

**CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MARCH 17, 2014
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DIRECTORS' MEETING
555 S. 10TH STREET, ROOM 113**

I. MINUTES

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

II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS

1. Public Building Commission (PBC) - Cook
2. Board of Health - Emery
3. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Cook
4. West Haymarket Joint Public Agency - Emery
5. Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) - Eskridge
6. Information Services Policy Committee (ISPC) - Fellers

III. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR

IV. BOARD APPOINTMENTS

1. Audit Advisory Board Appointments

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VI. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MARCH 17, 2014

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

Others: Rick Hoppe, Chief of Staff; Rod Confer, City Attorney; Denise Pearce, Senior Policy Counsel; Trish Owen, Deputy Chief of Staff; and Mary Meyer, Council Staff

Chair Eskridge opened the meeting at 2:18 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

I. MINUTES

1. Directors' Meeting minutes of March 10, 2014.
 2. Organizational Meeting minutes of March 10, 2014.
 3. Executive Session - Pending Litigation minutes of March 10, 2014.
- Minutes distributed electronically. With no corrections placed on file in Council office.

II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS

1. Public Building Commission (PBC) - Cook

Cook stated they determined the best price and results with Sinclair Hille and B&H Architects to continue the corrections reconstruction phase.

Will continue patching the 233 Building roof. Don't know the future of the building and not spending \$400,000 on a roof.

Discussion regarding the information desk and volunteers. Volunteers use to be from the Aging Department, but they discontinued the program. We still have volunteers from Aging but need a new way to solicit new volunteers and so far haven't been comfortable with suggestions.

Cook commented the PBC decided to install a dish to send to our tower in Jensen Park, a 911 tower. Also, purchasing developing more piggy backs on contracts, trying for better prices. Possible chance on a boiler contract. Gaylor Baird added, also LPS involved.

Another issue was flags. Appointed Councilman Christensen to be in charge. Will purchase items after his report. Christensen stated these are the Chamber flags, now mismatched and should have colors with an optimum look for our building. Cook added the County Board noticed they don't have a flag there, if thinking about the City flag might include the County.

Eskridge stated our current art exhibit is by Bahr who was also the building architect. One piece in particular might be a nice addition to the building. Cook replied Jane Raybould is our person with building information. Camp asked if there were governing rules? The artist list prices, with pieces for sale. Cook stated all exhibits have items for sale. Confer commented there are regulations on what they can, or can't, do.

2. Board of Health - Emery

Emery stated the Board discussed two issues. First, proposed revisions to public swimming pools.

Mostly in regard to some change on who is in charge. With someone in charge of looking at the PH and

chlorine levels and the responsibility. The other is a pool manager's age. Will come to Council later.

Emery commented a Board recommendation will go to the Mayor to create a E-Cigarette vapor free campus for Lincoln public buildings. A California university report discusses how they thought communities should progress with E-Cigarettes and vapor. At this time there are no definite studies showing as an issue. Probably won't proceed until this happens. Do encourage the State to lead and not follow actions as on previous issues. If doing let's not leave to each community, but do Statewide. If documentation states this should happen, fine. If not, let's not.

3. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board - Cook

Cook stated the Board discussed the Party in the Parks Program. Approval given both the general description and specific list of events. Basically Party in the Parks is like a branding effort, with community groups wanting to be part of. If they fit into the process then they're given this brand and we help advertise the events. They would be under the umbrella of the Parks Department and wouldn't need to file for separate events. In this particular case for the coming year, and normally we would have specific sponsors each year, but because it's already March in order to do this summer we approved the list. Believe this will cover groups for this year.

The events include: Saturday Lincoln Plaza art events, summer concert series, Earth Day community events; municipal band concerts, Shakespeare plays, theatrical performances, Uncle Sam Jam, an art show at Sunken Gardens, dedication events at Civic Plaza, and the Belmont concert.

They approved new golf fees as recommended by staff. Basically fees went up 4% to 6%, depending on the category. For 18 holes, Monday/Friday, from \$19 to \$20, with people now golfing on warm days.

Community meeting at Peter Pan Park, with approximately a diverse group of 60 people, talking about better lighting. Eskridge added he participated in the meeting and it is dark particularly in the southwest corner of the park where the incident happened. Understand from neighborhood people there are other parks also with dark areas. Maybe looking at these areas? Cook replied yes. Discussed the LED lighting. Given the more efficient lighting maybe we could provide more with being concerned about cost.

Cook added a group called Kaboom gives out a designation called Playful Cities. If we meet certain criteria will try for the designation and it would provide a lot of recreational opportunities for children. Do have more information for anyone to view. Christensen asked if Kaboom wanted money to give us the designation as an application fee? Cook replied no, not part of the program. We provide an application, showing we meet their criteria, and upon receiving would be able to receive more grant money as a result of the designation. Fellers stated they award grants for playground equipment.

4. West Haymarket Joint Public Agency - Emery

Emery stated discussion was on the ice arena, pending JPA approval to give \$2 million to the ice arena, and moving forward with one sheet of ice. Tentatively as it's contingent on an operating plan. Don't know of any guarantee we'll agree on the operating plan. Some of the plan should come to this body. Personally disappointed with one sheet of ice. Sent the email from the gentleman who runs the Omaha ice arena who believes there's better ways to do, but under the control of the University and the Board of Regents. The decision comes down to the sheets of ice, and not benefitting an ice community, or one sheet doing something to get us started to benefit a skating community.

