

**CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 7, 2013  
555 S. 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET, ROOM 113  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DIRECTORS' MEETING**

**I. MINUTES**

1. Directors' Meeting minutes of September 23, 2013.
2. Organizational Meeting minutes of September 23, 2013.
3. Pre-Council Minutes: Public Works on the 14<sup>th</sup> and Superior Roundabout.

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

1. Problem Resolution Team (PRT) - Emery
2. MPO Officials Committee - Eskridge, Emery
3. Lancaster County Correctional Facility JPA - Eskridge
4. Downtown Lincoln Association (DLA) - Gaylor Baird, Eskridge
5. Internal Liquor Commission (ILC) - Christensen, Eskridge, Fellers
6. West Haymarket Joint Public Agency - Emery

**III. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR**

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

**V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**VI. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS**

See invitation list.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 7, 2013**

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

**Others:** Trish Owen, Deputy Chief of Staff; Rod Confer, City Attorney; Mary Meyer, Council Secretary

Chair Eskridge opened the meeting at 2:35 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

**I. MINUTES**

1. Directors' Meeting minutes of September 23, 2013.
  2. Organizational Meeting minutes of September 23, 2013.
  3. Pre-Council Minutes: Public Works on the 14<sup>th</sup> and Superior Roundabout.
- Minutes presented to Council electronically and with no corrections placed on file in Council office.

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

**1. Problem Resolution Team (PRT) - Emery**

Emery stated the PRT currently has 9 active cases, and 9 monitor cases. The oldest active case is over 6 ½ years. We had 4 pending, decided to put 1 on active, 1 on monitor, and 2 were turned down as they didn't meet the criteria. The number of cases will decrease in the winter with no grass or weed issues as a reason.

Eskridge asked, are the properties under No. 15 regarding vacancy, on the PRT? Emery didn't think so as the PRT hasn't reached the point to declare them.

**2. MPO Officials Committee - Eskridge, Emery**

Eskridge stated the Committee consists of 2 Council Members, 2 County Commissioners, the Mayor, and the Director of State Roads. Received a report on alternative transportation. Looked at bikes, walking, and other forms of transportation. A consultant from Portland attended and discussed other communities, similar to Lincoln, and what they do. Discussed the number of people in Lincoln who utilize alternative avenues for going to work is lower than those cities. We'll start looking at making easier for people to use an alternative method to travel. The MPO had a consultant a few years ago who discussed buses, and what was done in communities. One way they increased ridership was simplifying the routes.

**3. Lancaster County Correctional Facility JPA - Eskridge**

Eskridge stated an article last week said a significant number of inmates from the old location have been moved to the Lancaster County Correctional Facility. Eventually the old location will be mostly cleared, but a small facility will continue to exist for a small number of inmates needed for court proceedings. Numerous court proceedings will be done electronically from the Correctional facility.

**4. Downtown Lincoln Association (DLA) - Gaylor Baird, Eskridge**

Gaylor Baird stated the DLA is now meeting at different locations, taking tours. Places like the Pinnacle Bank Arena, and this time we met at the new Farmers Mutual Building on the roof top terrace. It's on the Lincoln Mall and is beautifully done. A Center Captain spoke on activities and game day policing staffing.

Received updates from Urban Development on the Block 16 project, N Street.

**5. Internal Liquor Commission (ILC) - Christensen, Eskridge, Fellers**

Christensen stated the ILC discussed taxis, their ability to pick up at designated areas, and problems with the areas, as vehicles might park illegally in the pick up zones. Also, people mob the cabs when they come near the pick up zone. One taxi was damaged by people trying to stop the cab and enter. The competition for use is high, and a disincentive for cab drivers to go to that location. We need ways to make more reliable, predictable, with cabs to park and pick up without putting people in danger as some people want to exit while others want to enter the cab simultaneously, all in the right of way.

Christensen added a limo company rep came and spoke. Christensen did speak to the Happy Cab manager who expressed similar sentiments that we need a designated place for cabs where they know no one would be parked there. Discussed if further designating space will we take needed parking?

Talked about having a Council tailgate walk this year, but want to an afternoon, or evening game, and running out of time. But some games haven't announced the start times.

Fellers stated the important message for cabs is to have in a well lit area, off the main street Some taxi prices have gone up, with the problem of an incident like a fire truck pulling up blocking the cabs in, and they remain for an extended time. Suggestions on utilizing the Capitol Mall, in front of the Federal Building, or possibly City parking. Not a dark, dimly lit corner for people to wait for taxis. Good discussions.

Gaylor Baird gave an example of tailgating last Saturday morning. She had coffee in a paper cup when she went to the Railyard. Two security officers stopped her from entering the Railyard with the container. Staffing the area as promised.

**6. West Haymarket Joint Public Agency - Emery**

Emery stated they approved the last of the design bills. The footbridge will open on November 3<sup>rd</sup> . The arena is no longer open on football Saturdays for the remainder of the year. Will discuss before possible continuance. Discontinued discussion with the artist on the train art.

Camp asked if art appeared on the JPA's budget, set aside, or budgeted for art? Emery replied money was originally allocated. Still has \$1.3 million for art. The original budget had \$2 million. Box of Chocolates was part of the art paid for. Owen thought that was the only art paid for.

**III. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - None**

**IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

Eskridge stated regarding the pending list, possibly we could tiny up a bit more. Understand the first item on our pending list, 07-73, may be desirable to keep on the list, but don't know if others have that importance. Fellers asked if a motion needed to take off? Confer stated they're on the agenda, and need motion from the dias, after your voting session. Eskridge stated the Clerk needs to know, of the last three items. Fellers asked if the first one is being kept? Cook added he knows of a group of people who are very concerned about the problem properties, and felt important. We may not end up acting on it but think to take away, without discussing with the people who supported, would make them think perhaps we're heading in the opposite direction.

Emery commented, or we should go back and look at it because some of that has already been introduced in other forms. Cook replied there are pieces introduced, and pieces being worked on now, which the neighborhood folks are interested in. Emery added we should look at and determine what's been taken out and added in. Fellers stated he would not move to take the first item off, but would move to take the rest of the items off.

Gaylor Baird asked if the three are lacking the same sort of support? Cook replied these were items brought up by individual Council members for various reasons, over a period of time. No constituency for these.

**V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**ROY CHRISTENSEN**

Christensen stated he is the Council manager for the United Way Campaign. Have distributed materials to members. The deadline to turn in is the first of November, and looking for 100% participation.

**VI. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS**

See invitation list.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Eskridge adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.