

**DIRECTORS'/ORGANIZATIONAL AGENDA
ADDENDUM**

Monday, June 1, 2020

I. MAYORS OFFICE

1. Boards, Commissions and Advisory Committee Operations

II. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE

1. Lincoln Police Department - Becki Wise
2. We need a larger police force - Jill Kuhel
3. Luke 11 5-11 - Robert Way
4. Protest Problem Solving - Barb Hof Gordon, PhD
5. Protest last night - Randall Ritnour
Staff response provided by Terry Wagner, County Sheriff

TO: Lincoln City Department Directors
FROM: Jennifer Brinkman
CC: Lincoln City Council
DATE: May 28, 2020
RE: Governmental Boards and Commissions Meetings during COVID-19

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic emergency, the Gaylor Baird administration has strived to provide clear and transparent communication with the public, protect the health and safety of Lincoln residents and continue to conduct the vital business of local government. The meetings of our advisory and regulatory bodies have continued for the most part during this emergency, but some latitude has been provided to respond to the concerns of appointees, staff and the public about limiting engagement in a public setting.

Our Law Department has made it clear (See **Attachment #1**) that governing bodies, boards, commissions, task forces and committees subject to the Open Meetings Act must conduct their business in public. This requires voting members to be physically present in order to participate, ask questions, comment and vote. Additionally, the Governor announced yesterday that in order for localities to be eligible for CARES Act funding from the federal government, public buildings must be open to the public and not just by appointment only.

This memo serves as a directive to all Departments to follow the guidelines and protocols provided below to ensure that these important bodies meet on a regular basis starting in June. This will require additional protocols related to health protections and meeting protocols.

A. Application

Not all Boards and Commissions affiliated with the City of Lincoln are subject to the Open Meetings Act and may conduct business virtually going forward. **Attachment #2** identifies the bodies that must adhere to the health measures and meeting protocols provided in this memo.

Other Advisory Boards, Task Forces and Ad Hoc Committees can decide to utilize technology to meet virtually. If that is the desire of a majority of the members after being surveyed by City staff, please contact me so that we have a record of how that determination was made.

B. Health Measures

The following health measures should be taken when conducting governmental meetings:

Physical Distancing

- Ensure that the room or space where the meeting will take place has adequate space for voting members to maintain a six-foot distance.
 - City Council Chambers
 - Reservation requests can be made through the Outlook Calendar but must be approved by Council staff Angie Birkett at abirkett@lincoln.ne.gov.
 - Room 113
 - Reservations can be made through the Outlook Calendar
 - MSC Training Room (note: Does not meet ADA standards)
 - Reservations must be made with Kim McKay from Lincoln Fire and Rescue, kmckay@lincoln.ne.gov, 402.441.4966
 - Health Department Training Room
 - Reservations must be made with Angel Edwards, aedwards@lincoln.ne.gov, 402.441.8093

Engineering Controls

- Plexiglass barriers will be provided for use in these meeting spaces this month. They will be stored in the room and available for use in appropriate configuration.

Administrative Controls

- Disinfection of the meeting space before and after use.
- Temperature Taking/Symptom Questions. Utilize the Employee Screening Policy for taking temperatures and asking symptom questions of all individuals physically present.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Require all members and those in attendance to use face coverings.

C. Meeting Protocols

The City Law Department provided guidelines for meeting protocols in a memo dated March 19, 2020 (**Attachment #3**). In addition to those recommendations, consider the following additional options for facilitating committee meetings going forward:

Virtual Participation. While all voting members of our Boards and Committees must be physically present in order to participate, comment or ask questions during a meeting, that requirement does not apply to staff or members of the public. We recommend that if using a space where an interactive screen is available, Departments can facilitate staff and members of the public to participate by Zoom/Facetime/Skype/Teams. Best practice is to include this potential way of participating in public meeting notices and ask those that want to participate to register with a staff member to be provided access to the password for the meeting.

City Communication staff is available to assist facilitating the coordination of Zoom testimony, if the meeting is being held in the Council Chambers. Please coordinate those requests with Jamie Wenz, Director of LNKCity TV, at jwenz@lincoln.ne.gov.

