

DIRECTORS' ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Monday, August 10, 2020

555 S. 10TH STREET

BILL LUXFORD STUDIO

I. MINUTES

1. Approval of Directors' Minutes from August 3, 2020

II. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

III. CITY CLERK

IV. MAYOR'S OFFICE

V. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE

LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

1. Administrative Approvals from July 28, 2020 through August 3, 2020
2. Action dated August 5, 2020

VI. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE

1. August 3rd Budget Proposal - Molly McConnell
2. Alternatives to Imprisonment Facilities - Mo Neal
3. Proposed Budget Public Hearing - Erin Butcher
4. Halt the Budget - Mel Severin
5. City Budget - John Shelton
6. Police Citizen Council - Mary Reeves
7. Altercation - Tina Arsiaga
8. Regarding the next upcoming agenda - Hunter Henning
Staff response provided by Angie Birkett, City Council Secretary

VII. ADJOURNMENT



Memorandum

Date: ♦ August 4, 2020

To: ♦ City Clerk

From: ♦ Rhonda Haas, Planning Dept.

Re: ♦ Administrative Approvals

cc: ♦ Geri Rorabaugh, Planning Dept.

This is a list of City administrative approvals by the Planning Director from July 28, 2020 through August 3, 2020:

Administrative Amendment 20040 to Special Permit 18021, Hillcrest, approved by the Planning Director on July 30, 2020, to adjust the side and rear yard setbacks for lots 9, 14, 21, 22 in Block 1, generally located at South 93rd Street and A Street.

Administrative Amendment 20042 to Special Permit 08034B, Whispering Meadows CUP approved by the Planning Director on July 31, 2020, to add 4 dwelling units and revise the lot layout for Lots 1-18, Block 2 and Lots 1-15, Block 3, generally located at Southwest 27th Street and West A Street.

****ACTION BY PLANNING COMMISSION****

NOTICE: The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 5, 2020, 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.

****PLEASE NOTE:** The Planning Commission action is final action on any item with a notation of **AFINAL 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.

For the protection of all those involved, the Planning Commission will be allowing testimony on agenda items by videoconferencing. For those who wish to testify by video, you must register with the Planning Department Office to participate by calling 402-441-7491 or emailing Plan@lincoln.ne.gov by 10:00 a.m. the day of the meeting. You will be asked to provide your name, address, phone number and the agenda item(s) you wish to speak on, and your position on this item. On the day of the hearing, you will receive a link via email, which will be needed to join the hearing to provide your testimony.

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2020

[Commissioners Corr and Edgerton absent; Vice Chair Beckius served as Chair.]

Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held July 22, 2020. ****APPROVED: 6-0;**
(Corr and Edgerton absent)**

- 1. CONSENT AGENDA:**
(Public Hearing and Administrative Action);

CHANGE OF ZONE:

- 1.1 CHANGE OF ZONE 17030B, to amend the existing PUD (Planned Unit Development) to include a waiver to reduce the required parking, on property generally located at 88th Street and Bobtail Road.
Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: George Wesselhoft, 402-441-6366, gwesselhoft@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL: 6-0, as set forth in the staff report dated July 23, 2020 (Corr and Edgerton absent).
Public hearing before the City Council is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 24, 2020, 3:00 p.m.

- 2. **REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL:** None.
- 3. **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:** None.
- 4. **PUBLIC HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION:**

CHANGE OF ZONE:

- 4.1 CHANGE OF ZONE 20024, from H-3 (Highway Commercial District) to R-4 (Residential District), and from I-1 (Industrial District) to H-3 (Highway Commercial District), on property generally located at North 27th Street and Old Dairy.
Staff recommendation: Approval
Staff Planner: Rachel Jones, 402-441-7603, rjones@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL: 6-0, (Corr and Edgerton absent). Public hearing before the City Council is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 24, 2020, 3:00 p.m.

**FOR ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK ON AN ITEM
 NOT ON THE AGENDA, THIS HAS BEEN SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Adjournment 1:28 p.m.

PENDING LIST: *None.*

**The Planning Commission meeting
 which is broadcast live at 1:00 p.m. every other Wednesday
 will be rebroadcast on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., Thursdays at 12:00 a.m. and Sundays
 at 12:30 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.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Molly McConnell <mollymccconnell5@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 1:24 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: August 3 Budget Proposal.

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

City Council members —

The 2020-2021 proposed budget for Lincoln has allocated \$57 million to the police department. Fifty-seven million dollars, roughly a third of the entire city budget.

