I. CITY CLERK

II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS TO COUNCIL
1. Drinking water samples tested for Total Coliform and E. Coli bacteria by the Colilert® method of analysis.
2. NEWS RELEASE. City and Fire Union sign drug testing agreement.
3. NEWS ADVISORY. City Council scheduled to vote on 04/13/09 on measures related to the Assurity Life Insurance headquarters to be built in Antelope Valley area.
4. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor presents March award of excellence to James Bare, Senior Environmental Health Specialist.
5. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor Beutler will hold a news conference Wednesday, April 15, 2009, 10:00 a.m., 555 So. 10th Street to discuss upcoming City budget decisions and an online citizen survey.
6. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler’s new conference scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, 2009 regarding the budget postponed until next week.
7. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler will announce health care initiatives at a news conference on Thursday, April 16, 2009.
9. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor forms task force on health care safety net.
10. NEWS ADVISORY. “Clean Your Files Week” begins April 20, 2009.

PRESENTATIONS
1. Public Works Department

MAYOR

DIRECTORS:

PARKS AND RECREATION
1. Lynn Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director, letter to Maynard Ortegren, Silver Ridge Condominiums President, regarding Teton Drive, Silver Ridge Road.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT/HOUSING REHABILITATION AND REAL ESTATE
1. Street and Alley Vacation No. 09003. Remaining portion of north/south alley between North 26th Street and North 27th Street, north of Center Street.
III. COUNCIL RFI’S & CITIZENS CORRESPONDENCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

ROBIN ESCHLIMAN
1. Request to Fred Hoke, Building & Safety Director - RE: Assist the neighborhoods with problems such as graffiti, snow removal, etc. (RFI#20 - 04/09/09)

IV. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL
1. InterLinc correspondence from John. While pulling up to residence, to get registration to purchase car tags, received ticket for a parked car with expired tags. These incidents are not necessary for hard working Lincoln citizens.
2. Letter received from Gerald Spahn thanking City Council for their good work.

V. ADJOURNMENT
April 7, 2009

The Honorable Mayor and City Council

All of the drinking water samples were tested for Total Coliform and E. coli bacteria by the Colilert® method of analysis.

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| Nonregulatory Tests during the month of March 2009:
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Respectfully,

Mary Sue Semereau
Sandra Irons
Nebraska Public Health Environmental Laboratory
Lab Manager

enc.
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CITY AND FIRE UNION SIGN DRUG TESTING AGREEMENT

Mayor Chris Beutler and representatives of the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 644 today signed an agreement for a program of drug and alcohol testing for Lincoln firefighters. The Mayor said the drug testing agreement is a win for City government, firefighters and the people of Lincoln.

“Testing for alcohol and drugs builds even greater confidence in an already strong system,” Beutler said. “In an environment where firefighters put their safety at risk, it is imperative that they can depend on each other. With the new drug testing policy, every person who puts on the LFR uniform will have no doubt about the reliability and judgment of the colleagues upon whom they depend for their very lives. And every person who has an LFR paramedic by their side in a crisis will know that they will be receiving quality medical care that is not compromised by the scourge of drug or alcohol addiction.”

The City and the IAFF began working on the policy in the summer of 2008, when two Lincoln firefighters were arrested on drug charges. Beutler thanked IAFF President Dave Engler and union members for working with the City on the agreement. “While drug testing was part of contract negotiations, it was an easy part of negotiations,” Beutler said. “The union was 100 percent committed to a drug testing program. The union takes very seriously its obligation as safety providers to the community Union members were anxious to reaffirm to the community that they demand a commitment that is without compromise by alcohol or drugs.”

Pre-employment testing has already begun. Active employee testing will begin in 60 days. The testing pool will include 296 current employees who work as firefighters, fire apparatus operators, captains, mechanics and fire inspectors. Half of the pool will be tested each year for drugs, and ten percent will be tested for alcohol. In addition to pre-employment and random testing, pool members also are subject to testing for follow-up purposes, in cases of reasonable suspicion or cause or when they return to duty after a positive test. City Personnel Director Mark Koller said the program will cost about $14,000 a year at current staffing levels.
DATE: April 13, 2009
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

The City Council is scheduled to vote today on several measures related to the new $53 million Assurity Life Insurance headquarters to be built in the Antelope Valley redevelopment area. After the Council vote, Mayor Chris Beutler and Bill Schmeeckle, Assurity Vice President and Chief Investment Officer, will meet with the media in the area outside the City Council Chambers, 555 S. 10th Street. The Council meeting begins at 1:30 p.m., and the Assurity measures begin with item number 30.
Mayor Chris Beutler today presented the Mayor's Award of Excellence for March to James Bare, Senior Environmental Health Specialist for the Environmental Public Health Division of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. 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.