On-Site registration. If members of the public determine that they want to participate in person, a staff member should obtain names of those that want to testify, write them down and provide that report to the meeting leader to be called upon and contacted to enter at the appropriate time, eliminating the need for sign-in sheets and sharing of writing utensils.

Time Scheduled Items. A recommended practice for assisting in limiting the number of individuals that might attend a single meeting is to identify the time when individual items on the agenda will facilitate testimony.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about this directive. The COVID-19 virus is still present in our community and we must be ready to adjust our practices if conditions warrant. Our decision-making will be guided by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department. If changes are necessary, those will be communicated to all Directors as needed.

Name of Board/Committee	Role of the Board/Committee	Required to comply with Open Mtg Act?
Aging Partners Areawide Advisory Council	Advisory Committee for the Area Agency on Aging including Lancaster County and a number of neighboring counties.	YES – Created by Interlocal Agreement approved Apr. 28, 1986 as A-70721 and serves as an advisory board for the City Council and county boards in other counties. (iii) and (v)
Air Pollution Control Advisory Board	Advise the Mayor, County Board, & Board of Health with respect to air quality regulation policy.	YES – It is an advisory committee to the City Council and Board of Commissioners. (v)
Alarm Review Board	Consider appeals under Chapter 5.56 of LMC	YES – It is an independent board created pursuant to the Lincoln Municipal Code Chapter 5.56. (iii)
Board of Mechanical Examiners	Adopt rules and regulations for examination of applicants applying for registration under the Mechanical Code.	YES - Independent board created pursuant to LMC §25.06.170. (iii)
Board of Zoning Appeals	Consider appeals related to zoning and land use determinations and consider petitions for variances from zoning and land use requirements	YES – Created pursuant to statute and Chapter 27.75 of LMC. (iii)
Building Code Board of Appeals	Consider appeals related to determinations made under the building code and consider variances from the building code	YES – Created pursuant to LMC 20.06.210 Section 113. In addition, it functions like a public body in considering appeals. (iii)
Building Code Task Force	Advise the mayor on the suitability of alternate materials and installation techniques governed by the building code.	YES – Created pursuant to LMC §20.06.235 (iii)
Charter Review Commission	Consider and make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council regarding revisions to the City Charter	YES – Created pursuant to LMC §4.04.010. Further required to conduct at least one public meeting annually by LMC §4.04.020 (iii)
Citizen Police Advisory Board	Consider complaints concerning police procedures	YES – Created pursuant to LMC §4.08.010

	and policies within LPD	(iii)
City Performance Audit Committee	Advise the City Council on matters relating to financial/internal/performance audits and other operational reviews	YES – Created by LMC Chapter 4.66 (iii)
City Personnel Board	Advise the Mayor, Council, and HR director on personnel and human resource admin.	YES – created by LMC §2.76.055 (iii)
Code Study Committee	Advise the Mayor on proposed changes to various building related codes and ordinances.	YES – created by LMC §20.06.237
Commission on Human Rights	Consider complaints of discrimination and formulates policies and recommendations for City officers.	YES – Created by LMC §11.02.030 (iii)
Community Forestry Advisory Board	Advise Mayor, CC, and Parks Director regarding planting, maintenance, and preservation of trees and associated resources	YES – Created by LMC §4.54.010 (iii)
Community Health Endowment Board of Trustees	General supervision and control of the Community Health Endowment	YES – Created by LMC §4.16.010 (iii)
Dangerous Building Code Board of Appeals	Final interpretation of decisions made using the Dangerous Building Code	YES – Created by LMC §20.04.030 (iii)
District Energy Corporation Board of Directors	Board for a non-profit corporation.	NO – It is a board of a private non-profit corporation.
Electrical Advisory Appeals and Advisory Board	Advise Mayor on electrical code matters, adopt rules and regulations, hear appeals under electrical code	YES – Created by LMC §23.10.100 (iii)
Electrical Code Task Force	Advise Mayor on suitability of new materials and installation methods under electrical code and consider possible changes to the code.	YES – Created by LMC §23.10.530 (iii)
Examining Board of Plumbers	Develop rules and regs for categories and classifications of plumbers and gas fitters in Lincoln.	YES - Created by LMC §24.12.120 (iii)
Fire Code Task Force	Advise Mayor on alternate equipment and methods of installation for things governed by fire code.	YES – Created by LMC §19.03.225 (iii)
Fire Sprinkler and Chemical	Develop rules and regs for	YES – Created by LMC

