DIRECTORS’ MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2013
555 S. 10TH STREET, ROOM 113
2:00 P.M.

I. CITY CLERK

II. MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. Discounted Big Red Express tickets on sale now. (Corrected release)
2. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler, representatives of American Express and the U. S. Tennis Association will break ground to expand tennis courts at Irvingdale Park, 20th and Van Dorn Street, on Thursday, August 8th, at 10:00 a.m.
3. NEWS ADVISORY. Pinnacle Bank Arena ribbon cutting on August 29; media day on August 27th, and UNL commencement ceremonies on August 16th and August 17.
4. NEWS RELEASE. Prescott Avenue to close Monday from 47th to 48th Street

III. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE

PARKS AND RECREATION
1. Meeting agenda for Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on August 8, 2013.
   a) Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting minutes of Thursday, July 11, 2013.

PLANNING COMMISSION

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1. Administrative approvals by the Planning Director from July 30, 2013 through August 5, 2013.
2. Planning Assessment Survey Final Reports posted on web.

IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS

V. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS
DISCOUNTED BIG RED EXPRESS TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Football fans wanting to ride StarTran’s Big Red Express for Nebraska’s eight 2013 home football games are encouraged to save 25 percent by purchasing season bus tickets. The $80 tickets are now on sale for $60. They are available at the StarTran office, 710 “J” St., and at the SouthPointe Pavilions business office, 2910 Pine Lake Road, Suite Q.

Big Red Express bus service will begin operating continuous shuttle service two hours prior to kickoff from parking lots at these six locations:

- The City Municipal Service Center (I-80 airport exit #399), N.W. 12th and West Bond streets (take first right north of McDonald’s)
- Southeast Community College, 88th and “O” streets
- Holmes Lake, 70th Street and Normal Boulevard
- Gateway Mall, 61st and “O” streets
- SouthPointe Pavilions, 27th and Pine Lake Road
- North Star High School (I-80 airport exit #403), 5801 N. 33rd St. (six blocks east of 27th Street and Folkways Blvd.)

The last buses will leave from the parking lots to the stadium about 45 minutes prior to kick off. Buses will transport passengers back to the lots immediately after the game. The buses unload and load near Memorial Stadium on “R” Street between 12th and 14th streets.

Those without passes will need exact change when boarding the bus. The single-game fare for Big Red Express is $5 each way or $10 round trip.

More information on the Big Red Express and regular StarTran service is available at startran.lincoln.ne.gov or by calling StarTran at 402-476-1234.
DATE: August 7, 2013
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 402-441-7831

Mayor Beutler will join representatives of American Express and the United States Tennis Association (USTA) to break ground for a project to refurbish and expand the tennis courts at Irvingdale Park at 10 a.m. Thursday, August 8 at the Park near 20th and Van Dorn streets.

The Mayor will be joined by professional tennis player Jack Sock of Lincoln. Sock selected the Irvingdale Park courts to be part of the Fresh Courts program, which was introduced in 2010 by American Express and the USTA to develop new generations of tennis fans, players and champions by renovating existing tennis facilities across the country.

Jack also will host a tennis clinic with dozens of children attending summer day camp at the nearby Irving Recreation Center.

If the weather is bad, the event will be held in the Irving Recreation Center, 2010 Van Dorn.
DATE: August 7, 2013
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 402-441-7831
Steve Smith, UNL News Director, 402-472-4226
Lynn Higginbotham, SMG/Pinnacle Bank Arena, 402-430-9863

The ribbon cutting for Pinnacle Bank Arena is scheduled for 4 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 29. Several members of the media have asked about arena access before that event.

**Pinnacle Bank Arena Media Day is from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 27.** SMG is organizing this event and will send more details the week before.

The arena will be the site of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln’s two summer commencement ceremonies. Graduate degrees will be awarded at 3 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16, and undergraduate degrees will be awarded at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 17. **Arena access at these university ceremonies will be limited, and no tours will be available.** Members of the media who are interested in covering either or both ceremonies must request credentials by 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 15 by contacting UNL News Director Steve Smith at 402-472-4226 or ssmith13@unl.edu.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 8, 2013
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Harry Kroos, Engineering Services, 402-441-7711

PRESCOTT TO CLOSE MONDAY FROM 47TH TO 48TH

Beginning Monday, August 12, Prescott Avenue from 47th to 48th street will close for utility work, paving and sidewalk reconstruction. The roadway is expected to reopen in mid-October, weather permitting. During construction, the street will be closed to all vehicle traffic and parking but pedestrian access to all businesses will be maintained.

The College View Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 4801 Prescott Ave., will allow parking in its church parking lot Monday through Friday for customers and employees of Prescott Avenue businesses.

The project is being funded with capital improvement funds through the City’s Public Works and Utilities and Urban Development Departments. It includes water main, storm sewer and lighting improvements as well as new sidewalks on both sides of Prescott Avenue.

For more information on City construction projects, visit lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: projects).

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TO: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Mayor, City Council, City Clerk, Media
FROM: Lynn Johnson, Director, Lincoln Parks & Recreation Department
MEETING DATE: August 8, 2013
LOCATION: 2740 “A” Street – Parks & Recreation Dept. (Large Conference Room)
TIME: 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
CHAIR: Anne Pagel

A G E N D A

1. Call to Order and Recognition of ‘Open Meetings Act’

2. Introduction of New Board Members Kelly O’Hanlon and Kathi Wieskamp


4. Comments from Public for Items Not Listed on the Agenda

5. Presentation by Anglers of the Blue Moon – Dedication of the New Accessible Piers at Bowling Lake

6. Committee Reports:
   A. Fees & Facilities Committee – Susan Deitchler (Chair) 488-4224
      • * Recommendation Regarding Proposed Fees for Woods Tennis Center
      • * Recommendation Regarding New Model for Facility Rental, Special Use Permits for Parks and Recreation Facilities, Licenses for Use of Parks and Recreation Facilities, and Permits to Conduct Business On Park Property
   B. Futures Committee – Bob Ripley (Chair) 471-0419 or 488-5131
      • Review of Public Engagement Process, Including Survey, for 10-year Facilities Plan
   C. Golf Report
      • Rounds and Revenue Report
      • Status Report Regarding New Holmes Golf Clubhouse and Related Site Improvements
      • Status Report Regarding Lincoln City Golf Program Sustainability Study Being Prepared by the National Golf Foundation
   D. Executive Committee – Anne Pagel (Chair) 402-540-9194
      • Discussion of Working Subcommittees

7. Staff Report
   • Additional Information Regarding Budget Outcomes and Indicators for the Community Forestry Program

8. Announcements:
   • Party in the Parks at Union Plaza, 4:00 – 8:00 pm on Saturday, August 17th
   • Dog Splash at Star City Shores, 6:30 – 8:30 pm on Sunday, August 11th

* Denotes Action Items
## M I N U T E S

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**
Pioneers Park Nature Center
Thursday, July 11, 2013 ~ 4:00 p.m.