Bare has worked for the City for more than 14 years. Environmental Public Health Supervisor Nancy Clark nominated him in the category of customer relations for his work to resolve solid waste nuisance calls, such as hoarding or other unsanitary conditions inside homes. Clark said Bare sees his work as more than a job and strives to be an effective enforcement officer while still reaching people on a personal level. She said Bare is very professional with people from all walks of life and is highly effective in dealing with a busy case load.

Bare also serves as an on-call Health Department emergency responder, which can mean night and weekend hours. Clark said he works well with other staff to get issues resolved. Recent team efforts have included cleaning up a childcare site with staff from Children's Environmental Health and helping the Food Team with grease spills at restaurants. Clark said Bare is a great public ambassador for the Health Department and has an “awesome” work ethic. She said he strives to do things right the first time, and encourages those around him to be the best that they can be. In his free time, Bare has taken classes to better himself personally and professionally.

The other categories in which employees can be nominated are productivity, loss prevention, safety and valor. Consideration also may be given to nominations that demonstrate self-initiated accomplishments or those completed outside of the nominee's job description. 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 a 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.
DATE: April 14, 2009
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Chris Beutler will discuss upcoming City budget decisions and announce a new online citizen survey at a news conference at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 15 in the Mayor's Conference Room, 555 South 10th St.
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 441-7511, fax 441-7120

DATE: April 14, 2009
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

The budget news conference with Mayor Beutler originally scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 15 HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT WEEK.
DATE: April 15, 2009
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Chris Beutler will announce a new health care initiative at a news conference at 10 a.m. Thursday, April 16 in the City Council Chambers, 555 South 10th St. The Community Health Endowment of Lincoln also will present a new report on the health of the community.
The League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County (LLVLL) invites the public to a series of four debates Monday, April 20 featuring candidates on the ballot for the spring general election May 5.

The debates will run from 4:15 to 8 p.m. in the Bevins Family Life Center on the main floor of Saint Paul United Methodist Church, 1144 “M” Street. 5 CITY-TV (Time Warner Cable channel 5) also will tape these debates for rebroadcast. All races are nonpartisan. In the schedule below, all candidates are listed in alphabetical order.

- 4:15 to 4:45 p.m. - Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) Board of Education Subdistrict #5. Candidates are Lanny Boswell and Kevin Keller.
- 5 to 5:30 p.m. - LPS Board of Education Subdistrict #7. Candidates are Don Mayhew and Andrew Ringsmuth.
- 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. - Lincoln Airport Authority, at large. Candidates are John Hoppe Jr., John-Paul Jamison, Val Schmiedeskamp and Walter Zink II. (If two or three candidates attend, this will be shortened to 30 minutes.)
- 7 to 8 p.m. - Lincoln City Council. Candidates are Eugene Carroll, Adam Hornung, Jane Kinsey, Terry Kubicek, Jayne Snyder and Ken Svoboda.

In LPS Board of Education Subdistrict #1, candidate Greg Wiltshire was unavailable. Kathy Danek is the incumbent. There will be no debate for LPS Board of Education Subdistrict 3 because incumbent Barbara Baier is now unopposed.

To reach the Bevins Family Life Center from the west doors, use the elevator (“M” button). If entering the church through the south door, go up the interior stairs and walk away from the sanctuary. Parking is available across 11th Street or in the parking garage one block south of the church. Free space may be available on the street or in the garage under the church (enter from 11th Street).
Debate co-sponsors include the LWVLL; the Friends of the Mayor's Commission on Women; the Lincoln Area Agency on Aging; the National Council of Negro Women (Lincoln Section); the North 27th Street Business and Civic Association; the NAACP; and Saint Paul United Methodist Church. The LWVLL Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) organization, is the primary source for debate funding.

Audience members are asked to not wear or otherwise display items indicating support of specific candidates while in the debate area.

