I. CITY CLERK

II. MAYOR
1. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler will help cut the ribbon on the Bryan Health Nursing Nook for mothers and babies Tuesday, January 6th, 2:30 p.m., at the Pinnacle Bank Arena.
2. NEWS RELEASE. Pinnacle Bank Arena is first arena in nation to offer Mamava Lactation suite.
3. NEWS RELEASE. City seeks input on proposed hazardous waste collection facility.

III. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE

CITIZEN INFORMATION CENTER
1. City of Lincoln street condition update, Wednesday, January 7, 2015, 6:00 a.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
1. Administrative Amendment No. 14103 approved by the Acting Planning Director on December 31, 2014.

IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS

DOUG EMMER
1. Correspondence from Jeremy Giese regarding traffic and accidents on Independence Drive. (Councilman Emery forwarded copy to Public Works for evaluation and Chief of Police Peschong for review and possible action)
   a) Reply from Chief of Police James Peschong to Mr. Giese on accidents and traffic on Independence Drive. Explanation given with traffic monitoring of area to be scheduled.
   b) Jeremy Giese responding to, and thanking, Chief Peschong for concern regarding Independence Drive. Possibly the street design could be addressed to deter speeders and accidents.

V. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS
1. Lois Steyer writing regarding denial of her claim which happened near the Gold’s Building because of the uneven and broken sidewalks.
Mayor Beutler will help cut the ribbon on the Bryan Health Nursing Nook for breastfeeding mothers and their babies at **2:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 6 at Pinnacle Bank Arena.** Please use the main entrance doors at the Arena.
CITY SEEKS INPUT ON PROPOSED HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION FACILITY

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) is seeking public input on how a permanent hazardous waste collection and disposal facility would be used by households and small businesses.

Individuals are invited to attend one of four focus group meetings:

- **Tuesday, January 13**, noon to 1:30 p.m., LLCHD, 3140 “N” Street, lunch provided
- **Tuesday, January 20**, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Lincoln Community Foundation (LCF), 215 Centennial Mall South, fifth floor, refreshments provided
- **Thursday, January 22**, 6 to 7:30 p.m., LLCHD, refreshments provided
- **Saturday, January 24**, 9 to 10:30 a.m., LLCHD, refreshments provided

Small business representatives are invited to attend one of two focus group meetings:

- **Tuesday, January 20**, 7 to 8:30 a.m., LLCHD, refreshments provided
- **Tuesday, January 20**, noon to 1:30 p.m., LLCHD, lunch provided

The City has identified the existing North 48th Street Transfer Station at 48th and Superior streets as a possible site for a permanent facility to handle hazardous waste such as pesticides, fuels, bleach, items containing mercury, drain cleaners, automotive fluids and pool chemicals.

LLCHD is working with the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center (PPC) on the public input process. Participants must be at least 18 years old, but do not have to be knowledgeable about hazardous waste. The City wants to hear from those who have and those who have not used the hazardous waste collection and disposal services in Lincoln. Those interested in participating can visit go.unl.edu/hazardousmaterials or contact the PPC at 402-472-5678 or ppc@nebraska.edu.
PINNACLE BANK ARENA IS FIRST ARENA IN NATION TO OFFER MAMAVA LACTATION SUITE

Mayor Chris Beutler today helped cut the ribbon on the Bryan Health Nursing Nook for breastfeeding mothers and their babies at Pinnacle Bank Arena. The free-standing kiosk produced by Mamava of Vermont is the first in the nation to be placed in a public arena. It is sponsored by Bryan Health and the West Haymarket Joint Public Agency (JPA).

“We are very proud that Lincoln and Pinnacle Bank Arena are leading the way in supporting breast-feeding,” said Mayor Beutler, Chair of the JPA. “We have set a goal to become the healthiest city in the nation, and one of the ways we can accomplish that is to support nursing mothers. The health benefits of breastfeeding are undeniable. In 2010, the Journal of Pediatrics reported that if 90 percent of U.S. mothers nursed exclusively for the first six months of a child’s life, the nation would save 13 billion dollars in medical costs and 900 infant lives every year.”

“This project is meaningful to Bryan as it furthers our devotion to families in our community and extends our commitment to Pinnacle Bank Arena by making it even more welcoming and accommodating,” said Bob Ravenscroft, Bryan Health Vice President for Advancement. “This is a win-win for everyone involved, and Bryan is pleased to take a leading role.”

The suite features seating for two people, a fold-down table and power outlet for a breast pump, space for a stroller, soft lighting and a mirror. Mamava launched its first unit in August 2013 at the Burlington, Vermont airport and has since installed units at a mall, grocer, private offices and colleges. The Bryan Health Nursing Nook is just the eleventh to be installed, and it is the first in Nebraska.

“We are thrilled that Pinnacle Bank Arena will be the very first sports and entertainment center to install a Mamava lactation suite,” said Sascha Mayer, Mamava Co-Founder. “Our goal is to transform the culture of breastfeeding so it is a more widely accepted and inviting experience for all mamas. We applaud Lincoln and Pinnacle Bank Arena for recognizing this need for both Arena visitors and employees.”