### Members Present:
- Justin Carlson
- Jim Crook
- Susan Deitchler
- Todd Fitzgerald
- Larry Hudkins
- Peter Levitov
- Kelly O’Hanlon
- Anne Pagel
- Bob Ripley
- Jeff Schwebke

### Members Absent:
- Molly Brommond
- Jonathan Cook
- Cleo Mullison
- Joe Tidball
- Kathi Wieskamp
- Vacant Position

### Staff Members Present:
- Lynn Johnson, Director
- Jerry Shorney, Asst. Director of Parks Operations
- Dave Bomberger
- Terry Genrich, Outdoor Education
- Nancy Furman
- Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Special Projects Administrator
- Andrea Faas
- JJ Yost, Planning & Construction Manager
- Kat Schlueter
- Angela Chesnut, Executive Secretary

### Recognition of ‘Open Meetings Act’:
As per law, Chairperson Anne Pagel announced that the Board follows the regulations of the Open Meetings Act, and called the meeting to order.

Anne introduced the new student member Kelly O’Hanlon, who attends Lincoln East High School and will be a senior. She has always been involved with the parks in Lincoln, and is very excited to be a part of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS (other than those listed on the current Agenda):
None.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Fees & Facilities Committee - Susan Deitchler, Chair - 488-4224
Susan discussed the topic of modifications to the Irvingdale Park tennis courts through a grant offered by the United States Tennis Association. Currently there are three courts, with a proposal to modify one of the courts into three smaller courts that are fenced in. This would be a preliminary way for younger children to learn to play tennis, as well as older citizens who may not want the use of a full court. A neighborhood meeting was conducted, with general support from participants. Staff are in favor of the proposal, and the Fees & Facilities Committee has brought this forward for discussion of the Board. It was also noted by Peter Levitov, that the courts are only the second in Nebraska that are geared to eight years old and under, that are completely fenced in. Instead of the normal adult tennis courts that are 78' long, these will be only 36' long, going width-ways. The grant is from American Express who sponsors several tennis tournaments that lead up to the US Open in early September. They have selected Lincoln and one other city in Florida to receive these grants, from over 100 other applicants. All costs are born by the sponsors. All that is given up is one adult court, in order to create three smaller courts.
courts for children, with a push in the elementary schools for kids to learn tennis. A shelter will also be built for parents or other viewers. Susan made the motion on behalf of the Fees & Facilities Committee to approve the proposed improvements to the Irvingdale Park tennis courts, which was seconded by Bob Ripley. **Motion carried by unanimous vote of members present.**

A motion was made by Justin Carlson and seconded by James Crook to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 p.m. **Motion was approved by unanimous vote of members present.**

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Anne Pagel.

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members joined the Lincoln Parks Foundation Board of Directors, along with staff, and other guests for a joint meeting and informational tour Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch, with a stop at the Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center.
**ACTION BY PLANNING COMMISSION**

August 7, 2013

NOTICE: The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 7, 2013, at 1:00 p.m., in Hearing Room 112 on the first floor of the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St., Lincoln, Nebraska, on the following items. For more information, call the Planning Department, (402) 441-7491.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Planning Commission action is final action on any item with a notation of “FINAL ACTION”. Any aggrieved person may appeal Final Action of the Planning Commission to the City Council or County Board by filing a Notice of Appeal with the City Clerk or County Clerk within 14 days following the action of the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission action on all other items is a recommendation to the City Council or County Board.

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2013

[Commissioner Hove absent]

Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held July 24, 2013. **APPROVED, 5-0 (Corr, Scheer, Beecham, Weber and Cornelius voting ‘yes’; Lust and Sunderman abstained; Hove absent)**

1. CONSENT AGENDA
   (Public Hearing and Administrative Action):

   COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:
   1.1 Comprehensive Plan Conformance No. 13005, to review as to conformance with the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, a proposed amendment to the Capital Improvements Program of the Parks and Recreation Department to add the West Adams/Cornhusker Highway and I-180 Entry Corridor Project, consisting of streetscape and landscaping improvements along the Airport Entry beginning at Lincoln Municipal Airport at West Adams to N.W. 12th Street, and from N.W. 12th Street and W. Adams along Cornhusker Highway to N. 14th Street; and along I-180 from Fletcher Avenue to Downtown Lincoln at 9th and R Streets. ***FINAL ACTION***

   Staff recommendation: Conformance with the Comprehensive Plan
   Staff Planner: Sara Hartzell, 402-441-6371, shartzell@lincoln.ne.gov
   Planning Commission ‘final action’: A FINDING OF CONFORMANCE WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, 7-0 (Hove absent).
   Resolution No. PC-01352.
PERMITS:

1.2 Special Permit No. 1787A, an amendment to expand the area of the special permit for a personal wireless facility, on property generally located at Sun Valley Boulevard and Line Drive (603 Sun Valley Boulevard).

*** FINAL ACTION ***
Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Brian Will, 402-441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated July 23, 2013, 7-0 (Hove absent).
Resolution No. PC-01353.

1.3 Special Permit No. 13035, for expansion of a nonconforming use, to reduce the side yard setback to construct a garage on property generally located at 3141 Cedar Avenue and High Street (3141 Cedar Avenue).

*** FINAL ACTION ***
Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Christy Eichorn, 402-441-7603, ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated July 25, 2013, 7-0 (Hove absent).
Resolution No. PC-01354.

1.4 Special Permit No. 13037, for the expansion of a nonconforming use to allow a building expansion for a building that is nonconforming relative to setbacks and the required separation for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises, on property generally located at S. 13th Street and E Street (1003 S. 13th Street).

*** FINAL ACTION ***
Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Brian Will, 402-441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Removed from Consent Agenda and had separate public hearing.
Resolution No. PC-01355.

2. REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL: None.

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA (See Item #1.4 above)
4. PUBLIC HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION:

PERMITS:

4.1 Pre-Existing Use Permit No. 9U, for authority to adjust the parking requirements, on property generally located at South 56th Street and Highway 2.

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Brian Will, 402-441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Had public hearing.
Planning Commission recommendation: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated July 24, 2013, 7-0 (Hove absent).
Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 26, 2013, 5:30 p.m.

4.2 Special Permit No. 09022A, an amendment to allow a gas station/convenience store, on property generally located at S. 33rd Street and Yankee Hill Road (3201 Yankee Hill Road).

*** FINAL ACTION ***
Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Christy Eichorn, 402-441-7603, ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov
Had public hearing.
Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated July 25, 2013, 7-0 (Hove absent).
Resolution No. PC-01356.

5. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION:

PERMITS:

5.1 County Special Permit No. 13033, The Preserve at Cross Creek 1st Addition Community Unit Plan, for a total of 14 single family dwelling units, including a waiver of the lot width-to-depth ratio, on property generally located at S. 63rd Street and Roca Road.

*** FINAL ACTION ****
Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Sara Hartzell, 402-441-6371, shartzell@lincoln.ne.gov
Had continued public hearing.
Resolution No. PC-01357.

