

**CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 6, 2014
555 S. 10TH STREET, ROOM 113
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DIRECTORS' MEETING**

I. MINUTES

1. Directors' Meeting minutes of December 9, 2013.
2. Organizational Meeting minutes of December 9, 2013.
3. Executive Session minutes of December 9, 2013.

II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS

1. Public Building Commission (PBC) (Dec. 10th) - Cook
2. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Dec. 12th) - Cook
3. Board of Health (Dec. 10th) - Emery
4. Multicultural Advisory Committee (Dec. 10th) - Eskridge
5. KENO Advisory Committee (Dec. 18th) - Emery
6. Lancaster County Correctional JPA (Dec. 17th) - Eskridge
7. Problem Resolution Team (PRT) (Dec. 19th) - Emery
8. Information Services Policy Committee (ISPC) (Dec. 19th) - Fellers
9. West Haymarket Joint Public Agency (Dec. 19th) - Emery
10. Joint Budget Committee (JBC) (Dec. 20th) - Emery, Gaylor Baird
11. Internal Liquor Commission (ILC) (Dec. 30th) - Christensen, Eskridge, Fellers

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
JANUARY 6, 2014**

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

Absent: Doug Emery, Vice Chair

Others Present: Rick Hoppe, Chief of Staff

Chair Eskridge opened the meeting at 2:22 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

I. MINUTES

1. Directors' Meeting minutes of December 9, 2013.
2. Organizational Meeting minutes of December 9, 2013.
3. Executive Session minutes of December 9, 2013.

Minutes presented to Council electronically. With no corrections placed on file in Council office.

II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS

1. Public Building Commission (PBC) (Dec. 10th) - Cook

Cook stated the PBC discussed the Juvenile Probation construction, which is being completed with some staff moving into offices. The Northeast Senior Center parking lot is complete, and the design for the 8th Street parking lot, between 8th & 9th Streets on H Street, has been submitted for bids.

The County-City Building has been enjoying the artwork in the first floor hallway.

Cook added, also discussed recycling in departments, with some interest in recyclables being separated.

2. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Dec. 12th) - Cook

Cook stated they approved the Parks and Rec 10 Year Plan. There were numerous public meetings on this CIP Plan. For the next 10 years the number is approximately 70 million dollars, 7 million per year. Council is aware of the small amount put into the Parks CIP.

Along with passing the 10 Year Plan a motion included that Keno revenue go only to maintenance, no longer to new projects. This is approximately 1 million a year.

If dividing the 70 million by 10 years, an average 7 million. Of the 7 million per year maybe 2 million received from grants and fund raising. Of the remaining 5 million, 2.22.3 million is necessary for basic maintenance, not building new facilities. Out of the 2.22.3 million have Keno money and possibly one-quarter million parks revenue. Then 1 million short on basic maintenance, not including the 2.7 million to attain 5 million for new projects, for which there is no money to do. Cook added, possibly will be decided some items do not need to be done, especially some new projects, with a decision made when presented. Would need to be approved as part of our budget, part of our CIP. Believe a decision needed in the next budget of adopting the 10 Year Plan as brought forward, and provide the necessary funding to make it occur in a reasonable form. The maintenance side an absolute necessity. Or, will we change, or not adopt, or adopt a much smaller version? Cook stated he feels it shouldn't be adopted in this form if we're not prepared to fund.

Cook added the Board named an outdoor education center, the new shooting sports facilities, at Boosalis park. Although a City building it is run by the Game and Parks Commission, and named the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Outdoor Education Center. They may name some inside rooms as they are a State governing board. Christensen asked if the Commission will set the prices for use? Cook thought they were completely in charge of the operation.

Regarding golf they discussed the Sustainability Study, with a public meeting scheduled on January 16th, 5 p.m. A community conversation group format with Leadership Lincoln helping.

The Advisory Board Chair elected. Eskridge stated the last golf meeting was at the new Holmes Club House, possibly this meeting may also be? Cook has asked for verification of meeting location.

Camp asked what funding has been for Parks, on our budget side for the last few years? Cook replied as Keno money used for the new Union Plaza essentially cause Parks to have no general maintenance revenue. Had \$250,000 to \$300,000 from cell tower revenue. Need more than \$2 million.

Cook stated this is the Bi-Annual Budget's second year. On the last single budget year Council put in a million with nothing from the Mayor's office. In the last Bi-Annual Budget we put in approximately \$750,000 a year. These amounts are insufficient for identified needs but very important.

Gaylor Baird asked what are some of the largest concerns? Cook answered it is listed in the plan and will share after the meeting. Numerous items.

3. Board of Health (Dec. 10th) - Emery

Councilman Emery absent.

4. Multicultural Advisory Committee (Dec. 10th) - Eskridge

Eskridge stated the Committee followed a discussion from a prior meeting on community discrimination issues and how to better handle. Want a more inclusive and accepting community. A good discussion.

5. KENO Advisory Committee (Dec. 18th) - Emery

Councilman Emery absent.

6. Lancaster County Correctional JPA (Dec. 17th) - Eskridge

Eskridge stated the Correctional JPA meets once a month and approve bills submitted. Now working on completing the warehouse, necessary for storage, in an area not subject to the same protection.

The facility is approximately 150 inmates short of being full. Not recruiting inmates from other counties as generally we lose money, and would have to hire additional staff. Cook commented other counties take inmates and assume they make money, but different factors for different institutions. Is there a prediction when the facility will be filled? Eskridge replied they're predicting estimated growth, with State level discussions in terms of incarceration and alternatives to incarceration. Alternatives to building new prisons include possibly utilizing County facilities to handle inmates who should be in the State system.