- more -
Since the 2010 passage of the Affordable Care Act, employers are required to provide their employees who are nursing mothers with reasonable break time and a private, non-bathroom location to express breast milk for one year after the child’s birth. Arena General Manager Tom Lorenz said the Nursing Nook is an enhancement to the location already provided for Arena employees.

“We are always looking to be more accommodating and sensitive to the needs of our guests,” said Arena General Manager Tom Lorenz. “The lactation suite will offer comfort and privacy to nursing mothers.”

Arena patrons can access the suite by visiting the Arena Guest Services Station on the main concourse behind Section 112 and asking for the key. The Nursing Nook is in the northwest corner of the main concourse.

Pinnacle Bank Arena is managed by SMG, and more information is available at pinnaclebankarena.com. For more information on Mamava, visit mamava.com.

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City of Lincoln
Street Condition Update

For more information:
Public Works Snow Center - 402-441-7644
Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 402-525-1520

Date: Wednesday, January 7, 2015
Time: 6 a.m.

Lincoln received less than an inch of snow with the latest storm, and the City sent material spreaders to all 19 routes about 10 p.m. last night. The Lincoln Police Department reports that streets are in good shape, but there are some slick spots, so drivers should be careful during the morning commute. Residents can report any trouble spots to the Public Works Snow Center at 402-441-7644. Additional information on City snow operations is available at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: snow).
**ACTION BY PLANNING COMMISSION**

January 7, 2015

NOTICE: The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 7, 2015, at 1:00 p.m., in Hearing Room 112 on the first floor of the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St., Lincoln, Nebraska. For more information, call the Planning Department, (402) 441-7491.

The Planning Department and Planning Commission will host an informal reception in honor and memory of Marvin Krout on Wednesday, January 7, 2015, 12:00 Noon to 1:00 p.m., in the Bill Luxford Studio Room 113, on the first floor of the County-City Building, 555 South 10th Street.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Planning Commission action is final action on any item with a notation of “FINAL ACTION”. Any aggrieved person may appeal Final Action of the Planning Commission to the City Council or County Board by filing a Notice of Appeal with the City Clerk or County Clerk within 14 days following the action of the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission action on all other items is a recommendation to the City Council or County Board.

**AGENDA**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2015**

[All members present]

Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held December 10, 2014. **APPROVED: 9-0**

Reading and Adoption of Resolution in Honor and Memory of Marvin Krout. **RESOLUTION NO. PC-01429 ADOPTED: 9-0**
1. CONSENT AGENDA
   (Public Hearing and Administrative Action):

PERMITS AND RELATED ITEM:

1.1 Special Permit No. 1999B, an amendment to the Wilderness Hills Community Unit Plan, to modify the requirements of the sign ordinance, on property generally located at South 33rd Street and Wilderness Hills Road.
   Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
   Staff Planner: Christy Eichorn, 402-441-7603, ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov
   Removed from the Consent Agenda and had separate public hearing.
   Planning Commission recommendation: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated December 19, 2014, as revised on January 6, 2015: 9-0.
   Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2015, 3:00 p.m.

1.2a Use Permit No. 13011A, amending the Russwood Park use permit to increase the floor area; to exceed the maximum height; and to modify the parking requirements of the B-2 Planned Neighborhood Business District, on property generally located at North 84th Street and O Street.
   Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
   Staff Planner: Paul Barnes, 402-441-6372, pbarnes@lincoln.ne.gov
   Removed from the Consent Agenda and had separate public hearing.
   Planning Commission recommendation: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated December 23, 2014, as revised on January 7, 2015: 9-0.
   Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2015, 3:00 p.m.

1.2b Street & Alley Vacation No. 14013, to vacate a portion of the Russwood Parkway right-of-way containing approximately 1,200 square feet adjacent to Outlot A, Russwood Park 4th Addition, generally located at Russwood Parkway and College Park Drive.
   Staff recommendation: Conformance with the Comprehensive Plan
   Staff Planner: Paul Barnes, 402-441-6372, pbarnes@lincoln.ne.gov
   Removed from the Consent Agenda and had separate public hearing.
   Planning Commission recommendation: A FINDING OF CONFORMANCE WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: 9-0.
   Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2015, 3:00 p.m.

2. REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL: None

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA (See Items 1.1, 1.2a and 1.2b above)
4. PUBLIC HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

4.1 Comprehensive Plan Conformance No. 14025, to review as to conformance with the 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan, a proposed amendment to the Lincoln Center Redevelopment Plan to create the "Swanson Russell Redevelopment Project" area, on property generally located at 1202 P Street.

Staff recommendation: Conformance with the Comprehensive Plan
Staff Planner: Stacey Groshong-Hageman, 402-441-6361, slhageman@lincoln.ne.gov

Had public hearing.
Planning Commission recommendation: A FINDING OF CONFORMANCE WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: 8-0 (Commissioner Scheer declared a conflict of interest).
Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2015, 3:00 p.m.