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AT THIS TIME, ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK ON AN ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA, MAY DO SO

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Planning Dept. staff contacts:

Stephen Henrichsen, Development Review Manager 402-441-6374 shenrichsen@lincoln.ne.gov
David Cary, Long Range Planning Manager 402-441-6364 dcary@lincoln.ne.gov
Paul Barnes, Planner 402-441-6372 pbarnes@lincoln.ne.gov
Michael Brienzo, Transportation Planner 402-441-6369 mbrienzo@lincoln.ne.gov
Tom Cajka, Planner 402-441-5662 tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
Christy Eichorn, Planner 402-441-7603 ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov
Brandon Garrett, Planner 402-441-6373 bgarrett@lincoln.ne.gov
Stacey Groshong Hageman, Planner 402-441-6361 shageman@lincoln.ne.gov
Sara Hartzell, Planner 402-441-6371 shartzell@lincoln.ne.gov
David Pesnichak, Transportation Planner 402-441-6363 dpesnichak@lincoln.ne.gov
Brian Will, Planner 402-441-6362 bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Ed Zimmer, Historic Preservation Planner 402-441-6360 ezimmer@lincoln.ne.gov

* * * *
The Planning Commission meeting which is broadcast live at 1:00 p.m. every other Wednesday will be rebroadcast on Sundays at 1:00 p.m. on 5 City TV, Cable Channel 5.

* * * *
The Planning Commission agenda may be accessed on the Internet at http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/pcagenda/index.htm
PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION
NOTIFICATION

TO : Mayor Chris Beutler
     Lincoln City Council

FROM : Jean Preister, Planning

DATE : August 8, 2013

RE : Notice of final action by Planning Commission: August 7, 2013

Please be advised that on August 7, 2013, the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission adopted the following resolutions:

**Resolution No. PC-01352**, finding a proposed amendment to the Parks and Recreation Department Capital Improvement Program to add the West Adams/Cornhusker Highway and I-180 Entry Corridor as an enhancement entryway into the City, to be in conformance with the Comprehensive Plan (**Comprehensive Plan Conformance No. 13005**). The Planning Commission action as to the finding of conformity is final action. This resolution is being submitted to the City Finance Director for further processing.

**Resolution No. PC-01353**, approving Special Permit No. 1787A, requested by the Becher Trust, for authority to expand the boundary of the special permit for personal wireless facilities, on property generally located at Sun Valley Blvd. and Line Drive.

**Resolution No. PC-01354**, approving Special Permit No. 13035, requested by Tiffany Heier, to expand a nonstandard use in order to reduce the side yard requirements from 8.86 feet to 5 feet for the construction of a new garage, on property located at 3141 Cedar Avenue.

**Resolution No. PC-01355**, approving Special Permit No. 13037, requested by Casey’s Retail Company, for authority to expand a nonconforming use for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises to allow a 12’ x 40’ addition, and a reduction of the rear setback from 30’ to 23’ at Casey’s General Store, on property located at 1003 South 13th Street.

**Resolution No. PC-01356**, approving Special Permit No. 09022A, requested by Mike Anderson, on behalf of AFO, LLC, for authority to amend the existing Planned Service Commercial Development by revising the use restrictions to allow convenience stores, gas pumps, fast food restaurants and car washes as permitted uses, on property generally located at South 33rd Street and Yankee Hill Road.

This is final action unless appealed to the City Council by filing a notice of appeal with the City Clerk within 14 days of the action by the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission Resolutions+ may be accessed on the internet at [www.lincoln.ne.gov](http://www.lincoln.ne.gov) (Keyword = PATS). Use the “Search Selection” screen and search by application number (i.e. CPC13005, SP1787A, SP13035, SP13037, SP09022A). The Resolution and Planning Department staff report are in the “Related Documents” under the application number.
Date: August 6, 2013
To: City Clerk
From: Teresa McKinstry, Planning Dept.
Re: Administrative Approvals
cc: Jean Preister

This is a list of the administrative approvals by the Planning Director from July 30, 2013 through August 5, 2013:

**Administrative Amendment No. 13040** to Special Permit No. 2005, Scouts School Community Unit Plan (formerly Betty’s Haven), approved by the Planning Director on August 1, 2013, requested by Scott Anderson, to rename the CUP; change the private street to a public street; move the access further west; provide a sidewalk connection to the adjacent Roper School property; change the layout from attached single family to detached single family lots; show a potential future layout on Lot 1, and reduce the number of dwelling units on the west portion of the CUP from 22 to 13, reserving 10 units on the eastern portion of the CUP for future development, on property generally located at S. Coddington Ave. and W. South St.

**Administrative Amendment No. 13056** to Special Permit No. 1534, approved by the Planning Director on August 2, 2013, requested by John Caporale, to expand the area of the licensed premises for the sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises to include a 10’ x 23’ outdoor seating area, on property located at 5560 S. 48th St.
Many of you took part in the Planning Assessment Survey that was conducted this March and April. A full report of the survey is available online at http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/reports/pas/report_full.pdf.

As part of that survey process, focus group conversations were conducted with the public, Planning staffed boards and committees, and City and County staff. The final report of the resulting Planning Department Self Assessment is available here http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/reports/pas/evalreport.pdf.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sara Hartzell at 402-441-6371.

Sara S. Hartzell
Planning Dept.
City of Lincoln and Lancaster County
555 S. 10th St
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
402-441-6371
DIRECTORS’ AGENDA
ADDENDUM
MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2013

I. CITY CLERK

II. MAYOR & DIRECTORS’ CORRESPONDENCE

MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. Public invited to free Solar Tour.
2. NEWS RELEASE. Hometown hero Jack Sock returns to Lincoln to join American Express and USTA for refurbishment of Irvingdale Park Community Tennis Courts
3. NEWS RELEASE. Public invited to open house on South Tributaries Watershed Study.
4. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler’s public schedule for the week of August 10th through August 16, 2013.

III. DIRECTORS

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1. Lincoln Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meeting agenda for Thursday, August 15, 2013, at 1:30 p.m.
2. Historic Preservation Commission meeting agenda for Thursday, August 15, 2013, at 1:30 p.m.
3. Urban Design Committee meeting agenda for Wednesday, August 14, 2013, at 3:00 p.m.

IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP
1. Questions for Lynn Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director, on Sherman Field concessions and parking at Pioneers Park.

V. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS
1. Letter from Jeff Payne on ways the City could cut back, saving money. (Individual letter sent to each Council Member)
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-441-7511

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 8, 2013
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Milo Mumgaard, Mayoral Aide, 402-441-7511

PUBLIC INVITED TO FREE SOLAR TOUR

The public is invited to participate in a free “Power Lincoln” Solar Tour Saturday, August 10. The event begins at 10 a.m. with a news conference at the Jayne Snyder Trails Center, 250 N. 21st Street. The facility, completed in 2012, was designed to be “green” with solar panels and LED lighting as well as energy efficient windows, doors, insulation and other materials.