You know this, of course. Or I hope so, because it would mean you've read the whole budget and understand where the money is going in this city. But have you thought about where it could be going instead? What some of the money being allocated to the police went instead to helping people with mental illnesses, kids in need, families in poverty, people who need help getting a job, medical care, language skills, job skills, programs for youth? What if we reimagined safety, which the police purport to enforce and protect, as something that happens before we ever need police?

Why not take this opportunity and put money into programs and communities that can help these things before they develop into "crime"? I put crime in quotation marks because so rarely is an action an isolated event; rather, it has a context and a history. We as a city need to shift our thinking from being reactive to being proactive. Let's encourage people and help them before we ever need to involve the police, who actually don't solve many crimes and often make communities feel less safe rather than more.

Please look beyond your own context and into someone else's. Please understand that giving the police a third of the operating budget tells this community that you don't care about where they came from or what they need help with, only that you are here to make sure they are punished for it.

Please acknowledge that many people in this community aren't receiving help they need and that giving to the police will only exacerbate issues. The police aren't mental health counselors or job skills coaches or teachers or nurses. Let's focus on one another's humanity. Let's adopt a feminist policy, like the feminist foreign policy used by Sweden, which looks at how life can be improved for women and children. Once those standards are raised, life improves for everyone. What if we did that in Lincoln? What if we created a newer, better, healthier, more equitable city for everyone?

Let's try it.

Thank you —

Molly McConnell.

Angela M. Birkett

From: Mo Neal <moneal1950@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 2:24 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: ALternatives to Imprisonment facilities

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

Dear Councilmembers:

It is my hope that you will place a moratorium on approving any existing and all future applications for AIF permits until such time as regulations may be written, reviewed and added to the Municipal Code.

How this facility got included in the codes in 2015 with out any regulations whatsoever is a question needs answering. How did this happen?

At a bare minimum the setbacks and density should equal those for domestic shelters.

Remove the designation of an AIF from the property and tie it instead to the owner along with licensing requirements, credentials required, background checks, health & safety standards being met & on site unannounced inspections of the facility.

Sincerely,
Mo Neal
2701 S. 13th St

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Erin Butcher <erinjbutcher@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 03, 2020 7:28 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Proposed Budget Public Hearing

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

Hello,

I would like to echo many of my community members in requesting that the budget is halted until actual reallocation of LPD funds to community programs, Lincoln parks and recreations, and our school systems. There is no need to match the grant to the LPD.

I feel most my community members spoke eloquently when they urged a call for there to be accountability for our housing issues as we face mass evictions. We should keep Star Tran fares free for our community members. We also need to keep in mind, as many have said, police do not stop crime, they are a reaction of it. We need to start actually providing services to communities that are “at risk” so that we can truly start to create a safe environment vs just slapping constant bandaid on issues. More police do not cause less crime, in the same way that more prisons do not cause less prisoners.

Thank you for your time,
Erin Butcher
Lincoln, NE 68508

Angela M. Birkett

From: Mel Severin <melseverin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2020 8:37 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Halt the budget

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

City Councilpeople,

Please use your power to halt the city budget so that we can adjust it to meet the needs of our community. The money for 5 new police officers should be going toward mental health and social services in Lincoln. More police will not solve the issues our community is facing.

I received an email from the Mayor's office stating their reasoning for supporting the COPS grant. They said, "The new officers enable our Lincoln Police Department to mitigate gun violence in our community by reducing suicides committed with firearms, reducing assaults and domestic violence incidents involving firearms, and reducing the chances of a mass shooting." I have some questions:

"The new officers enable our Lincoln Police Department to mitigate gun violence in our community by reducing suicides committed with firearms,..." **....how? What is the role of LPD in this scenario? I don't think we should be expecting police to reduce suicides of any kind. That should be the responsibility of social and mental health services.**

"...reducing assaults and domestic violence incidents involving firearms,..." **...how? I feel like police are called after the violence has happened. So how are they able to reduce violence?**

"...and reducing the chances of a mass shooting." **...how? By being present at mass public gatherings? Are there other ways LPD is reducing the chance of this?**

Unless you can answer these questions and explain why we should have 5 more officers, **you must halt the budget so that it can be adjusted.** We shouldn't be funding anything unless we have a clear reason that benefits our whole community, not a select few.

I also want to second Dominique Liu-Sang's testimony on this issue and strongly recommend you consider the plan she presented for reallocating funds.

Thank you.