4.2 Comprehensive Plan Conformance No. 14026, to review a proposed amendment to the Antelope Valley Redevelopment Plan as to conformance with the 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan, amending the previously approved "18th & P Multifamily Redevelopment Project" to include the adjacent rights-of-way of Antelope Valley Parkway, 18th Street, Q Street, P Street, O Street and N Street, generally located on the blocks bounded by 17th Street, Antelope Valley Parkway, O Street and Q Street in Downtown Lincoln.

Staff recommendation: Conformance with the Comprehensive Plan
Staff Planner: Brandon Garrett, 402-441-6373, bgarrett@lincoln.ne.gov

Had public hearing.
Planning Commission recommendation: A FINDING OF CONFORMANCE WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: 9-0
Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 26, 2015, 5:30 p.m.
TEXT AMENDMENT:
4.3 Text Amendment No. 14021, amending Section 27.72.080 of the Lincoln Municipal Code relating to exceptions to front yard requirements to provide for a reduced commercial front yard setback in the O-1 Office District and the B-3 Commercial District where there is an abutting residential district along the same block face; and repealing Section 27.72.080 of the Lincoln Municipal Code as hitherto existing.
Staff recommendation: Approval
Staff Planner: Christy Eichorn, 402-441-7603, ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov
Had public hearing.
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL: 6-3 (Corr, Cornelius and Beecham dissenting).
Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2015, 3:00 p.m.

CHANGE OF ZONE
4.4 Change of Zone No. 14029, from O-2 Suburban Office District to B-3 Commercial District, on property generally located at South 48th Street and Pioneers Boulevard (4820 and 4826 Pioneers Boulevard).
Staff recommendation: Approval, subject to a Conditional Zoning Agreement
Staff Planner: Christy Eichorn, 402-441-7603, ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov
Had public hearing.
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL, SUBJECT TO A CONDITIONAL ZONING AGREEMENT, as set forth in the staff report dated December 23, 2014, as revised on January 7, 2015: 9-0.
Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2015, 3:00 p.m., subject to the completion and execution of the associated zoning agreement.

CHANGE OF ZONE AND RELATED PERMIT:
4.5a Change of Zone No. 14033, from R-4 Residential District and O-2 Suburban Office District to B-3 Commercial District, on property generally located at South 48th Street and Meredeth Street.
Staff recommendation: Approval
Staff Planner: Brian Will, 402-441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Had public hearing.
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL: 8-1 (Beecham dissenting).
Public Hearing before City Council tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2015, 3:00 p.m.
4.5b Special Permit No. 14054 for the expansion of a nonconforming use for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises, on property generally located at South 48th Street and Meredeth Street. **FINAL ACTION**

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval

Staff Planner: Brian Will, 402-441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov

Had public hearing.

Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated December 19, 2014: 8-1 (Beecham dissenting).

Resolution No. PC-01430.

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AT THIS TIME, ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK ON AN ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA, MAY DO SO

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Adjournment

PENDING LIST: None

Planning Dept. staff contacts:
Stephen Henrichsen, Development Review Manager . 402-441-6374 . . . shenrichsen@lincoln.ne.gov
David Cary, Acting Director and Long Range Manager 402-441-6364 . . . dcary@lincoln.ne.gov
Paul Barnes, Planner 402-441-6372 . . . pbarnes@lincoln.ne.gov
Michael Brienzo, Transportation Planner 402-441-6369 . . . mbrienzo@lincoln.ne.gov
Tom Cajka, Planner 402-441-5662 . . . tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov
Christy Eichorn, Planner 402-441-7603 . . . ceichorn@lincoln.ne.gov
Brandon Garrett, Planner 402-441-6373 . . . bgarrett@lincoln.ne.gov
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Sara Hartzell, Planner 402-441-6371 . . . shartzell@lincoln.ne.gov
Brian Will, Planner 402-441-6362 . . . bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Kellee Van Bruggen, Transportation Planner 402-441-6363 . . . kvanbruggen@lincoln.ne.gov
Ed Zimmer, Historic Preservation Planner 402-441-6360 . . . ezimmer@lincoln.ne.gov
The Planning Commission meeting
which is broadcast live at 1:00 p.m. every other Wednesday
will be rebroadcast on Sundays at 1:00 p.m. on 5 City TV, Cable Channel 5.

The Planning Commission agenda may be accessed on the Internet at
http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/pcagenda/index.htm

ACCOMMODATION NOTICE

The City of Lincoln complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 guidelines. Ensuring the public's access to and participating in public meetings is a priority for the City of Lincoln. In the event you are in need of a reasonable accommodation in order to attend or participate in a public meeting conducted by the City of Lincoln, please contact the Director of Equity and Diversity, Lincoln Commission on Human Rights, at 402 441-7624 as soon as possible before the scheduled meeting date in order to make your request.
TO : Mayor Chris Beutler  
Lincoln City Council

FROM : Jean Preister, Planning

DATE : January 8, 2015

RE : Notice of final action by Planning Commission: January 7, 2015

Please be advised that on January 7, 2015, the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission adopted the following resolution:

Resolution No. PC-01430, approving Special Permit No. 14054, with conditions, requested by Casey’s Retail Company, Keith Sachewsky and James Peterson, to expand a nonconforming use for authority to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption off the premises at Casey’s convenience store generally located at South 48th Street and Meredeth Street.