Participants in the tour, sponsored by Power Lincoln Locally, will board vans to view other solar installations. Sites include the Lincoln Police Department’s (LPD) Center Team station, N. 27th and Holdrege; the UNL Animal Science Complex; and the Hyde Memorial Observatory at Holmes Lake. More information is available at powerlincolnlcom.com. The tour includes lunch and is expected to end at 3 p.m. Reservations can be made at info@powerlincolnlcom.com.

The City funded the solar projects at the Trail Center and the LPD facility with funding from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. “The cost of solar installations dropped 52 percent between 2010 and 2012, making it a far more cost-effective solution,” said Milo Mumgaard, Senior Policy Aide to Mayor Chris Beutler. “This is a smart investment because it lowers energy bills, saving taxpayer dollars. It also demonstrates how practical and easy it is to ‘go solar’ and creates more awareness of solar energy’s potential to create jobs.”

The photovoltaic system was installed in June on the LPD facility’s southern roof. The building was chosen for the installation because it is one of the City’s most energy efficient buildings, with a geothermal heating and cooling system. The LPD installation used $48,440 in federal funds, and the Trail Center installation used $30,700 in federal funds.

Mumgaard said solar energy in Lincoln is strongly supported by the Lincoln Electric System (LES). It provides “net metering” rates for customers who install and operate solar photovoltaic installations up to 100 kilowatt hours, far above State law minimums. LES customers also now qualify for a one-time “capacity payment” of up to $500 per kilowatt of peak demand reduced.

The Mayor’s Office, through its Cleaner Greener Lincoln initiative, will soon launch the SOLAR emPOWERED information source at green.lincoln.ne.gov. The site will include information on solar installations in Lincoln along with links to “real time” energy monitors for many of these examples.

“Many residents are excited about going solar, but don’t know what to do first,” said Mumgaard. “By pulling some of this basic information into one place, we hope more people will see how easy, affordable and realistic to go solar and lower energy bills.”

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HOMETOWN HERO JACK SOCK RETURNS TO LINCOLN TO JOIN AMERICAN EXPRESS AND USTA FOR REFURBISHMENT OF IRVINGDALE PARK COMMUNITY TENNIS COURTS

This morning Thursday, August 8, tennis professional Jack Sock, joined American Express and the USTA to break ground at Irvingdale Park where three tennis courts will be refurbished as part of the Fresh Courts program, a community funding effort in which American Express, in partnership with the USTA, invests in developing new generations of tennis fans, players and champions by renovating existing tennis facilities in communities across the country.

At 10am, the ground-breaking ceremony kicked off with remarks from USTA Missouri Valley Executive Director, Mary Buschmann, Mayor of Lincoln, NE Chris Beutler, tennis professional Jack Sock, Corporate Affairs manager at American Express, Ashley Tufts and Fresh Courts Community Award recipient Kevin Heim.

For the first time, American Express and the USTA collaborated with its player partners to identify community tennis courts that they would like to see refurbished. Sock chose the Lincoln, NE community courts because of the support that his hometown has given him throughout his career. Sock now hopes to begin to return the favor.

"I am really proud to be here to help support this Fresh Courts program created by USTA and American Express, help support tennis communities like this, especially the one here in Lincoln where I grew up,” said Jack Sock to the Lincoln, NE community during the ceremony.

“We are very grateful when organizations like the USTA and American Express partner with us to make our facilities and programs even better...Jack was given the opportunity to select a location in his hometown for the Fresh Courts program. And we think you made a great choice!” said Mayor Chris Beutler.

American Express and the USTA honored local community member Kevin Heim during the ceremony with the Fresh Courts Community Tennis Award, recognizing his tireless efforts to grow the local tennis community and support youth players. Since first joining the Woods Tennis Center in Lincoln in 2008, Kevin has served as both the Head Pro and General Manager. During his time there, the center has increased junior lesson and tournament participation significantly with the program growing from 36 participants in 2008 to over 1,100 juniors in 2012. Kevin is the President-Elect of the Nebraska Tennis Association and chairs the Collegiate Committee. He also chairs the Youth Pathway committee for the Missouri Valley Tennis Association.
After the ceremony, American Express and the USTA planted the first shovel to refurbish and expand the community’s three existing concrete 78’ existing tennis courts to create two acrylic 78’ tennis courts with 36’/60’ blended lines and two additional acrylic permanent 36’ courts. Sock then jumped on the court to host a tennis clinic with 75 local kids, hitting and then autographing tennis balls for them.

Since it began in 2010, the Fresh Courts program has worked to refurbish more than 80 tennis courts in local communities across the United States. Fresh Courts refurbishment projects are facilitated by the USTA’s Facility Assistance department and funded by American Express.

The renovation project starts today and will last 4-5 weeks in order to be completed in conjunction with the 2013 US Open (August 26 - September 9 in New York City).

See a link to select photos from today’s ground-breaking event below. Do let us know if you would like any downloadable hi-res images. Please do your best to include American Express and the USTA in any coverage.

PHOTOS

Photo Credit: Courtesy of American Express, Nathan Stewart
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 9, 2013
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jared Nelson, Watershed Management, 402-441-4955

PUBLIC INVITED TO OPEN HOUSE
ON SOUTH TRIBUTARIES WATERSHED STUDY

The public is invited to an open house on the South Tributaries Watershed Study from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, August 15 at Roper Elementary School, 2323 S. Coddington Ave. The study will result in watershed master plans for portions of Haines Branch, Middle Creek and South Salt Creek watersheds.

The purpose of the master plans is to identify needed projects to improve water quality and stream stability and to determine stormwater runoff characteristics of areas that may develop in the near future. The master plans will also identify special or unique areas in the watersheds.

Participants at the open house will have an opportunity to discuss the study and provide input to staff from the City of Lincoln and the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District as well as the scientists and engineers working on the project. Available information will include the project scope and timeline, a summary of watershed inventories and an analysis of potential erosion and stream stability issues.

For more information on the South Tributaries Watershed Study, visit lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: southtribs). More information on the Watershed Division of the City Public Works and Utilities Department is available at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: watershed).

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Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule
Week of August 10 through 16, 2013
Schedule subject to change

Saturday, August 10
• Belmont Neighborhood Association’s Jazz In the Park, remarks - 2 p.m., outside Belmont Recreation Center, 1234 Judson St.

Monday, August 12
• Mayor’s Neighborhood Roundtable meeting - 5:30 p.m., Mayor’s Conference Room, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.