Examining Board	those wishing to be licensed fire suppression contractors or journeymen	§24.01.040 (iii)
Greater Lincoln Workforce Development Board	Oversee reform of job training services as required by WIOA.	YES – They oversee a public job-training service using federal grant money. (iv)
Historic Preservation Commission	Review and recommend landmark designations and applications related to renovation of historic properties.	YES – Created by LMC §27.57.060 (iii)
Housing Advisory and Appeals Board	Hear appeals related to revocation of apartment licenses, violations of housing code, and neglected building registry.	YES – Created by LMC Chapter 21.05 (iii)
International Fire Code Board of Appeals	Hear appeals from determination of building official as it relates to fire code interpretations.	YES – Created by LMC Chapter 19.03 (iii)
International Property Maintenance Code Task Force	Advise the Mayor on maintenance standards and interpretations of the Property Maintenance Code	YES – Created by LMC §21.05.225 (iii)
Keno Human Services Advisory Board	Distributes 5% of the gross proceeds from Keno.	YES – They are distributing keno funds, which are taxes, and thus are performing an essentially public function (iv)
Lincoln City Library Board	Administrative board in charge of Lincoln City Libraries	YES – Created by LMC §4.20.010 (iii)
LES Administrative Board	Control and management of LES	YES – Created by LMC §4.24.010 (iii)
Lincoln Housing Authority Board	Body responsible for operating governmental housing assistance programs the LHA.	YES – It is a product of statute and approval by the City Council (iii)
LLCHD Board of Health	Advisory Body for LLCHD, Mayor, City Council, and Board of Commissioners	YES – Created by Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-1630(4)
EMS Oversight Authority	Non-profit board responsible for enforcing policy of EMS and making recommendations to Mayor and City Council.	NO – This is a non-profit board.
Planning Commission	Advising Mayor, City Council,	YES – Created in Charter and

	County Commissioners and Planning Department on land use and planning matters.	LMC. (iii)
Lincoln Municipal Golf Advisory Committee	Committee of the Parks and Rec Advisory Board.	NO – This is a subcommittee of the Parks and Rec Advisory Board (1)(b)(i)
Mayor’s Art Advisors Group	There is no description of this group on the Mayor’s list of boards and commissions or in the LMC.	NO – This does not appear to be a creature of statute or ordinance, and it is not advisory to the City Council. Therefore, it is not a public body subject to the Open Meetings Act.
Mayor’s Commission on Women	Advises Mayor on issues important to women and on barriers preventing women from making choices in their lives.	NO – This does not appear to be a board created by statute or ordinance. It also advisory only to the Mayor. Therefore, it is not a public body subject to the Open Meetings Act.
Mayor’s Committee for International Friendship	Arranges program schedules for international visitors to Lincoln as requested by national agencies.	NO – It is not a product of statute or ordinance, and it does not serve an “essentially public function”. Therefore, it is not a public body.
Mayor’s Multicultural Advisory Committee	Identifies issues and recommends policies and strategies that enhance and support full and equal partnership with people of diverse racial, cultural, economic, gender and disability circumstances in city government and community affairs.	YES – Created by LMC §4.50.010 (iii)
Mechanical Advisory and Appeals Board	Advises Mayor on materials and installation methods and provides interpretation related to heating, ventilating, and cooling methods under applicable codes.	YES – Created by LMC §25.04.165
Mechanical Code Task Force	Advise Mayor on alternate equipment and methods of installation for things governed by mechanical code. This is an assumption based on other building code taskforces.	YES – This should be treated in the same fashion as other code-related task forces even though I cannot find a reference to it in the Mechanical Code.

Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission	Study, advise, and review proposals for land uses in the Capitol Environs District and the Capitol View Corridors	YES – Created by LMC §27.56.040 (iii)
Parking Advisory Council	Advised Mayor and staff on parking policy and the strategic plan for parking services.	NO – It does not appear to be a product of statute or ordinance. It is tasked with advising the Mayor and City staff, but not necessarily the City Council. Therefore, it is not a public body.
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board	Advises the Mayor, Council and Parks Director with respect to long range program development for Parks and Recreation.	YES – Created by LMC §12.04.010 (iii)
Pedestrian/Bicycle Advisory Committee	Advise Mayor and City Council on policies and plans for the bicycle and pedestrian network throughout the City	YES – This committee as a stated purpose to advise the City Council on clearly public matters. (v)
Permit Review Board	Review appeals of peddler permits, taxi permits, and lottery permits.	YES – This committee is set up by ordinance. (LMC §5.36.120) (iii)
Plumbing Code Board of Appeals	Hear appeals of determinations made by the Building Official under the Plumbing Code	YES – Created by LMC §24.12.055 (iii)
Plumbing Code Task Force	Advise Mayor on suitability of new materials and methods of installation on matters otherwise covered by the Plumbing Code	YES – Created by LMC §24.12.115 (iii)
Police & Fire Pension Plan Investment Board	Oversee the pension funds and direct investments	YES – Created by LMC §4.62.010 (iii)
Procurement Appeals Board	Consider procurement appeals and advise the Mayor on the outcome of such appeals	YES – Created by LMC §2.18.035 (iii)
Public Building Commission	Design, construct, manage, and operate facilities used by City and County departments	YES – Product of interlocal agreement between the City and County from 1996 and performs essentially public functions in that it manages publicly owned buildings and facilities (iii) and (vi)

Relocation Assistance Appeals Board	Consider appeals of decisions made by the City as to whether an individual may be entitled to relocation assistance	YES – Created by LMC §4.60.010 (iii)
Startran Advisory Board	Advise the Mayor, City Council, and Director of LTU regarding management and operation of Startran	YES – Created by LMC §2.38.030 And advises City Council (iii) and (v)
Taxicab Review Board	Review appeals of actions taken by the City with respect to taxicab permits	YES – Created by LMC §5.50.080 (iii)
Telecommunications/Cable Television Advisory Board	Consider unresolved complaints between franchisees and subscribers as well as advise the City Council and Mayor on policies and initiatives related to telecommunication and cable television services in the City	YES – Created by LMC §5.17.575 and advises the City Council (iii) and (v)
Urban Design Committee	Advise the Mayor, City Council, Planning Commission, and other City boards and agencies with respect to architectural design and aesthetics of projects and plans throughout the City	YES – Created by LMC §4.36.020 and advises City Council (iii and (v)
Veterans' Memorial Garden Advisory Council	Make policy recommendations to the Director of Parks and Recreation, the City Council, and the Mayor as it relates to development and programming for the Veterans' Memorial Garden	YES – No reference to this group in the LMC, but as an advisory committee to the City Council, it should be considered a public body subject to the Act. (v)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jeff Kirkpatrick, City Attorney
FROM: Tim Sieh, Assistant City Attorney
DATE: March 19, 2020
RE: Public Meetings During Public Health Emergency

PUBLIC MEETING PROTOCOLS

In light of the current public health emergency, the issue of how to conduct meetings of public bodies under the Open Meetings Act has come to the forefront. In an effort to create a safe and efficient method of conducting the City's business through these bodies, the following protocols have been devised. These protocols should be followed to the extent it is reasonable to do so keeping in mind that the number of attendees at a given meeting may require that flexibility and judgment be exercised.

Location of Meetings

All public meetings shall, to the extent possible, be held in the City Council Chambers. This will allow the maximum amount of space to accomplish appropriate social distancing for both the members of the respective board as well as the public who may attend said hearing. It will also allow staff to more easily identify the space that needs to be cleaned following a public meeting rather than spreading these meetings around different rooms.

Public Body and Support Staff

The members of the public body shall, to the extent possible, spread themselves across the dais in a manner that acknowledges and complies with the recommendations of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, which include the most recent CDC guidelines for social distancing that strongly discourages gatherings exceeding ten (10) people in a room. In addition to the raised dais, the members of the body may choose to use the seats traditionally occupied by the City Attorney or other staff member primarily responsible for supporting the public body. These seats are located at either end of the dais and are on the floor rather than the raised dais.

The City Clerk, or other staff responsible for administering the public meetings, shall sit in the traditional location in front of the dais. Only one person, however, shall attend the meetings in this role.

