

**CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2014
555 S. 10TH STREET
BILL LUXFORD STUDIO
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING DIRECTORS' MEETING**

I. MINUTES

1. Directors' Meeting minutes of November 3, 2014.
2. Organizational Meeting minutes of November 3, 2014.

II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS

1. Problem Resolution Team (PRT) (October 30th) - Emery
2. Lancaster County Correctional Facility JPA (October 28th) - Emery
3. Partnership for Economic Development (LPED) (November 4th) - Camp, Christensen, Eskridge
4. District Energy Corporation (DEC) (November 4th) - Camp
5. Joint Budget Committee (JBC) (November 4th) - Emery, Gaylor Baird
6. Board of Health (November 4th) - Emery
7. Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (November 13th) - Cook
8. Visitors Promotion Committee (VPC) (November 12th) - Fellers

III. REQUESTS FROM MAYOR

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VI. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2014**

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

Absent: Jon Camp

Others: Rick Hoppe, Chief of Staff; and Mary Meyer, City Council Secretary

Chair Emery opened the meeting at 2:17 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

I. MINUTES

1. Directors' Meeting minutes of November 3, 2014.
2. Organizational Meeting minutes of November 3, 2014.

With no corrections the above minutes placed on file in the City Council office.

II. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/CONFERENCE REPORTS

1. Problem Resolution Team (PRT) (October 30th) - Emery

Emery stated the PRT currently has 5 new pending cases, unusual for this time of the year. Discussed who will pay for certain cases as we've become more aggressive in taking people to court to clean their property. We're successful with some, some not, but we'll continue, with some cases giving a concern of who will pay for cleanup. A lien on the property? If the PRT paid for properties do think we should be reimbursed when the lien is paid. Otherwise we'll run into financial trouble, especially with the vacant house issue.

2. Lancaster County Correctional Facility JPA (October 28th) - Emery

Emery stated at the Lancaster County Correctional Facility JPA meeting they continue to pay remaining bills each month. Will go to quarterly meetings starting in January.

3. Partnership for Economic Development (LPED) (November 4th) - Camp, Christensen, Eskridge

Eskridge stated Sara Wolf, CLC Huntington Elementary School coordinator, and Nate Lowery of Nebraska Global, attended and spoke on their coding program and working with children. Then received the quarterly business indicators from Dr. Thompson at UNL, who spoke on the robust Lincoln economy and different measurements. Emphasized how very strong the economy is but also hedged a little saying, the greatest problem is employment. Some holes and we need more trained employees. First, the coding report and then realizing before long they graduate and are ready to contribute to the economy. Wonderful to see, especially starting at an early age through the work with LPS and Southeast Community College and then onto the work force.

4. District Energy Corporation (DEC) (November 4th) - Camp

Councilman Camp absent.

5. Joint Budget Committee (JBC) (November 4th) - Emery, Gaylor Baird

Gaylor Baird stated various items discussed with the key note being the decision made last year to

go to a 2 year grant cycle, to size up with the biennial budget. The key note meeting will be next month to review 1st year grants and to decide whether to allocate the 2nd year. To review, not guaranteed to any organization. Approximately \$150,000 in grants to 22 agencies and money for an adult recidivism project. We have \$1million accruing over 20 years which has been placed in a City Investment Fund. The question is, how going forward with money coming in not set aside for the Investment Fund, should it go to future grants, to help grow, or into the Investment Fund for the future?

Gaylor Baird commented the job description written for the Human Services Director includes bringing in new goals, along with other mentioned pieces. Discussed the timeline with the ideal plan for this job description to be approved and have interviews around Thanksgiving, with someone in place in December.

Gaylor Baird stated Carlson presented on Stronger, Safer Neighborhoods and the work he's doing on emergency relocation, for tenants of red-tagged buildings having problems with heat. Described was numerous challenges of successfully relocating people and what may happen in the future for this type of situation.

Emery added on the discussion of the million dollars. Believe we should check but think the decision was made to leave enough money in the fund to keep up with inflation, and not have less in the fund than we do now. Determine what we'll distribute each year, making sure we have enough in the fund. At the end of the year the grants are reviewed with groups who do not do the required and would be subject to not receiving the 2nd year. This money would then go back into the account, and could be distributed the following 2-year cycle, or left in the Fund. Careful consideration will be given to not giving away more money the 1st year then the 2nd year. Everyone struggles somewhat to get to a 2-year budget. Will be a challenge for the new leadership. Gaylor Baird has taken over as Chair, and will assist Boesch's replacement, helping to have the new Director up and running.

6. Board of Health (November 4th) - Emery

Emery stated this was an abbreviated meeting as some members couldn't attend. Discussed monthly numbers, which we receive weekly in terms of where we are with communicable diseases, and received information on Ebola and what's going on in Omaha.

7. Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (November 13th) - Cook

Councilman Cook was unable to attend.

8. Visitors Promotion Committee (VPC) (November 12th) - Fellers

Fellers stated the VPC discussed grant requests at length and approved a few. The Stage Theater, Hickman, was looking for infrastructure improvements and advertising dollars. Discussed their lighting and sound system. The request for advertising money resulted in not approving as they sell out every show. The VPC also approved \$2,500 for the Lincoln Fencing Club, with Boesch doing a great job of growing the club, and approved \$10,000 for the Star City BMX course, who requested money to repair their starting gate, allowing them to host more national events.

Fellers commented on the grants of \$10,000 or less with the only one not approved being the Lincoln Children's Museum, as most of their requests centered around advertising for certain current operations. All of the grants mentioned will be in front of the County Board.

Gaylor Baird asked for the geographical reach of the Visitors Promotion? Fellers replied anyone

within the entire county. Normally we see within the City's borders so interesting to see the request from the Stage Theater, Hickman.

III. REQUESTS FROM MAYOR

None

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Eskridge stated to Cook, a member of the Public Building Commission, that we still have the parking spaces on the southend of the building, by the old jail, still designated for law enforcement, even though the jail moved months ago. As they were used mainly for the jail now they're not used at all. Would the PBC look at re-designating those parking spaces? Cook agreed and will bring up at the next PBC meeting.

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

None

VI. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

See invitation list.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Emery adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.