Thursday, August 15
• KFOR - 7:45 a.m.
TO: Technical Committee Members  
FROM: Miki Esposito, Chairman, Technical Committee  
SUBJECT: Technical Committee Meeting

A Technical Committee meeting is scheduled as follows:

DATE: August 15, 2013  
TIME: 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room #113  
County-City Building

Meeting Agenda:

Roll call and acknowledge the “Nebraska Open Meeting Act”

1. Review and action on the draft minutes of the May 16, 2013 Technical Committee meeting. (enclosure)

2. Review and action on the Project Selection Task Force recommendations on the proposed program of projects for the Federal Transit Administration Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (5310) program. Action includes amending the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program to add these projects and funding. (Staff report enclosed)

   a) Nebraska Department of Roads: US-77-BNSF Viaduct (CN 13089), #HSIP-77-2(161)
   b) Lower Platte South NRD: Rosa Parks Way Trail (CN 12945), #ENH-55(164)

4. Review and action on a resolution that would allow the Nebraska Department of Roads to assume the role of “Designated Recipient” for the new Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program for the Lincoln MPO. (Staff report enclosed)

5. Briefing on the Lincoln MPO Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Strategy for improving individual travel choices and options within the MPO planning area. www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/mpo/. (Staff report enclosed)

6. Report on current status of Pedestrian and Bicycle Counting activity and a proposed comprehensive city-wide pedestrian and bicycle counting program. (Staff report enclosed)

7. Other topics for discussion.

Next MPO Technical Committee Meeting: October 10, 2013
Historic Preservation Commission

The City of Lincoln Historic Preservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Thursday, **August 15, 2013.** The meeting will convene at **1:30 p.m.** in Room 214 in Development Services Center, 2nd floor, **County-City Building,** 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, to consider the following agenda. For more information, contact the Planning Department at (402) 441-7491.

**AGENDA**  
*August 15, 2013*

1. Approval of meeting records of joint meeting of UDC/HPC and HPC meeting, both July 18, 2013.

2. Opportunity for persons with limited time or with an item not appearing on the agenda to address the Commission.

**HEARING AND ACTION**

3. Application by “Sweep Left” for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at the Pepperberg Building, 815 O Street in the Haymarket Landmark District.

4. Application by “McKinney’s” for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at the former Grainger Bros. Grocery complex, a.k.a former Salvation Army Buildings, adjacent to and east of 719 P Street (Burkholder Project), addressed as 151 N. 8th Street in the Haymarket Landmark District.

5. Application by Jonathan Camp for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at the Armour Building, 100 North 8th Street in the Haymarket Landmark District.

6. Application by Jonathan Camp for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at the Harpham Building, 808 P Street in the Haymarket Landmark District.

7. Application by The Clark Enersen Partners for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work in the public alley and vacated former public alley running north-south between O and P Streets west of N. 8th Street; and for work on the buildings framing the alley at 719 P St., 701 P St., 700 O St. and 720 O St.

8. Application by Scott Sullivan for a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at 6117 Havelock Avenue in the Havelock Avenue Landmark District.

**DISCUSSION**

9. Staff Report & Misc.: Update on Schwarz Paper (former Hargreaves Bros.) Building, etc.

The Historic Preservation Commission agenda may be accessed on the Internet at [http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/boards/hpc/hpc.htm](http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/boards/hpc/hpc.htm)

For further information on Historic Preservation in Lincoln, visit [http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/long/hp/hp.htm](http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/long/hp/hp.htm)
URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE will be held on Wednesday, August 14, 2013, 3:00 p.m., in Room 214, Second Floor, County/City Building.

For more information, please contact the Lincoln City/Lancaster County Planning Department, 441-7491.

AGENDA
August 14, 2013

1. Adoption of meeting records UDC meetings of June 12, 2013 and July 10, 2013; and from the joint UDC/HPC meeting of July 18, 2013.

2. Fence replacement/upgrade, 11th & N St. bus stop (StarTran).

3. LES Substation screening, 8th & N St. substation (Clark Enersen for LES)

4. Public gardens maintenance building, Antelope Park (south of WaterPark/former A St. Light & Water Building)

5. Staff report/miscellaneous.

Q:\UDC\AGENDA\2013\130814.docx
Mary M. Meyer

To: Lynn Johnson
Subject: Directors' Meeting Questions

Lynn:
I anticipate asking you questions on 2 subjects:

1. Article in newspaper about City taking over concessions at Sherman Field which have been handled by the Optimist’s Clubs for many years. I am confused that the City thinks it can do this and make $11,500, especially when Optimists currently use volunteers and donate their $10,000 to youth sports activities.

2. Suggestion for Pioneers Park parking: do NOT pave areas of Pioneers Park to accommodate anticipated 6 summer concerts/events. Instead, use StarTran busses to provide shuttle service from nearby parking lots, e.g. Roper School. Both the busses are not being used (and might be good to let Lincolnites experience riding a bus) and the vacant parking is readily available. Patrons could be charged one price to ride the shuttle and a much higher price if some still wished to park in Pioneers Park. Save Pioneers Park greenery for the other 359 days of the year.

Thank you.
Jon

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Website:  www.lincolnhaymarket.com

Check our reception and event venues at:

http://www.facebook.com/pages/Apothecary-Lofts-Ridnour-Rooms/173175799380032
Mayor Chris Beutler  
Lincoln City Council members  
555 South 10th Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508  

August 9, 2013

Mayor Beutler/Council Members,

I am writing as a concerned citizen in our city. I try to follow and be informed about our city government as much as possible. Recently, I have been watching as budgetary items have come up along with the ideas about possible recycling for all citizens. I did take the online community survey. But I also wanted to share some thoughts and concerns with you.

My attention was caught by the information that the city was going to be facing a shortfall of $2 million dollars due to rising health care costs for city employees. A 24% increase in the costs was mentioned. I can relate somewhat to that as I have just received a 23% increase in my monthly premium. That’s translating into a $40 increase in my monthly premium. I thought the “Affordable” Care Act was going to bring health care costs DOWN? Obviously this was false, as the entire country is now finding out. (I’m guessing I’m not the only Lincoln taxpayer that is seeing their premiums increase.) What I have to do now is look at my own personal monthly budget and see how this will affect it. I will have to see what I am going to do without in order to make this new monthly premium. I have the least expensive individual medical policy that I was able to find, because I have no health related issues. And I have made no claims on my policy since I began the policy. My suggestion to you on this issue is to search the city budget to see where cuts can be made in order to make up this shortfall. That is exactly what taxpayers have to do. We cannot continue to go to the permanent credit card (the taxpayers) and increase taxes. I just look at Detroit. You may say we aren’t near where Detroit is now. I’m sure over the past 60 years many of their mayors/city councils said the same thing...we’ll NEVER go bankrupt!

In Lincoln/Lancaster County we seem to be on this continual path of either raising taxes or raising property valuations. In both instances, the property owners pay. Maybe it seems like the money is falling from the sky! And now to add more property tax dollars, I see that homebuilders’ lots will be assessed at 100% of value according to state statute...bringing in more money to the coffers. I realize Lincoln is growing, and with that growth more services are necessary, creating additional costs. I’ve always wondered, if we have so much growth....new homes being built, more apartment complexes being built, new businesses starting up, more people moving here with cars and paying a high wheel tax....why doesn’t all of that new, additional tax revenue make up for the added costs? Do all of these items not bring in enough new revenue to keep up? If that is the case, then we are likely “living too high off the hog” with our spending. It is reported that currently 61 cities in this country are facing the same situation as is Detroit. Half the population of Detroit was “taxed out of town!”