The Planning Commission action is final, unless appealed to the City Council by filing a notice of appeal with the City Clerk within 14 days of the action by the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission Resolution may be accessed on the internet at www.lincoln.ne.gov (Keyword = PATS). Use the “Search Selection” screen and search by application number (i.e. SP14054). The Resolution and Planning Department staff report are in the “Related Documents” under the application number.
Memorandum

Date:         January 6, 2015
To:           City Clerk
From:        Amy Hana Huffman, Planning Dept.
Re:           Administrative Approvals
cc:         Mayor Chris Beutler
        Planning Commission
        Jean Preister, Planning Dept.

This is a list of the administrative approvals by the Acting Planning Director from December 30, 2014 through January 5, 2015:

Administrative Amendment No. 14103 to Use Permit #58G, Williamsburg Village - Tabitha, approved by the Acting Planning Director on December 31, 2014, requested by Olsson Associates, to revise the Land Use table, adding residential health care facility as a permitted use to clarify that Lot 20 may be used for either office uses or residential healthcare facilities, on property generally located at S. 34th Street and Orwell Street.
Subject: Independence Dr

From: Jeremy Giese [truepowerelectric@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, January 05, 2015 7:54 PM
To: Doug Emery
Cc: Mary M. Meyer; Jon D. Carlson; Police Traffic Unit

Mr Emery,

Im contacting you regarding the street of Independence Dr (NE of 27th and Superior) and the traffic flow/accidents. I have an employee that lives at 2319 Independence Dr who drives and parks company vehicle(s) at his home. During work days, occasionally other employees will park their vehicle on the street. This section of street has had its fair share of issues in the past, specifically at the curve where N 25th St turns into Independence Dr. Recently the problems on this street have become more frequent and consistent - to the point of needing a solution.

In November, one of our 1 ton vans (fully loaded with metal pipe and wire) was hit head on as it was parked in front of his home. The vehicle that hit it was a small car and going fast enough to push the van backwards about 10’ and end up with the front wheels on top of the car. Since then, similar issues, and/or other related problems have persisted. As recently as today, one of my employees had his vehicle parked on the street and ended his day by discovering a hit and run on his truck. This location is frequently having vehicles hitting mail boxes and/or going through lawns. Most of the time, the vehicles causing the damage are simply driving away. Not only is this frequently causing myself financial losses, but also the residents/guests of that neighborhood. Over and above financial concerns is the increasing risk to safety of those in the area - the speeds that these vehicles are losing control are fatal for anyone standing in its path. Its my understanding that even the officer who responded to the hit and run today was almost hit while taking pictures of the damage.

Im asking that you, as the City Council representative for that area (or anyone else attached to this email), help provide a permanent solution to slow traffic along this route before these property damage claims become scenes of fatalities. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jeremy Giese
True Power Inc
Electrical-A/V-Security Divisions “Wiring For Life!”
(402)304-5182
www.truepowerinc.com

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Good Morning Mr. Giese,

A copy of your email was forwarded on to me for my review and consideration. While I certainly do not want to minimize the accident that your vehicle was involved in, in taking a look at accidents that have been reported to the police in this area we have had two accidents reported to us over the past 12 months (Jan 6, 2014 - Jan 6, 2015). Your vehicle was reported to us as being struck on Nov 18, 2014. The street conditions were found to be icy at the time and the female driver lost control of her vehicle on the curve and struck your vehicle. She was issued a citation for causing this accident. The other accident that has been reported to us occurred on Jan 5, 2015.

While I understand that there may be more accidents occurring at this location than are getting reported to us as well as some citizens may be just driving too fast in this area and are not having accidents. We will do some monitoring of this area to see if we might make a difference. Also, this will give us a better idea as to the extent of speeding in the area.

I am copying Captain Butler, who heads up the NW Team, and Sgt Kocian, who is in charge of our Traffic Unit, in this email as well.

Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention and we'll see if we might change some drivers driving behavior.

Jim Peschong
Chief of Police
Good morning Mr Peschong,

Appreciate you getting back to me on this. I could only speak for my experience on the area and the information given to me by my employee. We have had some other damage happen to work/personal vehicles in hit and run instances at that location, but the damage was pretty minor. With the reality of knowing that its near impossible without significant damage to even find out who did it & not enough to warrant involving insurance, we didnt bother reporting it to you all. I presume your other accident report was from one of my employee’s vehicles that got hit this week while parked on the street. I urged my employee to contact you all each time they find their mail box has been hit or tire tracks through the yard, ect; more from a standpoint of having a record of the issues they are having. I think the hesitation in doing that in the past for all of us stems from feeling like we dont want to tie up your officers on stuff like this. Is there an alternative way to report these incidences without absorbing your officers time on the road?