Support staff for the meeting shall remain in the media room located at the back of the Council Chambers, except to specifically address the body either at the request of the body or advise the body where necessary. With the exception of the City Attorney's Office and the department representative for the department who generally advised the public body, only those staff members directly involved in a matter before the public body shall attend these meetings. When possible, staff members should be encouraged to monitor the meeting using LNKTV from a location outside the Council Chambers and to only come to the Chambers as necessary to address the body on a specific agenda item.

Members of the Public

Management of members of the public will be a matter of great import during this unprecedented time. They continue to have a right to address the public bodies and to monitor the actions of said bodies. At the same time, it is critical that we facilitate these meetings in a manner consistent with the most current guidance from the public health professionals.

With all this in mind, those wishing to address the public body will be asked to do the following:

1. Upon arrival at the Council Chambers, they will be greeted by a staff member. Those individuals who wish to address the body on a particular agenda item will be asked to identify themselves and the agenda item they wish to speak on. It should be noted whether or not they are the applicant for the item since this would ordinarily allow them to be the first to speak
2. Those individuals who wish to address the public body on the earliest agenda items will be invited to wait in the Bill Luxford Studio. No more than 10 individuals will be allowed in the room at any given time. Should the number of individuals present require, the studio could be separated into two separate rooms, and members of the public could be separated based on what agenda items they intend to address.
3. Once the meeting begins, we will call those who wish to testify into the Council Chamber in groups consistent with the goal of keeping the number of people in the chamber to no more than 10. Upon finishing their testimony, individuals will be asked to leave the chamber through the east doors of the chamber. After the first group is finished, we will call in the next group of individuals and continue to proceed in this fashion throughout the meeting.
4. For those individuals who wish to watch the proceedings but not address the public body, a monitor can be set up in the hallway outside the Council Chambers to allow them to watch the proceedings provided that the number of people in the room not exceed ten (10) upon the advice of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.

General Considerations

Members of the public should be encouraged to submit their comments to the public body in writing, but we cannot prohibit them from addressing the body in person if they so desire. If the number of people attending the meeting required, there are other rooms that can be made available for people who wish to watch the proceedings from within the building.

It may become necessary to schedule specific items for hearing at a particular time in an effort to reduce the number of people present and waiting for the agenda item that concerns them. This is particularly true of items for which we anticipate there will be a significant number of people in attendance.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Becki Wise <wisebecki@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 5:28 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Lincoln Police Department

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

What happened to George Floyd in Minnesota is beyond unacceptable. I am writing to you in the hopes that you will review (and if found lacking, insist on the improvement of) the training policies, disciplinary procedures, and hiring standards of the Lincoln Police Department before an incident like this happens here. Although I think most officers, like most people, are decent folk doing their best, I do not believe our police force is immune from racism. LPD and the City should be actively trying to root out racism. Officers should be held to the highest standard. Instances of racism should be dealt with swiftly and definitively. Diversity training should be mandatory, not optional.

As a citizen of Lincoln, it is my responsibility to demand that "Equality before the law" is more than just an empty motto. As City Council members, it is your responsibility to ensure that all people are treated fairly by those representing our city government. Thank you for your consideration.

Becki Wise

Angela M. Birkett

From: Jill Kuhel <kuhelcreations@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 31, 2020 3:05 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: We need a larger police force

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

It is my understanding that the Lincoln Police force has not increased since 1990. Lincoln has grown significantly since then. Our police force has done a great job protecting our community, but they are stretched too thin especially in moments of crisis. Protect our police force by funding an increase number of the force. Thank you~ Jill Kuhel

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Robert Way <robertway11@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 31, 2020 8:08 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Luke 11 5-11

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Council Members,

Things were tough and now they have gotten tougher. Yesterday there were hundreds of people in front of the building where you meet on their knees saying that they were quite displeased with the way things have been going.

I don't understand all that group of individuals want but I do know that sort of thing doesn't happen very often.

Luke 11 5-11 has always been one of my favorite biblical passages. I will post it at the end, but I figure many of you might know it already. I disagree with some members about the best course on any particular matter, but I don't believe any of you would hand the citizens you serve a snake instead of a stone. I believe you are all trying to do your best. But I have the privilege to spend time getting to know you, others have not had that opportunity.

