

**CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
JUNE 3, 2013  
555 S. 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET, ROOM 113  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DIRECTORS'S MEETING**

**I. MINUTES**

1. Director's Meeting minutes of May 13, 2013
2. Organizational Meeting minutes of May 13, 2013.

**II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS**

1. Public Building Commission (PBC) (May 14<sup>th</sup>) - Cook
2. Board of Health(May 14<sup>th</sup>) - Emery
3. Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC)(May 14<sup>th</sup>) - Eskridge
4. Problem Resolution Team (PRT) (May 30<sup>th</sup>) - Emery
5. MPO Officials Committee (May 30<sup>th</sup>) - Emery, Eskridge
6. Joint Budget Committee (JBC) (May 31<sup>st</sup>) - Emery, Gaylor Baird
7. Correctional Facility JPA - Eskridge

**III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS**

**IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR**

**V. MISCELLANEOUS**

**VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS**

See invitation list.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES**  
**CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**  
**JUNE 3, 2013**

**Present:** Carl Eskridge, Chair; Doug Emery, Vice Chair; Jonathan Cook; Roy Christensen; Trent Fellers; and Leirion Gaylor Baird

**Absent:** Jon Camp

**Others:** Trish Owen, Deputy Chief of Staff; Denise Pearce, Senior Policy Counsel

Chair Eskridge opened the meeting at 2:20 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

**I. MINUTES**

1. Director's Meeting minutes of May 13, 2013
2. Organizational Meeting minutes of May 13, 2013.

With no corrections the above minutes were placed on file in the City Council office.

**II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS**

**1. Public Building Commission (PBC) (May 14<sup>th</sup>) - Cook**

Cook stated the Public Building Commission met with a small agenda, a normal meeting.

**2. Board of Health(May 14<sup>th</sup>) - Emery**

Emery stated they received an update on Legislative issues throughout the State and how it will, or could, affect the County Health Board. Also, did a County Health comparison rating Lincoln. Mr. Frederick assembled a document to match certain cities to see how Lincoln does in terms of our ability to use public health. Results look very good.

Emery added then worked on proposed revisions to the Lincoln Lancaster County Air Pollution Control Program, regulations and standards, for compliance with State and Federal guidelines. A small number of businesses affected and are in the group working on the guidelines. Will come before the City Council for approval.

**3. Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC)(May 14<sup>th</sup>) - Eskridge**

Eskridge explained the Multicultural Advisory Committee is represented by the Mayor, department members, and representatives from different ethnic community groups. Meet monthly to discuss common issues, or concerns, on how City government impacts community minorities. The May meeting focused on the StarTran driver and passenger incident. Interesting as they had scheduled a meeting on the subject before the occurrence.

**4. Problem Resolution Team (PRT) (May 30<sup>th</sup>) - Emery**

Emery stated the Problem Resolution Team consists of members from the Police Department, Health, Building and Safety, Stronger-Safer Neighborhoods, Law Department, Weed Authority, Animal Control, and others. We look at the worst properties. They receive violations from two departments to be considered. Now have six Open Cases, one on for over six years. The property is hopefully moving towards conclusion with charges under advisement. The PRT has multiple failures and successes. A huge success is the gentleman with the rocks (boulders) in his front yard. The rocks are now gone and fortunately he received help. The Rose Wood Inn was an issue for

a long time. Also had a property where we went in, mediated, and put a lien on the house.

Emery added these are not common run down houses, but bad houses, with three categories: Open, Monitor, and Pending. Open are cases where the criteria has been met, and we are dealing with them. Currently have six in Open. Monitor occurs when one or two of the problems are fixed and now monitoring to fix all. Pending are ones received, either by phone or reported by Officers or PRT Members. After being reported we see if they meet the criteria. Pending cases occur more in Spring as we get mowing, and other lawn issues, which are a little easier. Of the five Pending, two made the new Open List. Often people think they'll meet the criteria but do not and may be limited to a health, building, or police issue. Often we have junk car issues, etc. Never ending.

Eskridge added if anyone receives a problem property call Councilman Emery who will guide you. Emery commented if a constituent calls with a problem, take the address, and name of the owner if available, and we'll have the team inspect to see if it meets the criteria.

#### **5. MPO Officials Committee (May 30<sup>th</sup>) - Emery, Eskridge**

Eskridge stated the MPO is the Metropolitan Planning Organization. Roads, transportation, bike trails committee. The Council Chair and Vice Chair, a rep from the County Board, the Mayor, and Department of Roads Director meet quarterly to discuss issues relative to common projects. A State law that we maintain this organization.

Eskridge added at the last meeting they approved programs and plans. An interesting issue arose relative to sometimes providing certain levels of funding locally. The State, or Federal, provide a percentage. The question came up in regard to the South Beltway Project to which the City pledged funds, and the matches we want in order that this project goes forward. The question raised, "what about the County?" Apparently the County is purchasing some land, but not clear what they've spent. Need to clarify with accountability the amounts the City, and the County, has put forward.