You all at LPD do a fine job all around & we think highly of the whole department. While speeding has certainly contributed at times, I have pointed out to Mr Emery that the sweeping design of that curve allows people to maintain the 25mph limit. Any of us familiar with that curve during winter times knows that 25mph is going to easily result loss of control at times (not sure if the culvert under that curve contributes to the ice build up, similar to bridges?). In the case recently where our van got hit, its my understanding that the car was going around 35-40mph. Given that this happened directly coming out of that curve in a residential area, it reinforces that the design currently just doesnt force people to slow down. This is where I think the issue needs to be addressed from a design standpoint. I know my employee that lives on that street has said in the past that you all have been in the area watching for speeders and the general consensus is that you all are doing everything you can - but its not deterring the problem. Im of the opinion that expectations of LPD being able to do much about this is nill because of the design flaws. In anycase, thank you for what you can do, we appreciate it.

Jeremy Giese  
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(402)304-5182  
www.truepowerinc.com

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The sidewalks around Gold’s are not your ordinary smooth sidewalks. They are brick/stone sidewalks and are getting rather uneven and in some cases broken. I’m not trying to get any money out of the City although I incurred almost $400 for an eye exam and new glasses. (My vision had not changed for 4 years and I probably would have been able to use my current glasses for another year had they not gotten broken.)

There is a lot of foot traffic especially after 5:00 P.M. when I am leaving the Gold’s building by the south door and other people are coming from the east causing the brick sidewalks to get very congested. You have to look up so you don’t bump into anyone and if the sidewalks were smooth I think a fall would be less likely to happen. Right now with the snow and moisture on the bricks it is making walking even more difficult as they become very slippery. Because I take the bus on a daily basis I have no choice but to walk over these bricks along with a lot of other bus riders. Since my fall I have become very paranoid and am very thankful once I am seated safely on the bus.

Marcee A. Brownlee, Assistant City Attorney, is recommending that you deny my claim at your meeting on January 12th. I would urge you to at least consider replacing the brick sidewalks with smooth concrete sidewalks.

Thank you...

Lois Steyer, Case Aide
DHHS – Medicaid & Long-Term Care
1050 N Street, Suite 350A – Gold’s Building
Lincoln, NE 68508
(402)471-9321
Lois.Steyer@nebraska.gov
I. CITY CLERK

II. MAYOR & DIRECTORS’ CORRESPONDENCE

MAYOR
1. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler will announce a program for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) services at a news conference Friday, January 9th, at Community Action Partnership, 210 West O Street
2. NEWS RELEASE. Damaged water line results in brief localized pressure loss.
3. NEWS RELEASE. VITA, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, program offers free tax assistance.
4. NEWS RELEASE. Tree recycling collection ends Sunday.
5. NEWS ADVISORY. Mayor Beutler’s public schedule for the week of January 10, 2015 through January 16, 2015.
6. NEWS RELEASE. Musician Andy Strain to perform at libraries.
7. NEWS RELEASE. Portion of N Street to close for joint City-LES project.
8. NEWS RELEASE. Mayor to present November Award of Excellence to Carrie Kimbrough.

III. DIRECTORS

IV. COUNCIL MEMBERS

V. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CITIZENS
1. InterLinc correspondence from Bob Bryant on the sales tax increase.
2. Keyhan Rafiee writing in regard to his citation received and claim presented to the City.
3. LES Administrative Board meeting agenda for January 16, 2015.
Mayor Beutler will announce the support for and availability of Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) services at a news conference at 10 a.m. Friday, January 9 at Community Action Partnership, 210 West “O” Street. The program provides free tax preparation services to qualified low- to moderate-income individuals and families.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 8, 2015
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Steve Owen, Lincoln Water System 402-499-4058

DAMAGED WATER LINE RESULTS IN BRIEF LOCALIZED PRESSURE LOSS

Lincoln Water System (LWS) officials report that a contractor hit a private water service line today on S.W. 40th south of “O” Street, causing the City’s water system to briefly lose pressure in two areas south of West “A” Street:

- The area bounded by Coddington, S.W. 36th Street, West “A” Street and West Van Dorn
- An area on South Folsom between West Calvert and West Pioneers

City crews quickly isolated the damaged line, and the complete loss of pressure was quickly restored. LWS and health officials have determined that the water supply in those areas was not compromised, and the affected households do not need to boil their water. The Public Works and Utilities Department is working with the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department and the Nebraska Health and Human Services to perform additional sampling to ensure the integrity of the water service and protection of public health.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 9, 2015
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Diane Gonzolas, Citizen Information Center, 402-441-7831
Jill Connor, Community Action, 402-875-9338

VITA PROGRAM OFFERS FREE TAX ASSISTANCE
Trained volunteers help taxpayers save money and increase refunds

Mayor Chris Beutler today announced that community funders have contributed more than $37,000 so far to support the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program in the Lincoln area. The program provides free tax preparation services to qualified low- to moderate-income individuals and families.

“Last year, VITA volunteers prepared and filed nearly 5,000 returns, which brought back over $6.2 million into the hands of low-income tax payers in our community,” Mayor Beutler said. “The money they save through this free service and the money they get back from their returns increase their financial stability and self reliance. VITA also has a positive impact on our local economy as those dollars are spent at our local businesses.”