Camp stated he understands they need more staff to supervise but aren't there some costs in utilities and overhead? It wouldn't make it worthwhile to add the per diem we would receive? Eskridge stated they didn't feel like it would be worthwhile.

7. Problem Resolution Team (PRT) (Dec. 19th) - Emery

Councilman Emery absent.

8. Information Services Policy Committee (ISPC) (Dec. 19th) - Fellers

Fellers stated the Committee continues to review the agreement. Hopefully will be submitted shortly.

9. West Haymarket Joint Public Agency (Dec. 19th) - Emery

Councilman Emery absent.

10. Joint Budget Committee (JBC) (Dec. 20th) - Emery, Gaylor Baird

Gaylor Baird stated they voted to forward items, on First Reading, as a resolution to our agenda this week. The JBC uses Keno funds for various grants, recommended by the Advisory Board Committee. This group of grants has the largest amount going towards an adult recidivism reduction project which the JBC set up previously. Also, with these funds will buy laptops for GED testing, for online course. Inmates are able to use the laptops prior to being released from incarceration for research and taking their GED's. Potentially they could obtain a food handler permit, or other permits. Will help with the transition back to civilian life and to help find meaningful work.

11. Internal Liquor Commission (ILC) (Dec. 30th) - Christensen, Eskridge, Fellers

Eskridge stated the Commission discussed the 2:00 a.m. closing, and will present to Council. Possibly a way to measure how this has impacted issues in terms of alcohol. We're developing interesting discussions with possible surprises. Should present within a few months.

Eskridge added also discussed the West Haymarket and how the openings of businesses have gone. LPD indicated they have a significant presence in the West Haymarket, and mostly things have gone well. The developers are also pleased. Did hear of the one special permit where they closed the street and weren't terribly happy with the results. Really reluctant to do again. Camp asked, this is the developers on Canopy Street? Eskridge replied it was inconvenient to customers wanting to go to restaurants. Heard from constituents saying people also didn't want to pay to enter. The hassle of everything combined.

Eskridge stated the ILC also discussed taxis and the continuing issues and conflicts. Included was LPD and their desire to rid street congestion, especially on 14th Street and finding a place for taxis to pick up people. People are working with Dave Landis to try to find solutions. Fellers added it was interesting to hear their thoughts on closing the street. Didn't anticipate. Now, having the benefit of being involved in the process I see how closing the street would be a detriment to some businesses, especially with the cover charge. Christensen stated his impression was that it would have to be a very compelling reason for them to bring forward a plan to do again.

III. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR

Hoppe requested Landis to speak on the Lumberworks garage. Landis stated the Lumberworks garage, south of the Harris Overpass, is open. Over 400 stalls, under budget, between \$200,000 to \$300,000, if bills to be paid come in at their projected cost. Do not suspect otherwise. More than 100 monthly users of the Haymarket Garage moved to this location, and provided sought after relief at the Haymarket Garage. Still busy, however we knew with two hotels in the area there was a chance of overloading the garage. By creating a price differential and with a number of monthly users being closer to the Lumberworks location have had a substantial alternation of our usage pattern. Lumberworks opens with a good amount of monthly users.

Camp asked if there are statistics on how much more availability is in the garage? Landis replied they moved 135 of the existing monthly from the Haymarket to Lumberworks. The Haymarket Garage is 470 stalls, and between 20% and 25% of the entire capacity moved to another location. Camp asked for future projections? When Hilton Gardens came on you had adjacent apartments. Landis stated both are on. Camp asked with the garage occupancy it includes covering existing? Landis said their perception is the existing development commitments are achievable with our existing resource capacity.

A highly used garage, although not the most used. The possible difficulty is relieved significantly by Lumberworks. Camp asked which garage is most used? Landis stated University Square.

Landis stated time-lapse photography of taxi zones has been going on over past weekends. Available for viewing. Christensen asked if from the cameras that were controversial? Landis replied he bought the camera, not through the City. We have an agreement with merchants to put in windows. To his knowledge being operated without police implications. Landis said generally once signs put up indicating possible towing zones, 9:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m., spaces are usually available for taxis. People stop and let people off but do not park and risk being towed. The spaces are being utilized by taxis. Possibly not the ideal locations the taxis want, but early information shows they're being used as loading purposes but not parking and therefore fit with the taxis.

Fellers stated one issue asked was which parking spots are being blocked by law enforcement vehicles, fire trucks, etc. in the area? Landis answered so far we haven't seen but only have a couple of weekends at 2 or 3 different locations. Not monitoring weekend multiple sites for the whole time at every location.

Landis added, congratulations to Lincoln as the fourth best run city in the Country according to USA Today.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

CAMP: Camp stated for informational purposes want Council to know he's been meeting with StarTran, including the new garage manager. Considering all happenings in the Haymarket, with the DLA close to the situation, they are looking to possibly add a shuttle or something to help. When talking about the Railyard, when closing Canopy Street because of events it hurt a lot of Haymarket businesses and raised questions as they're losing regular patrons. They've worked for years but with the events patrons can't find parking and leave. We're trying to see if we can come up with better parking for wait staff, as they don't have parking. Secondly, with the new garage the possible idea of a shuttle along the arena on R Street, 8th to Pinnacle Bank Arena, and could go down Arena Way, N and A Streets, having stops. Would be a way to get people to the area and alleviate parking, especially during events. Could be a test for a downtown shuttle. Wanted everyone to be aware.

VI. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Eskridge adjourned the meeting at 2:47 p.m.