Camp heard it was possible some Omaha Regents were trying to squash the second sheet, so we wouldn't be competing with them. Emery said he would have to go to a Regents meeting and ask. Feel it's purely accidental the two Omaha Regents are sure the one is necessary. Do say, after talking to the University Recreation Department, the business plan works better with two sheets of ice, allowing more people in,

more tournaments, etc. They would know the rationale for approving. Camp questioned if we know the value of the land the City is donating? The cost? Owen stated it's right at \$830,000. Camp asked, what did it cost to move everything to the Experian Building? Owen didn't know. Emery added it was going to be moved sometime, somewhere. Couldn't continue to have the salt tent, and other items there. Not the impression we want visitors to have as they walk across the bridge into the new arena area.

Camp asked if discussion on what happens now, not being limited to language in the bond issue? What this does to open the doors? Emery replied if you look at the original drawings the Brislow Ice Arena was always there. It was at the area's other end, south towards the viaduct, but always penciled in as a part of the complete design. Do not think this does anything. Someone is on the Board that you can voice your concern. A valid point, but do not see it.

Camp asked to whom did Brislow give his \$7 million pledge? Emery understood it went to the UNL Foundation. And a reason they're in the middle and the reason to say it's tentative approval. Believe there's a lot of work to be done on an operating agreement. Who gets prime time, how does prime time work? There's 2,000 kids who play broom ball. It seems prime time is easier when you double prime time with two sheets of ice. Not the JPA's determination to make.

Christensen asked in the plans of one sheet, is there an option to add? Emery replied yes, it will be prepped and ready. He added there are questions of who controls it, the maintenance, etc. The premise approved but still have details. Christensen asked, beyond the \$7 million the University received are they putting in any cash? Emery responded they'll put in a \$1 million from their recreational facilities, so they can have the broom ball group. Christensen asked who will do ongoing staffing, maintenance, etc? For \$2 million the City buys their share of future maintenance? Emery replied for \$2 million will have a guarantee of ice time. How much and agreeing on the ice times? Needs a discussion between the University and everyone who will use the ice. More difficult to reach an agreement to find time with one sheet of ice versus two. But we'll go forward.

Owen added they normally would contract out the running of the facility. Camp asked if there were design revisions? Emery stated that is ultimately the decision to be made by the Regents. The sheets of ice is an UNL decision, not JPA. Feel if any disappointment it's because we delayed for 3 weeks. Also feel we didn't get the skating community involved until very late. Part was determined by the money lay out, what Mr. Brislow's request was on the architects, and other topics. We had no control.

5. Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) - Eskridge

Eskridge stated the Committee received a presentation from the Human Rights Commission staff. They illustrated what they do in terms of promoting equality and opportunities for different members of our community in terms of employment and other issues.

6. Information Services Policy Committee (ISPC) - Fellers

Fellers stated the meeting was short, and do have a project list for Council viewing, very detailed. The resolution will be looked at by the Mayor, City and County attorneys soon. They will forward to Council at a later date.

III. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR

Hoppe reminded Council the Joint City Council Meeting of Lincoln and Omaha has been set for June 12th. Thought to have lunch, and a tour, between 12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m., then meet for a couple of hours. Do continue to send topics and within a short time Council representation and I will discuss exactly what the agenda will be. Forward any ideas. Mayor Stothert may come to have a conversation with Mayor Beutler, and will join us for lunch. Emery added there is a JPA meeting that day. Hoppe realizes would have to be completed before 3:00 p.m.

IV. BOARD APPOINTMENTS

1. Audit Advisory Board Appointments - Pearce

Eskridge stated last week received the applications of 5 applicants. Do not recall doing this way before. Pearce commented the reason is because usually Council has been reappointing. In this case the individual does not wish to continue serving, and therefore do have the vacancy. We discussed having Hubka make recommendations, and he recommended the top 4 or 5, with resumes delivered to Council.

Christensen stated Greg Osborn could be eliminated, as he put in his application several years ago. When asked his response was, a long time ago, not interested now. Pearce stated she was waiting to see Council's preferences, and then follow up with the applicants. If Council wants us to check first, will do. Now down to 4, and will check first.

Cook asked are we showing a preference, or just saying check all 4 and you'll report to Council? Pearce agreed. Camp didn't know how long the application bank lasts, 20 years? Pearce replied not that long but Hubka took all who applied since the Board was created and picked the top 4 candidates. We will certainly call.

Eskridge stated a good idea to check on the current interest of the applicants. We'll wait a week. Pearce stated she would send the results to Council.

V. FACT SHEET

Eskridge stated the Clerk sent a revision of the fact sheet and asked for comments.

Cook commented first is having staff members comfortable in filling out the sheet. If not we won't get useful information. The new form has some categories which are not clear. Like benefit cost, on the other version it's for assessment districts. Usually fact sheets we receive have nothing to do with assessment districts. Would suggest the Clerk take off fields which departments rarely use. Possibly have separate on her website saying, for different purposes here are fields you would include. The generic one is probably okay, take off just a couple fields.

Camp added once you take off it sometimes disappears forever. Cook thought if an assessment district that would be the core element, so they would report somewhere on the form. Camp added if not there possibly beyond the form to have questions, and through the answers would know. That way you have a catalog of questions.

Cook stated this isn't a fancy automated process, sounds like the Clerk provides but staff members tend to keep forms on their computers 5 to 10 years. When they fill out a form they take the one available. Just to get the form out will require coaxing, and don't think the Clerk has anything more sophisticated than a pdf.

VI. BUDGET CALENDAR

Cook inquired about the budget calendar. Eskridge replied there was miscommunication. Emery added to disregard. The memo was to the Mayor. Cook agreed but on the second one, the dates are not ideal. We adjusted the dates back to what they would have been, August 11th for public hearing. Two weeks from the time the Mayor releases his budget before we vote on changes. One week seemed tight.

VII. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VIII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

VIX. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Eskridge adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

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