

Thursday, March 27
- KLIN - 8 a.m., 4343 “O” Street

Friday, March 28
- UNL Quilt Center dedication ceremony - 10 a.m., 33rd and Holdrege streets
- Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, remarks - 1:30 p.m., Home Economics Building, room 121, UNL East Campus
- UNL Quilt Center reception and program - 6 p.m., 33rd and Holdrege streets
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 21, 2008
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Rick Thorson, Air Quality Program Supervisor
402-441-6236

LINCOLN AND LANCASTER COUNTY OZONE LEVELS ARE WITHIN THE NEW FEDERAL STANDARD

The new federal ozone standard of 75 parts per billion was announced late last week by EPA. The City of Lincoln and Lancaster County levels of ozone rarely exceed 60 parts per billion. The American Lung Association consistently gives the city and county it’s highest ranking of “A” for air quality related to ozone. This achievement is due to hard work of many and in particular local businesses and industries in collaboration with the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department that have significantly reduced their emissions of Volatile Organic Compounds and Nitrogen Oxides, which combine with sunlight to form ozone. Lincoln and Lancaster County have been rated among the best areas, nationwide, for ozone air quality. The new standard should pose no roadblocks for continued growth in our community.

Lincoln and Lancaster County also has low levels of other air pollutants, including particulate matter (soot) and carbon monoxide. Particulate matter (PM) is especially harmful to people with asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (i.e. chronic bronchitis and emphysema) and/or heart disease. High levels of PM can trigger asthma attacks and cause wheezing, coughing, and respiratory irritation in individuals with sensitive airways. High levels of carbon monoxide can lead to increased numbers of heart attacks.

The American Lung Association reports, “over half of the U.S. population lives in counties which have unhealthy levels of either ozone or particle pollution.” Lincoln residents are fortunate to be able to enjoy good air quality and the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department will continue to work hard to keep it that way.

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InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Pat Eiche
Address: 1501 West Manor Drive
City: Lincoln, NE 68506
Phone: 402-488-9414
Fax: 
Email: pat-eiche-05@neb.rr.com

Comment or Question:
I ask that all of you vote yes on the contract between Capital Humane Society and the City of Lincoln. I volunteer at the shelter and have never worked or volunteered anywhere where there are so many dedicated people doing such a great job with so little and never complaining. They treat the animals with such compassion and respect. Bob Downey does a great job and I feel so honored to be a volunteer for such a worthy cause. They are so deserving of the contract and have done such a fantastic job for so long. What they do is not easy and I would urge each of you to take a day out of your life and spend it at the shelter. It warms my heart to see the compassion they have. Please vote yes on Monday and end this ordeal that has gone on far too long.
Thank you, Pat Eiche