For a schedule of air times, see the City Web site at lincoln.ne.gov and click on the 5 CITY-TV logo. The debates also will be available through video-on-demand on the Web site.
MAYOR FORMS TASK FORCE ON HEALTH CARE SAFETY NET

Mayor Chris Beutler today announced the formation of the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Health Care Safety Net. The task force will address the increasing number of uninsured individuals in Lincoln who rely on “safety net” providers, such as community health centers, free clinics, hospitals, other nonprofit organizations, private physicians and local government.

“Lincoln's safety net providers are experiencing an increased demand for their services without a corresponding increase in revenues to meet this need,” said Mayor Beutler. “The purpose of the task force will be to develop ambitious recommendations to make sure that a strong, coordinated and sustainable health care safety net catches the uninsured and low-income families in Lincoln.”

Kim Russel, President and CEO of BryanLGH Health System, will chair the 26-member task force representing health care providers and policy makers, elected officials, ethnic and minority communities and nonprofits. The task force will be assisted by a group of advisors who are affiliated with local safety net providers.

“There is no question that Lincoln's health care safety net is under immense pressure,” said Russel. “As the economy continues its bumpy ride, the health care safety net will only be further strained. That is why the work of the Mayor's task force is timely and urgent.”

“Health care is assuming center stage in local, state and national conversations,” said Lori Seibel, President and CEO of the Community Health Endowment of Lincoln, one of the agencies involved in the task force. “We believe that this effort represents a timely and strategic opportunity to examine Lincoln's local safety net system while keeping a close eye on the implications of national health care reform.”

The task force will meet for the first time Friday, April 24 and is scheduled to release recommendations in six to eight months. Funding for the task force has been provided by Health Partners Initiative of Lincoln. Ellen Beck, who will coordinate the task force, has 15 years of experience in analyzing and reporting on health care policy and business. She can be reached at 436-5178 or ebeck77@yahoo.com.
The tenth annual “Clean Your Files Week” in Lincoln is set for April 19 through 25. The program supports Earth Day April 22 by offering office workers the opportunity to empty file drawers and fill recycling bins. Recyclable items include computer paper, letterhead, white and colored ledger paper, phone books, cards and envelopes.

City Recycling Coordinator Gene Hanlon said that in the first nine years of “Clean Your Files Week,” businesses, government, office buildings and educational institutions have recycled more than 386,000 pounds of paper. He said the goals of the event are to increase the recovery of office paper and to teach people how to recycle at work every day.

Individuals with home businesses also are encouraged to participate. They can deposit their old files in the residential mixed paper recycling container at recycling drop-off sites located throughout the City. The location of drop-off sites and other recycling information can be found on the City Web site, lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: recycle), and on pages 51 through 53 in the blue pages in the Windstream phone directory.

“Clean Your Files Week” is organized by Recycling at Work, a campaign of the National Office Paper Recycling Project. This is a public-private partnership managed by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, with the help of “Clean Your Files” national sponsors. Local sponsors include the City of Lincoln, Lincoln Public Schools and WasteCap Nebraska.

On Sunday, April 19, confidential documents may be shredded between 1 and 5 p.m. at the following locations:

- Shredding Solutions Mobile Shredding, UNL City campus, 13th and “R” streets.
- Recycling Enterprise, 6100 N. 70th St. (just north of 70th and Cornhusker Highway)
- Paper Tiger Mobile Shredding, east of the Famous Dave's parking lot at 27th Street and Pine Lake Road.

There is no charge for the first 75 pounds of documents.

To learn more about “Clean Your Files Week” or to register your workplace, call 441-8215 or 434-7376.
The public is invited to enjoy nature, spring and artistic rain barrels at Pioneers Park Nature Center from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 18 for the second annual “Nature's Market.” The free family event will include art, music, food and fun activities.

At 9:30 a.m., Tom Bassett will auction off 25 rain barrels painted by local artists ranging from elementary students to professionals. “The rain barrel project has been a great way to mix art and the environment,” said Nancy Furman, Nature Center Coordinator. “They look beautiful, and at the same time, capture water from a downspout to use in your backyard gardening.” The rain barrel project is sponsored by the City Watershed Management Division. The barrels have been on display throughout the community and can be viewed at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: rain barrels).