Eskridge commented on this project in particular, but on any kind of railroad project. There is at least one railroad crossing, possibly two, in regard to the South Beltway Project, and our Railroad Transportation Safety funds would be applied. A concern. The Department of Roads volunteered to mediate, and will comprise a listing of responsibilities of all parties.

#### **6. Joint Budget Committee (JBC) (May 31<sup>st</sup>) - Emery, Gaylor Baird**

Emery explained the Joint Budget Committee is a combined County Board and City Committee. Kit Boesch, Human Services Administrator, and the Committee decide where the money will be spent. Basically, a grant system. Originally started when the County contributed \$1.5 million with the City contributing \$500,000. While this amount may be inequitable there are numerous places where the City deals with Human Services issues. When added up, both amounts are very close in contributions. This money has been reduced as the County had tight budgets the last two years, and now what was \$2 million is \$1,250,000. The City has not reduced it's \$500,000. We give two year grants, not to exceed \$10,000, a way to leverage the money and help organizations. Also consists of two additional committees. The way the Keno law was written, a certain percentage of Keno money goes to Keno and gambling prevention. We have a committee to review the Keno money. The committee distributes approximately \$80,000 a year, and put money aside until \$1 million was reached. Now will distribute about \$100,000 of Keno money once a year. Still figuring out what to do with the \$1 million, which has to be a Human Resource Services project.

Emery added Gaylor Baird attended her first meeting last Friday. Mostly had introductions, then reviewed how we're leveraging the money. A lot of the project ends up dealing with items such

as gang activity, working with low income credit unions to deal with the Fast Pay issues, who can charge up to 400%, which is pretty difficult to rise above. Working with the credit unions help, and also other activities. Basically, utilize the money to help people in need.

### **7. Correctional Facility JPA - Eskridge**

Eskridge stated the JPA is represented by the Council Chair, County Commissioners, and the Mayor, with monthly meetings. Mainly approve expenditures presented. There has been a few building issues, mainly flooring concerns. Getting resolved before inmates are housed there. Now plan on the inmates starting to enter the facility by the end of July.

Eskridge added if anyone is interested in touring the Correctional Facility it is possible.

Cook said for clarification, the JPA is for building the jail, the County will run the jail. Emery added we were part of the financing.

### **III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS**

Pearce distributed Boards and Commissions Update. She stated some appointments require City Council approval, some not, but done by Executive Order. Pearce stated on the next update will try to list what appointments we have coming. Do try to update every few months.

Cook stated we receive paper copy. Pearce asked if the preference would be to receive electronically? Cook replied he was wondering why distribute hard copy if you send whenever they're due. Pearce replied it is historic practice but more than happy to send to you. Cook would like to receive by email.

### **IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR**

None

### **V. MISCELLANEOUS**

None

### **VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Eskridge** stated we are deciding on the Council's assignment list.

Eskridge then stated whenever we have personnel changes the City has to have approved through the City's Personnel Office. The only time we have changes is with an election. The person who signs off on the changes is the Chair. We found this new system somewhat of a headache. It would be easier if Council authorized Meyer to make the changes/approvals. Emery stated Meyer is trusted to do. Eskridge stated it would be helpful.

**MOTION:** Cook made the motion to authorize Mary Meyer to approve the Personnel changes, on the Personnel Action Form, for City Council members. Seconded by Fellers.

Eskridge stated, as an explanation, there have been six Personnel Action sheets in the last two weeks. Terminations of outgoing Council and the hiring of the incoming Council Members.

Voice vote taken, motion passes.

### **Committee Assignments**

Chair Eskridge stated items on the spread sheet in red may need discussion. The Public Building

Commission is a Mayor's appointment. Also, LPED is a Mayor's appointment, to which Pearce replied she wasn't sure of the LPED Committee.

Eskridge stated Council decides who serves on the Railroad Transportation Safety District. Emery stated need to work on the RTSD appointments as we delayed a budget meeting until July. Pearce stated she could submit Wednesday for first reading on Monday. Emery said they wouldn't be approved until two weeks later. Pearce stated which would be the 17<sup>th</sup>. Emery thought the RTSD meeting was the same day, but prior to the Council meeting.

Cook stated he didn't know the fiscal year for the RTSD and how this would line up with the County's money decisions. Emery added the City usually does their budget in June, in order for the County to know where we are. July will be fine, but cutting close. Cook asked what if the County decides on a different action? Emery commented, we would go to Plan B.

### **Council Photo**

Eskridge stated we need to schedule a date, and time, when everyone is present to take a Council photo. Everyone here for the next two weeks? Could do before a meeting. After discussion will take Council photo within the next two weeks.

## **VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS**

See invitation list.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Eskridge adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m.