Mayor Beutler thanked the funders – Lincoln Community Foundation, United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County, Cooper Foundation and Woods Charitable Fund. Lancaster County is providing funds to support a VITA site in Raymond, and the City is contributing $10,000. The program is coordinated by Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties and the University of Nebraska’s Center for Civic Engagement. The funds are used for development and coordination of the program and volunteer recruitment, training and support.

According to the 2013 U.S. Census, 49 percent of households in Lancaster County earned less than $50,000 a year, making them eligible for VITA services. Community Action estimates that if all eligible households in Lincoln used VITA services, the combined savings could equal over $11 million. This is based on 2013 Census figures showing 56,721 eligible households and the National Society of Accountants average estimated cost of hiring a tax professional in Nebraska at $196 per taxpayer.

The Mayor said careful tax preparation is especially important for the 2014 returns because the Affordable Care Act premium tax credit and personal responsibility payment will appear on returns for the first time. Those who purchased health insurance through healthcare.gov may need to calculate their premium tax credit and reconcile any advanced payments they received to reduce their monthly premium costs. Families who were not covered by minimum essential health coverage all year will have to determine whether they qualify for an exemption from the personal responsibility payment or calculate the payment. VITA volunteers are prepared to deal with these issues.

- more -
VITA volunteers will also be able to help taxpayers determine if they are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The credit reduces the amount of federal tax owed and can result in a refund check. The EITC is designed to help working, low-income individuals and families build wealth and invest in the future in order to achieve long-term economic stability. Last year, over 1,200 individuals served through VITA were eligible for EITC and claimed close to $3 million in credits.

The VITA tax preparation services begin Sunday, January 18 and continue through April 15. Sites include the following locations:

- Community Action, 210 “O” Street
- UNL East Campus Union, 35th and Holdrege streets
- Indian Center, 1100 Military Road
- Anderson Branch Library, 3536 Touzalin
- Bennett Martin Public Library, 136 S. 14th Street
- Asian Community and Cultural Center, 2631 “O” Street
- Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center, 1505 “S” Street
- North Star High School, 5801 N. 33rd Street
- Southeast Community College, 285 S. 68th Street Place, Room 212
- Good Neighbor Center, 2617 “Y” Street
- GFWC Raymond Woman’s Club, 1st and Clark streets
- Veteran’s Administration, 600 South 70th Street

The complete schedule is available at communityactionatwork.org. Click “2015 VITA schedule” on the homepage.

To use VITA services, eligible individuals must provide photo identification; Social Security cards or ITIN letter/cards and birth dates for all family members; W-2s and Form1099s; other relevant tax information such as interest paid on mortgages and student loans, charitable donations, child care bills and the ID numbers of day care providers; a copy of last year’s federal and state tax returns; and bank routing and account numbers for direct deposit. Students and taxpayers claiming student dependents should bring forms 1098-T and an itemized statement of student account. Married filers must both be present to sign forms.

Those interested in becoming VITA program volunteers can contact Georgann Roth, Community Action, at 402-875-9320 or groth@communityactionatwork.org.

NOTE: AARP is also offering a separate free income tax assistance program at the Downtown Senior Center, 1005 “O” Street from February 2 through April 9. AARP tax aide volunteers will be available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. Appointments will be accepted after January 26 at 402-441-7158.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 9, 2015
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Gene Hanlon, Recycling Coordinator, 402-441-7043

TREE RECYCLING COLLECTION ENDS SUNDAY

The City of Lincoln’s annual tree recycling program will end Sunday, January 11. The trees will then be ground into wood chips, and the wood chip mulch will be available at no charge to Lincoln residents beginning Monday, January 19 at Hofeling Enterprises, 2200 South Folsom Court, during normal business hours. The mulch will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Trees can be dropped off at the following sites:
• Ballard Park, 3901 N. 66th St.
• Oak Lake Park, 1st Street three blocks south of Cornhusker Highway
• University Place Park, 50th and Garland Streets
• Holmes Lake Park, parking lot west of the north softball field
• Tierra Park, 29th and Tierra Drive
• Woods Park, 31st and “J” streets, southeast corner of the parking lot
• Hofeling Enterprises, 2200 South Folsom Court

The City Recycling Office reminds residents recycling their trees to remove plastic bags used for transport and put them in trash cans at the recycling sites. All nails, wires and tree stands must be removed.

The City of Lincoln began offering the tree recycling program in 1987 to keep large quantities of trees from going to the landfill. Lincoln’s tree recycling program is the oldest of its kind in Nebraska. In the last 27 years, the City has recycled an estimated 217,000 trees.

For more information on the City’s recycling program, visit recycle.lincoln.ne.gov or call the Recycling Hotline at 402-441-8215.