The Friends of Pioneers Park Nature Center are hosting the event, which will feature booths in a farmer's market environment. Children's activities include painting flower pots and making magic wands. Special events include a demonstration of chain saw carving by Rex Art at 10:30 a.m. and a sing-a-long by the String Beans at 11 a.m. About 50 items are included in the silent auction at the Prairie Building.

All Nature's Market proceeds will go to Pioneers Park Nature Center's scholarship program for summer camp and preschool classes. The Nature Center is located at 3201 S. Coddington Ave, at the west end of Pioneers Park. The event will be held rain or shine.

The Friends Group also will have a garage sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, April 30 through Saturday, May 2 at 3400 S. 31 Street.
April 15, 2009

Maynard Ortega, President
Silver Ridge Condominiums, Inc.
1244 Silver Ridge Road
Lincoln, Nebraska 68510

RE: Teton Drive / Silver Ridge Road

Dear Mr. Ortega,

I appreciated your letter and the opportunity to talk with by phone about the traffic situation and street trees on the east side of the curve of Teton Drive / Silver Ridge Road. I understand from your letter and from our conversation that there have been numerous instances of vehicles failing to negotiate the curve resulting in them driving up over the curb and sidewalk. You indicated that two street lights have been relocated after being hit by errant vehicles. Our records indicate that eight of the nine street trees along this section of roadway have been removed due to damage by vehicles leaving the roadway.

Pursuant to our conversation, I am forwarding a copy of your initial letter and this follow-up letter to Greg MacLean, Director of Public Works and Utilities. I will ask him if there are some possible options for encouraging drivers to drive around this curve more slowly.

Also, as we discussed street trees are replaced through a cost-share program with adjoining neighbors or businesses. Street tree vouchers in the amount of $50 are available to assist in funding the cost to purchase or to purchase and plant replacement street trees. We will place your request for three street tree vouchers on behalf of Silver Ridge Condominiums on the list for Fall 2009. Hopefully this will allow sufficient time to explore options for traffic calming in the area, and provide the opportunity to plant new street trees during the fall planting season.

Please phone me at 441-8265 if you have questions, or if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lynn Johnson
Parks and Recreation Director

Cc: Mayor Chris Beutler
Greg MacLean, Director of Public Works and Utilities
Lincoln City Council
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Beutler
& City Council Members

FROM: Clinton W. Thomas

DEPARTMENT: City Council Office

DEPARTMENT: Housing Rehab & Real Estate Division

ATTENTION: 

DATE: April 9, 2009

COPIES TO: Teresa J. Meier
Marvin Krout
John Hendry
Byron Blum, Bldg & Safety
Jean Preister, Planning

SUBJECT: Street & Alley Vacation No. 09003
Remaining Portion of north/south alley between North 26th Street &
North 27th Street, north of Center Street

A request has been made to vacate that portion of the north/south alley north of Center Street lying between North 26th Street and North 27th Street. This is the only unvacated portion of the streets and alleys lying within the area currently leased to NeighborWorks-Lincoln. Since, the entire parcel is proposed to be sold for the Matt Talbot Kitchen, an appraisal of the area has already been received. A critical assumption in the appraisal was the unvacated portion of the alley would be vacated and included with the area to be sold and as such, the value of the alley has already been accounted for. It is therefore my recommendation, if the area be vacated, ownership be retained by the City of Lincoln and included in the sale of the entire parcel.

Respectfully submitted,

Clinton W. Thomas
Certified General Appraiser #990023
InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: John
Address: No
City: Lincoln, NE 68503

Phone:
Fax:
Email:

Comment or Question:
As sure as I am that a magic man will come from the sky and rescue us all, I'm as sure that this email will go unanswered. I got a ticket today for a parked car with expired tags. I feel like I need to stress that point again.. a PARKED CAR!!!! Not in transit, not with kids in it, not hauling illegals to a job site, not smuggling heroine to a suburb. PARKED! Not going anywhere, mind you. Stationary, immobile, docile.
I work very hard and pay more in taxes than most. So, why do I have to pay $100 for a chicken shit ticket?
Also, as I was pulling up to my house to get my registration to get my tags, I saw the coward speed away who gave the the ticket. So now the god damn ticket is going to cost me as much as the registration, which I didn't have money for in the first place. It is an awesome system you guys have. How about you stop screwing your hard working citizens?
To: John Spatz, Ken Sutro & Friends

So I woke up this morning and the sun came up. And for the first time in a long time, I did not feel like the city was after me. I still haven't seen it in black and white but I feel like there are a few good people in government.