New look for city buses was a recent headline. The new manager thinks we need to “update” our transportation department. The “rebranding” will likely cover everything from bus signs to
uniforms. No costs yet for the “rebranding”, beyond the estimated $30,000 to $40,000 dollars spent for “marketing and research”. Where does this money come from? Is it already in the budget, or will it be in the next budget? If we have to start looking for cuts....this could be an area. Maybe we keep the same signs and logo for a while longer. Give the drivers, other transportation workers new uniforms as they wear out...not just because we will have a new logo to put on them. Marketing and Research monies are an area that could definitely be looked at in budget cuts. And if that money is already budgeted....then this is definitely a part of the budget that needs to be seriously cut back in the future so that we can put it toward paying the increased health care costs for employees...which seems more important than a new logo, bus signage and uniforms. It seems I read constantly about a study, or research, that is being done. I suppose this is part of being a city our size, but I really think in all departments, this is an area that needs to be reviewed.

Painting the water storage tank. Lincoln Water System pays an additional $50,000 dollars to paint a new “logo” design on the water tank. Seems that “logos” are extremely important to our “progressive” city. I believe the water rates have to be OK’d and finalized by the city council. My question would be: Did that additional $50,000 have to be paid at the time of the paint job...or is the cost to paint the water tank spread over 47 years...like the cost of the billboard that was eliminated because of the new “logo” that was painted on the tank? That information was not provided in the news story. If it had to be paid at the time the job was completed....why was it necessary to add the $50,000 cost? Is it because we have higher water rates and the Lincoln Water System has more money on hand to spend on things like this? I’m thinking the city council does not have say over the exact water system budget, but you do have the say each time the water rates are raised, which affects Lincoln residents.

Both LES and Lincoln Water System set their own budgets and come to the city council for approval of rate increases. We have them every year...sometimes more than once a year! Where does this stop? If Lincoln residents conserve on both water and electricity, as we are asked, and in some extreme instances, forced to do (with water)....then these two entities do not bring in enough revenue because residents are CONSERVING, thus our monthly bills are less. So, LES and LWS have to ask for rate increases because they aren’t bringing in enough revenue to meet their budgets. “We can’t win for losing!” is a phrase that comes to mind here. I’m waiting for the next big shoe to drop by LES that because of Obama’s EPA over-regulations on a power facility out in Wyoming, which LES has 12% ownership of, it’s going to cost LES millions more. Where is that money going to come from? We all know the answer to that. At least we hurried and got the residents of Lincoln to pay for the street lights, so that they can stay “on”. Unlike in Detroit, where over 40% of street lights don’t work. If I have to pay additional for something, I’d rather pay for the street lights, rather than a new logo for the water tank, or new logo and updating for the transportation department....but I guess we’ll likely end up paying for ALL of it. At least once a year, if not more, we get the reminder from LES that Lincoln has one of the lowest electrical rates compared with several cities our same size. I wish they would actually publish that list of cities AND the actual rates they pay in those cities. Or perhaps the Lincoln Journal-Star could do that for us, to insure that it was independently done.
The next issue is solid waste. Who can be against recycling? I do it. Many do. The city of Lincoln is paying $330,000 dollars to HDR Engineering for a solid waste “plan”. This includes working with the committee and organizing public meetings. Was this money already budgeted? Sometimes I wonder where all the “study” money comes from? Is there a large pot of discretionary money that is used....or was all of this specifically earmarked for these items at the time of the last budget? (I believe we are also under a current $25,000 study for the Superior Street roundabout....after it is already built....trying to figure out how to make drivers use it correctly. And I think we paid around $60,000 for a study/plans for the intersection of 14th and Old Cheney. I use that intersection about 4-5 times weekly. If a roundabout is the final decision for this location...I hope consideration is given that many Southwest High School students use this intersection. Not that they can’t navigate it...just wondering if any information is available on approx. how many high school students use the Superior Street location?) Because the news article did not go into specifics, I’m guessing part of this huge amount paid to HDR was to have them go out and survey, do testing, etc...at the landfill site? I realize engineers get paid a lot....but this amount seems very high.

My initial thought is to enlarge the landfill and see if more incentives can be given for residents to recycle. Kind of a two-prong approach. I don’t know what the incentives would be. Too bad there aren’t paper companies out there that would PAY people to bring in their newspapers and other types of paper (magazines) for recycling. Like the pop can recyclers. I pretty much can see where this is headed. I got a good laugh as I read the article in the Sunday paper when I came to the part that stated: “A homeowner’s monthly trash-hauling bill may not increase if the city requires garbage haulers to add recycling to their services.” Maybe the garbage haulers will do it out of their good conscience for the environment.....I’m afraid NOT. We get almost annual increases in our garbage fees the way it is....so on top of those increases would likely come the “recycling” fee. I’m sorry, I hate to be pessimistic, but I do not see garbage haulers taking this on for no additional charge. And to pay the garbage haulers a subsidy from the city to do this.....would be the same thing.....because it would result in increased taxation on property owners to pay for the subsidy. I had the mistaken idea that when a landfill is past it’s use, after it is covered and contained, it can be put to some other use. Didn’t we do that with the Helen Boosalis Park area? The land we now use for a landfill, no one would want to use, or buy? And when we move to the other area that we have for a landfill....after that is filled, we have no other land? If the landfill area that would be used up and covered/contained....I can think of one possible use for it.....Lincoln is definitely in need of another campground. With the elimination of the State Fair Park Campground.....there is a definite shortage of campgrounds in this city. I know that my parents came each Nebraska football game and camped there. I went out there, it was always packed. Having only one other campground in the city, I understand it is “booked up” far in advance for many events held here. Now with the new arena, perhaps more people will “RV” their way to Lincoln for events held there! Using the old landfill for a new campground is just a thought. Back to recycling....I wonder how many people would use the minimal curbside recycling for those that want it and signed up for it? And if it wasn’t forced? Or do we already have a program, or company like that? It would be great if a company came into town that would provide the curbside recycling service for no charge to
residents, and then were able to get paid for all of the items they collected by a company that could use that material for profit. Is this something that the economic development department for the city could look into? Seems like finding a new recycling company to locate in our city that would create a new business and provide new jobs...would come under their type of work.

As I drive our city, I still can’t figure out why all the building of new housing...some of it huge, expensive homes that would pay huge tax dollars, and the new businesses...many going in down in the Haymarket area...doesn’t add to the tax revenue the city brings in fast enough? Or do all the businesses’ property tax dollars down in the Haymarket go toward paying for the arena? And with that additional tax money, why should we have shortfalls, and then have to increase city property taxes (and valuations)? The answer must be that it does not come in FAST enough for our needs. If that is the case...and as much as it was “difficult” to hear....maybe we do need to take our time and pay for what we can. Being a “progressive city” is all well and good.....as long as you can AFFORD it without putting more stress on the taxpayers. Or, putting it all on one man in this county, Norm Agena, to continue the property valuation increases. I hear of the plaza downtown, the artwork, the redevelopment of “P” Street. Perhaps we need to pay as we go, do what we can afford to do. I hope re-doing “P” Street does not come out of wheel tax funds. There would be MANY other areas of town that would need those funds...rather than re-doing a street downtown to make it more visually appealing. (I think I understand the TIF process. Do we pay for these items now at the time it is done...with our tax dollars....and then business owners that it benefits pay it back over a period of years through their tax payments? If this is somewhat accurate, then perhaps those tax dollars used NOW would be better used to make up the shortfall for the health care costs going up.)

