

**CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MARCH 3, 2014
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DIRECTORS' MEETING
555 S. 10TH STREET, ROOM 113**

I. MINUTES

1. Directors' Meeting minutes of February 10, 2014.
2. Organizational Meeting minutes of February 10, 2014.
3. Executives Session - Pending Litigation of January 13, 2014.

II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS

1. Public Building Commission (PBC) (Feb. 11) - Cook
2. West Haymarket JPA (Feb. 11) - Emery
3. Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) (Feb. 11) - Eskridge
4. Board of Health (Feb. 11) - Emery
5. Visitors Promotion Committee (Feb. 12) - Fellers
6. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Feb. 13) - Cook
7. Information Services Policy Committee (ISPC) (Feb. 13) - Fellers
8. Joint Budget Committee (JBC) - Gaylor-Baird; Emery
9. MPO Officials Committee (Feb. 20) - Eskridge
10. Internal Liquor Committee (ILC) (Feb. 24) - Christensen, Eskridge, Fellers
11. Problem Resolution Team (PRT) (Feb. 27) - Emery
12. Downtown Lincoln Association (DLA) (Feb. 25) - Eskridge, Gaylor Baird
13. Correctional Facility Joint Public Agency (Feb. 25) - Eskridge

III. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

City Website/Possible City Council Section Modifications

Leirion Gaylor Baird, City Council
Justin Kohmetscher, Web Content and Design
Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center Manager
Terry Lowe, Systems Development Coordinator

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VI. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MARCH 3, 2014**

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

Others: Justin Kohmetscher, Web Content and Design

Chair Eskridge opened the meeting at 2:26 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

I. MINUTES

1. Directors' Meeting minutes of February 10, 2014.
2. Organizational Meeting minutes of February 10, 2014.
3. Executive Session - Pending Litigation of January 13, 2014.

Minutes distributed to Council Members electronically. With no corrections placed on file in the City Council office.

II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS

1. Public Building Commission (PBC) (Feb. 11) - Cook

Cook stated they discussed the jail redesign, and everyone welcome to look at the preliminary designs showing office locations. Included are: County Attorney, Child Support, Juvenile Probation, Court testing, police evidence, and a waiting room for prisoners when they arrive from the larger jail to have hearings. Major changes for the County. The City involved with very little space. A PBC project. Architects Sinclair Hille did a beautiful job organizing. The next step is going out for architects for the next phases, and costs. The process we're in now. Camp asked if the County owns the jail? Cook answered affirmatively. Camp commented but the Public Building Commission operates? Cook replied the PBC is taking over management. Makes sense for the PBC to manage all. Usually the PBC builds out space and we recover the money through rents. These rents will be paid by the County.

Regarding the 233 Building, the old police station, trying to decide if we should replace the roof. We may sell the building or use otherwise and don't want to make a large investment before we make a decision.

Cook stated the PBC passed the resolution on the Luxford Studio. Do thank Councilman Emery for his effort and work. While discussing Luxford came in on video. Emery stated his appreciation to the PBC.

2. West Haymarket JPA (Feb. 11) - Emery

Emery stated the majority of the West Haymarket JPA meeting concerned the ice arena. Very valuable and brought home clear ideas. Think everyone is possibly pointed in the correct direction. Requiring almost all of the meeting was discussion on the clarification on how many sheets of ice were necessary.

3. Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) (Feb. 11) - Eskridge

Eskridge stated the Multicultural Advisory Committee enjoyed a presentation from a Committee member on Islamic culture and the impacts people in Lincoln, and their daily lives. One issue mentioned was an

individual who had LPD or Fire/Rescue come to their home. In their culture they take their shoes off because of the association with germs. At first the fire fighters had an issue but talked it through. Some issues are relative to gender, being sensitive to culture is important.

4. Board of Health (Feb. 11) - Emery

Emery stated he arrived late as the meeting was scheduled on the same night of the West Haymarket JPA. Discussion focused on the legislative agenda and how those items might affect the County Health Board.

5. Visitors Promotion Committee (Feb. 12) - Fellers

Fellers stated they viewed a tape from Tom Lorenz on all Pinnacle Bank Arena activities, how everything was working, and the kind of issues they've trouble shot, and the affects. Received a Directors' Report from Jeff Maul speaking on different activities they are pursuing for Lincoln conventions.

6. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (Feb. 13) - Cook

Cook stated they recommended the Lincoln City Golf's Strategic Plan, the last stop before going to Administration. The Parks and Rec Director makes decisions on budgeting based on the plan. Golf had changes made to the earlier draft, which we accepted. Mostly an issue of rates rising to pay for maintenance, to make sustainable. Administration's decision on exactly what the next step should be.

Cook added they received a report on the Woods Park Tennis Master Plan. An adjustment made to the phasing. Basically changing which courts will be built in, and first. Now it will be the further west courts, with 6 built initially, then another 4. The main issue with the change in phasing plan is it would save money. With the old plan needed to close some courts down, costing \$175,000. This plan allows the program to run continuously without a loss in capacity while building the new facility. A sensible phasing rearrangement and don't see any downside. Camp asked if Councilman Cook saw the letter from the University's golf program? Cook replied he did. Short discussion.

7. Information Services Policy Committee (ISPC) (Feb. 13) - Fellers

Fellers stated they continue to work through the Interlocals. Spent 90% of the meeting discussing. Hopefully completed shortly. We have been through twice, with the County seeming to have more.

8. Joint Budget Committee (JBC) - Gaylor-Baird; Emery

Gaylor Baird stated they discussed the New Americans Task Force which is the City's response to lending services especially with the influx of refugees and immigrants. Discussed a federal low income credit union with the Community Foundation and United Way. Private foundations and Human Services are trying to help create. Human Services does not provide money but can lend their expertise and advice. This would provide an opportunity to counter payday lending, and help people become more financially aware, and manage their money.

Gaylor Baird added the Homeless Coalition is receiving a 501(c)3 designation and it was clear this was demonstrating how folks who care about this issue are working together and organizing the initiative. Eskridge stated the Homeless Coalition does an annual count every year, this year the number decreased.

9. MPO Officials Committee (Feb. 20) - Eskridge

Eskridge stated the MPO Committee met with County, City, and State Department of Roads, and looked at some major road issues. Focused on the I-80 work going west, and changes with NW 48th Street and the NW 40th Street bridge. All important projects.

10. Internal Liquor Committee (ILC) (Feb. 24) - Christensen, Eskridge, Fellers

Eskridge stated they discussed, along with Detox, their numbers. Met Grand Theater representatives, learning their plans for the theater and alcohol sales. They informed us they have alcohol in 3 theaters

in Omaha and a 4th theater in Bellview has a alcohol application. They have had no violations with any facility in Omaha. The serving hours differ on different days and in different facilities. Looking at later hours if possible here. They indicated they would have a bar, free standing, and individuals could stay in the bar, or take their drink into the movie. Christensen added they also discussed the ordinance.

11. Problem Resolution Team (PRT) (Feb. 27) - Emery

Emery stated the PRT has two properties which will go to Court, as we can't resolve. Trailer courts discussed at length. We have at least a couple older trailer courts with literally 5th-wheelers, campers. Discussion based on whether these are motor homes, even if skirted. Are they motor vehicles, homes? Safety wise there are concerns about the wiring, etc. Do not think we'll take on long term it does point out needs where to look at our current ordinances and what is the definition of a motor home and motor vehicle? Not talking about more upscale trailer parks but about smaller trailer courts. Is a difficult situation as in some cases we understand we're probably taking people from all they can afford in housing. But it doesn't do any good if a fire hazard.

12. Downtown Lincoln Association (DLA) (Feb. 25) - Eskridge, Gaylor Baird

Gaylor Baird stated they received a presentation from the person who bought and is fixing up the Case. The DLA voted to approve or endorse the project. Then learned about the next steps in the bid extension. The DLA will be working with the entities in trying to help them integrate into the West Haymarket development. Continue to try and make a whole seamless integration.

13. Correctional Facility Joint Public Agency (Feb. 25) - Eskridge

Eskridge stated the Correctional facility warehouse near completion. Then, discussed jail space. The jail is not full, and will not be, but pressure is coming from the State to County jails across the State, to consider housing State inmates, which would be a challenge. So far the State has not offered an amount of money which will make it worth the County's time and effort. Our staff would open up jail areas which are not now in service. Also a significant difference in mission. An incident in the Panhandle involved a jail situation and it was suggested when inmates who have been in the State Penitentiary are put in a small County jail it may not be a good match.

III. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

City Website/Possible City Council Section Modifications

Leirion Gaylor Baird, City Council
Justin Kohmetscher, Web Content and Design
Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center Manager
Terry Lowe, Systems Development Coordinator

Eskridge stated interest expressed in our City Council website and what we offer and don't offer.

Gaylor Baird introduced Kohmetscher, Web Content & Design, who is in the process of making changes which will make it easier to interface. The Planning web page is different than the City's home page and had a rollout of updates. We met with them to discuss how the City Council page might be more friendly, changes we could make, with the thought of receiving everyone's input. Also, Camp was interested in whether or not there are cost limitations associated with any potential changes. Thought to review what the City Council page looks like today, and at examples. Other cities have different resources, sizes, and potentially we're moving to changes we can make for the website to be more useful to more people. Especially citizens trying to understand how they can interact with the City

Council or express their views. The City website also used for payments and potentially as an information source on how our process works.

Kohmetscher started with what we have. (Using dual display to demonstrate) Showed current City Council page and there are examples, i.e. Denver's City Council page, San Francisco's Board of Supervisors page, and Austin, TX. A couple items which they have in common are images in some sort of color. Then they all feature basic interactivity, whether district maps, frequently asked questions, photos. He displayed Denver's and San Francisco's web pages, where you can highlight map areas into districts. An example of our new template is now displayed in Planning. Kohmetscher demonstrated the new City template, incorporating the new City logo with each agency allowed to customize their department pages. Items listed in consistent left hand navigation for every page, as opposed to what we have now, which is a main page and use of the back button, flipping back/forth from page to page. The new template encourages ease of use by allowing access to any page from nearly any other site page.

Kohmetscher continued saying another thing we're doing with the use site is fluent responses. This means the site will look different depending on the resolution of the device. If looking at on a regular monitor as we are now different if looking at a tablet in a different mode. Notice one column dropped and reformatted at the bottom. Once we go smaller the navigation changes, and have a more friendly style of drop down menu for each page. This is very good for cell phones all the way to huge monitors.

Gaylor Baird realizes Council Members get feedback on the look and functions of the website. Since this is in progress thought Council should discuss before Kohmetscher spends a lot of time on our site. If there are items you like, or some which don't work based on your experience or in constituent interactions, believe this is the time for discussion.

Cook expressed thanks for this work. Does Council use the feedback form? There's a web based method for sending Council emails, but difficult to use. There is also the individual email addresses. Don't know if the Council address is there, and need to make sure. When items come in with interest to the whole Council, and at times constituents send individual emails, but there might be value in trying to see how to encourage communication with email to all. We could give them the Council link or possibly it would come automatically to all our addresses, and Council office. A public document and listed. Seems a little distorted now with emails from different places.

Cook stated he doesn't want this process to break anything which works. One thing working is our agenda. The Planning Commission agenda is broken, and doesn't work on mobile devices. What is not needed for the City Council is to change from what it is today to something which doesn't work. If you do come up with improvements let's discuss and to be careful with what we end up with is not like some of the Planning Department's.

Fellers stated he would like to see change in the regular public hearing agenda. If you have an attachment now when you click on the item it takes you to the top instead of going back. Kohmetscher asked if this happens only on his I-Pad, or also on a desktop? It shouldn't. Fellers asked if this is something we'll pay for? Kohmetscher answered Council would not pay.

Emery stated if he receives an email from Meyer and unless it's addressed directly to him when he tries to respond back doesn't remember to go to the address book, and then receives an error message. Is there is a way to respond directly to the person without hunting for the email address?

Kohmetscher added sometimes an individual enters their information incorrectly. We'll make it work.

Camp stated there are items Kohmetscher does City wide which tail end to us. Kohmetscher requested Council to briefly go over items mentioned on possibly bring in. For instance, items off the calendar. The Planning Department pulls information from their calendar, and it's automatically updated, with all meetings. This is an item we can easily do. The only thing is someone will need to enter Council Meetings into the calendar. Same thing with mapping. Providing a map with all districts labeled, and everyone associated with the geographical location. We have included mapping features, accessible from mobile, laptop, desk monitor, in a number of sites. Making a little more visually interesting.

Eskridge asked Gaylor Baird to serve as the contact person for ideas to take to Kohmetscher. Camp stated one thing regarding calendars. It would be ideal to have all the committees. Would prefer to take slowly to make sure they're correct, and possibly define.

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VI. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Eskridge adjourned the meeting at 2:58 p.m.