-30-
Mayor Beutler’s Public Schedule
Week of January 10 through 16, 2015
Schedule subject to change

Saturday, January 10
• Governor Ricketts’ Inaugural Dinner and Celebration - 5:30 p.m., Pinnacle Bank Arena, 400 Pinnacle Arena Drive

Monday, January 12
• Mayor’s Award of Excellence presentation - 3 p.m., Council Chambers, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St.
• Mayor’s Neighborhood Roundtable meeting - 5:30 p.m., Mayor’s Conference Room, County-City Building

Tuesday, January 13
• Mayor’s Multicultural Advisory Committee meeting - 4 p.m., Mayor’s Conference Room, County-City Building

Wednesday, January 14
• Leadership Nebraska dinner, remarks - 5:30 p.m., Nebraska Club, U.S. Bank Building, 233 S. 13th St., Suite 2000

Thursday, January 15
• KFOR - 7:45 a.m.

Friday, January 16
• 22nd annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Freedom Breakfast, remarks - 7:30 a.m., Embassy Suites, 1040 “P” St.
MUSICIAN ANDY STRAIN TO PERFORM AT LIBRARIES

California musician Andy Strain, a former member of Lincoln’s Symphony Orchestra (LSO), will give two free performances of “The Bremen Town Musicians” at Lincoln City Libraries next week:

- Monday, January 12, 6:30 p.m., Anderson Branch Library, 3635 Touzalin Avenue
- Thursday, January 15, 6:30 p.m., at Walt Branch Library, 6701 S. 14th Street

Strain is in Lincoln as an artist-in-residence for LSO. Strain’s family program begins with a grand entrance and unveiling of a trombone. He will then tell the Brothers Grimm story, playing each musical character to the tune of “When the Saints Go Marching In.” At the end of the performance, a red trombone makes a memorable appearance for those in the audience to try.

For more information on Lincoln City Libraries, visit lincolnlibraries.org.

- 30 -
PORTION OF “N” STREET TO CLOSE FOR JOINT CITY-LES PROJECT

“N” Street from 20th to 21st streets will close Monday, January 12 for work on a joint City of Lincoln - Lincoln Electric System (LES) project. The LES portion of the project is the construction of a duct bank for electrical service lines from the new LES substation at 21st and “N” streets. The new substation will replace the substation at 19th and “Q” streets, which will be removed this summer. When the LES portion is completed, work will begin on the City’s “N” Street Bikeway project.

As part of the duct bank project, the LES contractor will also do the street mill and overlay work for the City. The City will then reimburse LES for the cost of the street work. The City and LES have coordinated the projects to reduce the amount of time needed for “N” Street closures. “N” Street is expected to be closed until February 12.

More information on City construction projects is available at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: projects). More information on LES construction projects is available at les.com.

- 30 -
Mayor Chris Beutler today will present the Mayor’s Award of Excellence for November to Carrie Kimbrough, a Library Service Associate at Lincoln City Libraries. The award will be presented at the beginning of today’s City Council meeting at 3 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 555 S. 10th St. The monthly award recognizes City employees who consistently provide exemplary service and work that demonstrates personal commitment to the City.

Kimbrough has worked for the City since 2010. She was nominated by Library Coordinator Julie Beno in the categories of customer relations and valor for her quick actions to help save the life of a library customer.

On September 3, a customer was checking out an item when Kimbrough noticed that one side of his face was sagging. She also noticed that he used only one arm to look for his library card and seemed disoriented. After quick research on the signs of a stroke, Kimbrough confirmed that he had many symptoms. She called 911 and notified her supervisor. Emergency personnel took him to the hospital for treatment.

Another customer who witnessed the incident, later commended Kimbrough and the staff for handling the emergency situation with speed, care and compassion. And a few days after the incident, the man’s brother and sister called to thank library staff for all that was done for him. They said he had a severe stroke and will be in rehabilitation for several months. The stroke victim lives alone, and his brother said he did not know what would have happened if he had not been in the library.

Beno wrote in her nomination, “We are proud of Carrie’s initiative and action. She provides great library services each day, and we salute her for her particular actions on September third.”

The other categories in which employees can be nominated are loss prevention, productivity and safety. Consideration also may be given to nominations that demonstrate self-initiated accomplishments or those completed outside of the nominee’s job description. All City employees are eligible for the Mayor’s Award of Excellence except for elected and appointed officials.

Individuals or teams can be nominated by supervisors, peers, subordinates and the general public. Nomination forms are available at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: hr) or from department heads, employee bulletin boards or the Human Resources Department, which oversees the awards program. All nominations are considered by the Mayor’s Award of Excellence Committee, which includes a representative with each union and a non-union representative appointed by the Mayor. Award winners receive a $50 gift certificate, a day off with pay and a plaque. All monthly winners and nominees are eligible to receive the annual award, which comes with a $250 gift certificate, two days off with pay and a plaque.
Mary M. Meyer

From: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

From: WebForm [mailto:none@lincoln.ne.gov]
Sent: Thursday, January 08, 2015 3:16 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: InterLinc: Council Feedback

InterLinc: City Council Feedback for General Council

Name: Bob Bryant
Address: 6211 O Street
City: Lincoln, NE, 68510

Phone: 402-486-1040
Fax: 402-489-8150
Email: bob.bryant@bka-cpa.com

Comment or Question:
January 8, 2015

City Council
RE: Possible Sales Tax Increase

Consider that the sales tax is extremely regressive and that the victims of regressive tax are workers who can at least afford to pay additional sales tax.