I see that sales tax revenue has been down for the city. Of course when a person’s electric rates, water rates, property taxes (sometimes because of valuation increases or tax increases), health care monthly premiums increase (even though that was NOT to happen), and now possibly in the future an additional increase in garbage rates for recycling.....Lincolnites don’t have the money to buy the extra goods and pay sales taxes. As I said earlier, taxpayers have to live within their monthly budgets.....not all of us just go out and “put it on the credit card” when we want something we can’t pay for. At some point additional spending has to come to a stop. As much as it is great to want a busy, growing, progressive city....somebody has to pay for it. Living within your means. I certainly don’t want to become the “Detroit” of the plains somewhere down the road.

I remember the last city tax increase and some Lincoln residents appeared on TV at the time of the budgetary decisions saying that they didn’t mind a “modest” tax increase to pay for the items that were threatened to be cut back. I have an idea that I would like to see some PSA TV and radio announcements made during March and July each year, or on “budget”years, for Lincoln media markets. The ads would speak about the possibilities of some cuts needing to be made rather than increasing taxes. Lincoln residents that are willing, could appear and encourage those Lincoln taxpayers who don’t mind modest tax increases... to make additional
contributions when they pay their local taxes in April and August, specifically indicating where their additional contributions should go... public library, parks, city pools, etc.... kind of like we all do with the United Way campaign each year! It would be very interesting to see what amount of tax revenue that would bring to the city. This would truly be having people put their money where their mouth is... so to speak.

I see in the paper that information coming out during the state tax study by the legislature reaffirms some of what we here in Nebraska pretty much knew. It stated that from 1992-2012, Nebraska property taxes grew by 5.3% and tax expenditures for local government use was up 4.7%. In comparison to the six surrounding states, Nebraska brings in a higher percentage of property taxes. Income taxes are also slightly higher in Nebraska than in the other six states.

Is there something in the city charter that states that funding directed to one department, can only be used in that department? And if that department does not use all of the funds during that budget period, they lose it? So that basically encourages them to spend all funds by a certain point? If this is the case, I would suggest a vote by Lincoln voters to change, or amend, the city charter so that in times of necessity,... spending deemed not essential... could be moved to use for something like the increase in health care costs for city employees.

Just noticed that Forbes listed Lincoln at #4 out of the top 5 cities in the U.S. as good for business! Great news! Hopefully that gives more incentive to the economic development department to search for new businesses to locate here... maybe even in the area of recycling.

It's unfortunate that the "new normal" of high gas prices, continual water and electric rate increases, high health care premiums, property valuation increases, probable property tax increases, and the new "mandatory" issues like water use and possibly recycling... has to happen. It seems like the "mandatory" part begins to creep into our freedoms. But, without the "mandatory" part... some are not going to adhere to "voluntary" requests. When that happens, we ALL have to pay up.

I appreciate the work that you folks do for our city. I know it must be a great deal of reading and research and trying to make the best decisions for Lincoln residents. There is much I do not know about our local government. I have just tried to give an average citizen's viewpoint from what I see in the newspaper. And recently I've been concerned enough to write all of you. Even though my suggestions may not make a lot of sense.... I don't like to be a complainer unless I have some kind of suggestion to help rectify the complaints. I also appreciate Nancy Hicks reporting on City Hall in the Lincoln Journal-Star. This at least helps keep Lincoln citizens informed on some of what is happening and what we are paying for in our city.

Jeff Payne
5320 Danbury Rd.
Lincoln, NE 68512

cc: Lincoln Journal-Star Editorial Board, Nancy Hicks- Lincoln Journal-Star reporter
Message from Becky Baker on recycling. Great to do, and the City is talking of doing curbside pickup. Has recycled for a long time and often she has to call them to pick up. Believe apartment buildings should be mandatory. And recycling should start now at the workplace. If at work and taught in school should carry over to the home.
Present: Carl Eskridge, Chair; Doug Emery, Vice Chair; Leirion Gaylor Baird; Trent Fellers; Jonathan Cook; Roy Christensen; and Jon Camp

Others: Teresa Meier, City Clerk; Rick Hoppe, Chief of Staff; and Lynn Johnson, Parks & Recreation Director

Chair Eskridge opened the meeting at 2:10 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

I. CITY CLERK
Meier stated on today’s agenda, under Public Hearing/Liquor Resolutions would like to call #7, #8, and #9 together. Items #10 and #11 together, and #12 and #13 together.

Item 24 has a request to have 2nd reading, with public hearing and action on August 26th to coincide with the Budget Resolution. Cook stated, make the motion today to line up. Meier agreed.

II. MAYOR
1. NEWS RELEASE. Discounted Big Red Express tickets on sale now. (Corrected release)
2. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler, representatives of American Express and the U. S. Tennis Association will break ground to expand tennis courts at Irvingdale Park, 20th and Van Dorn Street, on Thursday, August 8th, at 10:00 a.m.
3. NEWS ADVISORY. Pinnacle Bank Arena ribbon cutting on August 29; media day on August 27th, and UNL commencement ceremonies on August 16th and August 17.
4. NEWS RELEASE. Prescott Avenue to close Monday from 47th to 48th Street
No comment

III. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE

PARKS AND RECREATION
1. Meeting agenda for Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on August 8, 2013.
   a) Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting minutes of Thursday, July 11, 2013.
No comment

21st and M Project
Hoppe stated Johnson will discuss the 21st and N area and some results which will happen. Everyone is aware of the investments being proposed, and believe this is a very important project. One item which has to happen is moving a park maintenance facility to different areas. Part to the Municipal Services Center. Another part is a new building to house the public garden section. As this resulted from redevelopment at 21st and N had planned to use TIF for moving and construction costs of the 2 facilities. Johnson will explain the gardens building and why we are doing this way.

Johnson, with a map of area, gave background. Two buildings at the 21st and M. Four groups work in the buildings. Three, including Community Forestry with heavy equipment, will move to the MSC. The fourth is our public gardens section. Maintains Sunken Gardens, the Rose Garden, Centennial Mall, Antelope Park and Government Square. The proposal was to retain in close proximity to Antelope Park and Sunken Gardens. He then described the map and locations listed.

He stated essentially replacing a 4800 sq. building at 21st and M. The building has office, staff space,
restrooms, lockers/equipment and chemical storage. Also have a metal structure with shade cloth on top, shade storage, used to store plant material. We keep plants there almost year round, at 21st and M.