And they must have that now, and yeah that is going to be painful logistically but I am pretty sure people are going to keep protesting outside until they get some meetings with city leaders inside. I strongly urge you have a plan of that engagement with the protest leaders by the time you finish work Monday. And to make sure that the city is aware that you are making that effort.

I appreciate your hard work, and I wish you well.

Sincerely,
Robert Way

Luke 11

5 Then Jesus said to them, "Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; 6 a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.' 7 And suppose the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' 8 I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread

because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity^[e] he will surely get up and give you as much as you need.

9 "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. **10** For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

11 "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for^[f] a fish, will give him a snake instead?

Angela M. Birkett

From: Barb Hof Gordon, PhD <drbarbhofgordon@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2020 2:04 AM
To: Mayor
Cc: Terri Storer; Council Packet
Subject: Protest Problem Solving

Importance: High

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Dear Mayor,

Although I have never met you, I discovered that we do have mutual friends (Mary Beth Rice, Tami Tyrell Lambie, Katie Pierson, Ashley Ulrich, Judy Burton, and Linda Walt Wilson, to name a few.)

First of all, let me commend you for the fine job you are doing in spite of being new to the job and being almost immediately charged with a pandemic and now the protests on behalf of George Floyd, and racism in general. I am impressed with your leadership skills, professionalism, and compassion, in the face of these crises. It is clear that you deeply care about Lincoln and its citizens.

Having watched the ineffective and costly protests that are becoming increasingly hostile, I feel a need to offer this suggestion that will help diffuse the protest situation and offer immediate and long-term relief. What is happening now is not effective for anyone nor is it in the best interests of our fair city.

My suggestion is that you set up a problem-solving taskforce comprised of protest leaders, civic leaders and the Governor. By doing so, you are offering these desperate and passionate people who “want to be heard”, a platform to vent their frustration, and an avenue to brainstorm solutions for resolving these issues. Instead of being part of the problem, they will become part of the solution, will be heard and recognized for leading in a more effective and rewarding way. Communication is key to understanding and resolving issues. They know what they want and what they need to feel good about themselves. I would be happy to help with this in any way. Working with young people is my favorite thing to do.

Thanks for considering my suggestion. I think you will find it a very rewarding endeavor!

I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Sincerely,

Barb

Onward and Upward!

Barb Hof Gordon, PhD

drbarbhofgordon@gmail.com

402-580-2197 (cell or text)

Angela M. Birkett

From: Terry T. Wagner
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2020 8:12 AM
To: 'Randall Ritnour'
Cc: Commish; Bruce J. Prenda; Lincoln Commission on Human Rights; Council Packet; Police Public Access; Mayor
Subject: RE: Protest Last night

Randall, thanks for your comments. As with all incidents we will be reviewing our collective actions for things we could do better, actions we maybe shouldn't have taken and how we can make sure the protesters can exercise their rights and protect them while enforcing the law against the criminals who have used the protests as an excuse to commit crimes.

Terry Wagner

From: Randall Ritnour <ritnourlaw@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 1, 2020 8:03 AM
To: Terry T. Wagner <twagner@lancaster.ne.gov>
Cc: Commish <Commish@lancaster.ne.gov>; Bruce J. Prenda <BPrenda@lancaster.ne.gov>; Lincoln Commission on Human Rights <LCHR@lincoln.ne.gov>; Council Packet <CouncilPacket@lincoln.ne.gov>; Police Public Access <LPD@cjis.lincoln.ne.gov>; Mayor <mayor@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: Protest Last night

[CAUTION] This email comes from a sender outside your organization.

Terry,

You know that I am a strong supporter of law enforcement. However, I was disappointed by what I saw at the County Courthouse yesterday. The optics of sheriff's office personnel in military kit, replete with dogs, piling into the protesters and brawling, with I can only assume was the patrol captain shouting and leading the charge are not good. The woman flung to the ground and the arrest of the organizer, who, reportedly, had been operating under the understanding that the peaceful protest beyond the curfew deadline was authorized, was disturbing.

Those scenes did not speak to the values and guiding principles of the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office. We are better than that. Please take my comments with the good will that they are intended.

Stay safe.

Randall Ritnour
ritnourlaw@gmail.com
(402) 802-1540