I have sat and watched the enormous complex and they just plain hard work that is piled on you. I don't see how you do it, much less make time to listen to the problems of this old man. Please take this as an opportunity to feel good about your selves and your good work.

As you can tell I am a determined man and I will find a way to do something good for you. Till then all I can offer you is a simple but heartfelt Thanks.

Gerald Spahn
3528 Q St
477-2687

Received
APR 15 2009
CITY COUNCIL OFFICE
Z2 Spahn
I. CITY CLERK - None

II. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE MAYOR & DIRECTORS TO COUNCIL -

   MAYOR -
   1. NEWS ADVISORY - RE: Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule Week of April 18 through April 24, 2009 - Schedule subject to change (Forward to Council on 04/10/09).
   2. NEWS RELEASE - RE: Public Invited To Celebrate Arbor Day.

   DIRECTORS - None

III. COUNCIL RFI’S & CITIZENS CORRESPONDENCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL MEMBERS - None

IV. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS TO COUNCIL -
   1. E-Mail from Randy Haas, President - RE: The West O Business Association supports the proposed Shoemaker Travel Plaza.
DATE: April 17, 2009
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 441-7831

Mayor Beutler's Public Schedule
Week of April 18 through April 24, 2009
Schedule subject to change

Saturday, April 18
- Nature's Market rain barrel auction - 9:30 a.m., Pioneers Park Nature Center, 3201 Coddington

Sunday, April 19
- Star City Figure Skating Club Annual Ice Show, remarks - 2 p.m., The Ice Box, State Fair Park, 1800 State Fair Park Dr.

Monday, April 20
- Nebraska Sports Council preview luncheon, remarks - noon, Holiday Inn Downtown, 141 N. 9th St.
- Child Advocacy Center's “Taking a Stand Against Abuse” - 7 p.m., BryanLGH East Plaza Conference Center, 1600 S. 48th St.

Tuesday, April 21
- News conference on citizen budget survey - 1:15 p.m., Mayor's Conference Room, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.

Wednesday, April 22
- Arbor Day tree planting ceremony, remarks - 9:15 a.m., Trendwood Park, S. 77th and “A” streets
- 2009 Fair Housing Conference (40th anniversary), remarks - 10 a.m., Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, 333 S. 13th St.

Thursday, April 23
- KFOR - 7:45 a.m.
- KLIN - 8:10 a.m., Broadcast House, 4343 “O” St.
- News conference - 10 a.m., topic and location to be announced
- Lincoln Young Professionals Group, remarks - 11:30 a.m. Cornhusker Marriott Hotel

Friday, April 24
- Healthcare Safety Net Task Force, remarks - 11:30 a.m., Lincoln Medical Education Partnership, 4600 Valley Road
Mayor Chris Beutler invites the public to join him, St. Joseph Catholic School students and the City's Parks and Recreation Department in celebrating Arbor Day 2009. A public celebration is set for 9:15 a.m. Wednesday, April 22 at the Trendwood Park playground, south of “A” Street at S. 77th St.

Mayor Beutler will read an Arbor Day Proclamation, and the St. Joseph students will provide entertainment for the 30-minute program. Weather permitting, the students and others attending will help plant 22 trees in Trendwood Park in observance of Arbor Day's 137th anniversary and in recognition of the “Re Tree Nebraska” program. The Re Tree Nebraska program is a campaign to plant one million trees in Nebraska by 2017.

In case of bad weather, the celebration will be at St. Joseph's, which is south of the park at 1940 S. 77th St.

Pinnacle Bank is again the corporate sponsor for this year's Arbor Day tree planting ceremony. Great Plains Nursery is supplying the trees.

Re Tree Nebraska is being led by the Nebraska Forest Service, the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, the University of Nebraska Rural Initiative and several UNL entities – the Extension Service, the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture and the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Arbor Day was founded in Nebraska in 1872, by J. Sterling Morton, a former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. The official observance in 2009 is April 24. State offices will be closed that day, but City offices will be open.

- 30 -
The West O Business Assn supports the proposed Shoemaker Travel Plaza business improvements at SW 48th & West 0.

West O Area Business Assn

Randy Haas, President