Believe building cost is about $450,000, and working with ADA (Architect Design Associates) for design work but underestimated the building value on initial cost projections. Thought around $70 per sq. ft, and hoped to use a pre-engineered metal building. ADA stated the least costly for a quality building would be a wood framed building, approximately $90 a square foot. Some of the money coming from TIF funds, generated by the 21st and M Redevelopment, with $350,000 identified in TIF associated with the 5 year project. Bringing forward a proposal in the Budget Resolution, which passed $100,000 in KENO from Irving Recreation Center replacement project to this project. About $60,000 in last year’s impact.

Johnson said the intent is for the finalized construction documents to be out this month, and hopefully construction underway by October.

Fellers asked if doing more than originally thought on those properties, why $400,000? Johnson replied had projected a 4800 sq. ft. building cost at $70 a sq. ft.. As architects worked out a more detailed process projected approximately $90 a sq. ft. The difference isn’t a change in building size, but probably should have seen in our initial process. Fellers asked why Parks can’t use a pre-built building? Johnson said this is insulated space. Costs less for a metal building but more for insulation. Total cost is more for a metal insulated building than a wood building. Items cannot freeze, with heat during winters to stop freezing.

Fellers asked how many employees are housed here? Johnson said 3 full time employees with the public gardens section. This time of year have about 6 or 7 seasonal employees. Fellers asked if more parks involved? Johnson replied different districts have shops, who do the mowing for areas around the public gardens section, the administration buildings. The others come from the SE District.

Camp stated a pre-council may help explain the goal, project, and TIF financing. How much overall TIF expected for the projects? The idea is we sell City land, how much by TIF, and TIF developers, buying the land? Hoppe replied, still negotiating with the developer, so not all together. When they are will have a pre-council. Camp asked if we see proceeds from City land sales? Hoppe stated, it’s going back into moving our facilities or buying replacement property. Johnson added Federal Land & Water Conservation on the area around 21st and M Street. With Federal requirements we replace on value to value basis. A portion of sale proceeds would be used to purchase the 78 acres just bought. Camp said, like before, if the Experian building was bought different functions would move there, we would sell land, and have money to replace. Are we getting that? Hoppe said they’re trying to finance much of the move from 21st with proceeds from the project. As pointed out we had some title restrictions on the land sale. Another question to discuss more in depth is replacement land.

Cook said TIF makes up the majority. Again, the supplemental sources? Johnson said years ago identified KENO funding to work with the school district when and if they do the indoor air quality project at Irving Middle School, with recreation center. As they proceed we’ll pay our portion. Identified about $1.1 million for the project. The LPS project is delayed at least a year. The LPS project shifting back frees up some money, and we propose to shift $100,000 to the project, to make up the projection difference.

**Optimists Clubs/Sherman Field**

Johnson stated we worked with Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, and City Council, before to identify
positive recovery goals for all our facilities. Now have goals in place with the last component the golf fields. Most difficult was costs for maintenance and operation of the fields. The cost recovery goals are in place and determined what it will cost. Working with groups who use the facilities.

One group was the Star City Optimist Club. For decades they operated the Sherman Field concession. Two years ago let them know we needed to work, or talk, about possibly capturing some concession revenue to go against the facility operation. Worked out a 2 year agreement/2 years ago, ending this year, then talked about the future. Our goal is to put some funds into the operation. They have an arrangement with EMG at Pershing where they receive a stipend for providing volunteers to staff the Pershing concession. They asked us to look at. After reviewing we projected our staff and concession cost at $6,000/year. Offered them $6,000 a year, which they turned down. They provided an alternate, what they would pay monthly, a gross revenue percentage. Worked with and contacted a representative, with 2 out of town. Made offer in terms of an arrangement and we’ll meet next week.

Johnson stated Sherman costs about $35,000/ year to manage. The 2 primary users are LPS, about 45%, and American Legion Baseball. LPS provided funds which go towards their annual operating costs and we’re discussing with the American Legion on how we can capture some costs, essentially their portion.

We think we can operate the concession at a third of the cost. We looked at total operating costs and deducted what we generate in revenue besides the concessions. Then, we try to work with the users to fill the gap. At Sherman the gap of what we generate and the cost is sizeable. Will take four to five years.

Camp stated he talked to a couple colleagues, and read the article, and it seemed like some are not getting the true sense. Rent at Sherman is $4,000 to $5,000. Don’t see where the City operating is better or more economical then Optimist Club volunteers, who donate all earned to sports activities in the City.

Hoppe commented the $4,000 was what they paid, they make considerably more. They paid that for rent, but their operation takes in excess of this. Johnson interjected they thought about $14,000 a year. Emery assumed that would be what we would make after paying for help and other expenses.

Johnson said Parks operates concessions at Star City Shores and Dinsmore Park. We look at revenue generated there and that’s what we projected. Tried to make conservative and how we came up with $12,000 a year. We think we can generate more. Camp stated he understands trying to defray the operating costs. If the Optimists are putting back into youth sports, and you estimate $6,000, and paying Parks $4,000 or $5,000, seems like you’re getting more but at the expense of youth sports. Johnson said that means they aren’t supporting our youth sports, the City’s Parks and Recreation Sports, but other community youth sports programs, which is great, but taxpayers are subsidizing us growing. We’re not generating the revenue to offset our expenses, and tax dollars are subsidizing us.

Camp asked if sponsors of other sports activities would discontinue support and say, we’ll now paying for City sports as well? Johnson replied, a possibility. Camp asked if the Optimists Club participating is helping get people inside our Parks & Rec? Hate to see organizational support lose out.

Eskridge asked if currently the Optimists make about $10,000? Johnson said about $14,000/year. Eskridge questioned, they pay the City, so make $10,000? Emery added, think $18,000, pay the $4,000. Camp added the City has no risk. Hoppe commented to keep in mind this proposal has them continuing to operate using volunteer labor. Think they can continue and still allow us greater cost recovery. Emery appreciates this discussion, and with articles reading around issues makes it difficult for us to make a decision. The first time we see it basically says the Optimists are out. We would like to hear first hand, not second hand. Then would deal with the correct numbers. Those are not the numbers in the paper.
Hoppe stated at the time the letter to the Optimists was put into the public spear we still were negotiating. So, a surprise to us that it happened. Emery commented, it shouldn’t be a surprise, because when we don’t get what we want we go the paper. He added was involved in this two years ago and in the paper then, saying this has the potential to be a public relations nightmare. Let’s figure out a way. We would help but we have to know in advance.

Cook asked, possibly we would be asked to help if the money wasn’t there from the Optimists. Can’t speculate. Looking in a larger context, the Parks Department has been squeezed for years, they hear, pay for yourself. Suppose we should be surprised you’re trying to do. We need to keep in mind that may be the result. We don’t tell other department to pay for themselves, and if we want to say, maybe some things you have in mind aren’t quite the direction we want, we have to keep in mind do you have the funding necessary to operate? Appreciate the effort being made here and hopefully this can be worked out, where everyone involved will be happy in the end.

**PLANNING COMMISSION**
   No comment

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**
1. Administrative approvals by the Planning Director from July 30, 2013 through August 5, 2013.
2. Planning Assessment Survey Final Reports posted on web.
   No comment

**IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS** - No comments

**V. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS** - None

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**
Chair Eskridge adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.