Effective January we raised minimum wage from $7.25 an hour to $8.00 an hour. That equals an annual increase of only $1,560.00, less FICA tax of $119.00, or $1,441. The vote to increase sales tax by $416.00 on a minimum wage full time employee. This is a whopping 28.86 of the pay increase we just authorized on those that can at least afford it.

The sales tax increase will drain $34 million from the taxpayers to the government in three years. The city could propose a general obligation bond with only the communication system and fire stations ($34 million) and the council may support that bond issue. The interest rate at 2.25 to 2.75% is very cheap and the taxpayer could use their funds over 20 years to either save on credit card interest as high as 30%, or invest in dividend stocks to return 4 to 6%.

The cash flow of such a choice should be shared with voter to have a fair vote on any sales tax increase.

As you might see, I’m extremely frustrated with the government taking from the taxpayer based on less than fair information.

Respectfully,
Robert L. Bryant, C.P.A.

CC: Journal Star
   Chamber
January 08, 2015

Honorable Members of the Lincoln City Council:

Attached, please find a zip folder containing PDF file copies of my October 31, 2014 request to the Lincoln City Clerk's Office and the December 23, 2014 response to my request by the Assistant City Attorney, Marcee A. Brownlee, Esq.

As I am currently employed in the State of Iowa, I will not be able to attend the January 12, 2015 Lincoln City Council Session in person. Instead, I would respectfully bring to your attention the particulars of this matter in the following manner.

1- Shortly before 8:00am on the morning of September 06, 2014, I quickly arrived to retrieve this vehicle from being towed away. Earlier that day, I had parked this vehicle at a hooded parking meter located near the intersection of W and 16th Streets in Lincoln. In the vicinity of this parked vehicle, I found no signs of any kind warning motorists that an illegally parked vehicle at that location is subject to being towed away.

2- Upon arriving to retrieve this vehicle at that time, I found a citation resembling a parking meter citation on the windshield of this vehicle that had been issued at about 7:39am that day by the City of Lincoln parking attendant.

3- As the owner of the said vehicle, I was advised by the parking attendant and by the tow truck operator that in order to get this vehicle released from being towed away I must pay the total amount of $98.08 for fees which was to include towing and perhaps other charges.

4- As a UNL mechanical engineering student, I attended classes and studied in Nebraska Hall (located near the intersection of 16th and W streets) between the years 2008 and 2014. In those years, I never noticed any vehicle being towed away from that location (i.e., on W street between 14th and 16th streets) for any reason having to do with being parked there hours prior to the start of a football game on a Saturday.

5- To the best of my knowledge, on Saturday September 06, 2014, the football game had been scheduled to start in the evening after 5:00 O’clock. To the best of my knowledge, the game began that day as scheduled after 5:00pm. I attempted to remove this vehicle from the location where the aforementioned citation was issued prior to 8:00am on Saturday September 06, 2014.
Based on the foregoing, I respectfully submit that it was unreasonable for the City of Lincoln to take such a harsh measure in proceeding to have the aforementioned vehicle towed away on that Saturday so many hours prior to the start of the football game in addition to issuing a citation for it being parked at a location, in violation of a no parking regulation, where however there was no clear sign(s) indicating to motorists that any parked vehicle at that location is subject to being towed away.

I would therefore request the waver of the $10.00 citation fee. I would further request to be reimbursed for the total amount of $98.08 fees for towing and other charges in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,
Keyhan Rafiee
AGENDA
LES ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD
Friday, January 16, 2015
9:30 a.m.
LES Board Room
1040 “O” Street

9:30 A.M.

1. Call to Order

2. Election of 2015 Officers

3. Approval of Minutes of the December 19, 2014 Regular Meeting of the LES Administrative Board

4. Comments from Customers

5. Introduction and Recognition of Staff
   A. 20 Years – Beverly Thompson, Manager, Internal Operations, Corporate Services
   B. 20 Years – Scott Benson, Manager, Resource & Trans. Planning, Power Supply
   C. 20 Years – Traid Rader, Crew Leader, T&D Construction, Energy Delivery
   D. 30 Years – Brent Alby, Material Handler 1st Class, Corporate Services

6. Committee Reports
   A. Operations & Power Supply Committee
   B. Budget & Rates Committee
   C. Finance & Audit Committee

7. Administrator & CEO Reports
   A. 2014 Preliminary Financial Review
   B. 2014 Year-End Summary
   C. State Legislative Report

8. Chief Operating Officer’s Reports
   A. LES Business Indicators – Year-End Report
   B. 2014 Sustainability Target Report
   C. Power Supply 2014 Year-End Review
   D. Review of Six-Month Claims

9. Other Business
   A. Monthly Financial and Power Supply Reports
   B. Miscellaneous Information

10. Executive Session - Real Estate Negotiations

11. Adjournment

* Denotes Action Items

Next Regular Administrative Board meeting Friday, February 20, 2015.