

MINUTES
DIRECTORS' MEETING
Monday, June 22, 2020

Present: Sändra Washington, Tammy Ward, Roy Christensen, Bennie Shobe, Richard Meginnis, Jane Raybould, and James Michael Bowers

Others Present: Soulinnee Phan, Deputy City Clerk; Pat Lopez, Interim Director, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department; Jennifer Brinkman, Mayor's Chief of Staff; Jeff Kirkpatrick, City Attorney; and other City Staff present

Chair, Richard Meginnis opened the meeting at 2:03 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act

I. MINUTES

Minutes from June 8, 2020, approved and adopted

II. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

III. CITY CLERK

Under Consent Agenda – Items 1.a. and 1.b. are introduced by Christensen.

Under Petitions & Communications – Item 2.a. is liquor related item, it is a temporary outdoor expansion on private property. Christensen stated the Council will suspend their rules and vote on it today.

Under Public Hearing Ordinances 2nd Reading – Items 6.a. and 6.b., 6.c. and 6.d. will be called together.

Under Ordinances 3rd Reading – Item 7.a. has a request to delay for one week.

IV. MAYORS OFFICE

Brinkman advised Council on tomorrow's upcoming Department Budget Briefing. Sales tax figures for the month of April have been received and distributed to Council members. One additional month of sales tax revenue will be received prior to the budget being finalized.

A brief update was provided on the work of the Economic Recovery Task Force; they have had their first meeting and have put together three sub-committees: 1.) Local business strategies, 2.) Local workforce strategies, 3.) Local sector strategies which are being led by Jasmine Kingsley from HUDL, Cori Sampson Vokoun from Sampson Construction, and Maribel Cruz from Talent Plus.

The HR Payroll Absence Module implementation has been rolled out. Five additional modules will follow over the next few months as they City/County implements the new system.

Kirkpatrick spoke on the liquor related items regarding the temporary expanded outdoor areas. The current State Directed Health Measure (DHM) is now allowing 100% capacity in bars and restaurants. The State still recommends maintaining a 6' distance. While the City is requiring establishments maintain a 6' distance.

Discussion followed.

V. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE
LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1. Public Health Update provided by Pat Lopez, Interim Director, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.

Lopez briefed Council on the latest guidance and concerns regarding COVID-19. Lopez reported there are currently 1,611 positive cases in Lancaster County. Out of the total cases 926 (57.5%) cases in Lancaster Co. in May. 10 Lancaster County residents died due to COVID19. As of yesterday, we have 20 hospitalizations among Lancaster County residents and 3 of these are on ventilators. Testing has been steady in the past three weeks and we

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are seeing about 2,500 completed per week. Bryan is having a drive-thru testing facility on 27th and Pike Lake, between 1 PM- 4 PM weekdays. CHI Health's drive-thru COVID testing facility is at North Star High School, conducted daily between 2 PM-6 PM on weekdays. Test Nebraska is operating at North-Start High School on Monday and Tuesday this week and next week.

A third of Lancaster Co cases are due to an outbreak in meat processing plants in and around Lancaster Co. 467 cases or 29% of all cases are connected to meat processing plants. 282 of them are employees and 185 individuals are family members or direct contacts of employees. We are monitoring all the clusters in Lincoln where a business or an industry has 5 or more cases. Currently, 45% of all our cases are linked to a cluster. Most of the clusters had sporadic activity in the past three weeks except in Health Care/Long-term and assisted living facilities. Though the numbers are small now, we are concerned about it due to the high risk of the residents in these facilities.

As of today, Lancaster County is under Phase 3 of the State Directed Health Measure. Bars and Restaurants are open to 100% capacity, indoor gatherings at 50%, and outdoor gatherings at 75% with neither exceeding 10,000 people limit. Parades, carnivals, midways, dances, and beer gardens will remain prohibited. Local DHM is still in effect for social distancing where 6 feet distance should be

We started monitoring Recoveries, and so far 467 individuals reported to be symptom-free.

COVID-19 Risk Dial remains at mid-yellow or moderate level.

Discussion followed

VI. BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSION REPORTS

1. BOH – Bowers (06.09.20)

Bowers reported the committee voted to delay meeting for two weeks.

2. PBC – Meginnis, Raybould (06.09.20)

Meginnis reported discussion was had on requiring individuals to wear facemasks. Damage that was caused to the Hall of Justice (HOJ) has been cleaned up and repaired. The HOJ remodel is moving forward.

3. Parks & Rec – Christensen (06.11.20)

Christensen reported this was the first meeting in three months. A quorum was established in the meeting room; others were able to view the meeting via zoom but were not allowed to comment, participate in discussion or vote on any items. Discussion was had on staff reports and the master plan was reviewed. Public swimming pools opened under specific guidelines. At this time private rental of the public pools is not being allowed.

VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS

Raybould advised Council members the upcoming City/County Commons meeting will be held July 13, 2020. It has been proposed to change the venue of this meeting to the Lancaster County Event Center, to allow for social distancing and change the time of the meeting to 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Raybould stated she wanted to make sure the meeting is positive, supportive and collaborative on discussing good practices currently in place and good policy going forward.

Discussion followed

Chair, Meginnis adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.