Mel Severin
1826 Harwood Street

Angela M. Birkett

From: John Shelton <jshelton@nesbittassociates.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2020 10:04 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: City Budget

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

This message is in regards to the protesters disrupting the city council meeting reference their wish to defund the Lincoln Police. It appears the only mission of these protesters is to thwart the ability of citizens of Lincoln to live in a safe community. Defunding police agencies will only cause further lawlessness by removing the tools necessary to provide society a means to manage crime issues as they arise. In addition, this group also wants someone other than the police to respond to domestic disturbances!! A domestic disturbance call is one of the most dangerous calls a police officer will receive!! The police are trained in the best practice methods available to handle these calls. Sending anyone other than the police would be a disaster.

Also according to the news story, the organizers of this protest advised that council members should not listen to your constituents, instead you should go against them in your vote on the budget. I am one of your constituents and I very much am in support of continued funding of the police and the federal grant that provides extra officers for the department.

As a retired law enforcement officer, I know the commitment that officers make each and everyday to put on their badge and go into harms way for the good of the community. Please support our police and do not listen to the lunatic ravings of those that wish to destroy our community.

John J Shelton

Angela M. Birkett

From: Mary Reves <reevesmary34@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2020 10:06 AM
To: Mayor; Council Packet; James M. Bowers; Richard W. Meginnis; Jane Raybould; Tom Ward; Sandra J. Washington; Roy A. Christensen; Bennie R. Shobe
Subject: Police citizen council

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

Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird,

I want you to know that I have no complaint about the police and support them.

However, I believe that it is imperative that there be some changes in the way the police department handles some issues. My concerns have been brought more strongly to me through recent events and on my part, education about some needs that I had not thought clearly about before.

1. I see the need for a citizen review of police actions. I as an educator was reviewed by my superiors and by the parents that I interacted with. I think police personnel will, as does any one facing a review, feel nervous, but those who are doing their job well will not be opposed to a committee of citizens who review complaints. Many others in the public sector face reviews of their work and that is something that should happen so that their services are of good quality.
2. I see the need for social workers, psychologists or someone trained in family intervention to accompany police on domestic calls. These others may be able to deescalate the situation easier than the sight of a uniformed person with weapons can do.
3. In the situation of alcohol use or drug use a person trained as a counselor for substance abuse people might again be use in helping to deescalate a situation that may need a police presence but also needs someone who knows many of the ways to deal with an intoxicated person. An AA person has been there and knows what it is like while a police person who has not experienced what the person is going through may mistakenly view the persons behavior.

I do not see that any of these situations are isolated to any particular race, religion, medical or physical condition, sexual orientation but to all of the citizens of our city.

Mary Reeves

reevesmary34@gmail.com

402-464-1803

Angela M. Birkett

From: Tina Arsiaga <tarsiaga@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2020 3:38 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: IMG_0438.mov
Attachments: IMG_0438.mov

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

Dear councilmen and women members,

I wanted to show you a situation that had occurred this past weekend at our group home. My son parked his car for one minute in the alley to grab something in the house. He came out to the situation which is in the video below. In the video, You will find two men accosting my son; one man telling him were you raised by wolves and do you even have parents? To the other man telling my son that we're not gonna have this shit in our neighborhood. My son said that has nothing to do with me you can go find my mom she's inside where the man proceeded to go up the property. I came out and saw these two men aggressing my son and one man aggressing me at that time. This had Nothing to do with any person living in the group home it had to do with angry neighbors displacing their anger and emotionally antagonizing a 17 year old minor child.

I called the police as a mother and I wanted this situation noted and on file with the police department with regards to how these two men acted for someone parked in an alley for one minutes time. I also was frightened for my son and for myself.

Mind you the other man didn't even have a car there he just came down for the scene. Just want to make sure that the full story is told and that it has nothing to do with the group home. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.
Tina Arsiaga

Sent from my iPhone

Angela M. Birkett

From: Angela M. Birkett
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2020 2:00 PM
To: 'Hunter Henning'
Subject: RE: Regarding The Next Upcoming Agenda

Good Afternoon Mr. Henning,

Thank you for contacting the office of the Lincoln City Council. In response to your questions the Lincoln City Council agenda can be found at: <https://lincoln.ne.gov/city/council/agenda/index.htm>. The Lincoln City Clerk's office posts the City Council agenda by Friday morning prior to the Monday City Council meeting.

The Lincoln City Council meets every Monday at 3 p.m. except for the last Monday of the month which begins at 5:30 p.m. The length of time as to how long the meetings usually last are generally determined by the number of agenda items and the number of testifiers on public hearing items. Also, the 2nd and last Monday's of the month, immediately following the final agenda item, the public is offered the opportunity to address Council on a matter not currently on the agenda or planned for a future agenda at the open microphone session. During this time individuals are allowed a total of 5 minutes to speak regardless of the number of topics.

All City Council meetings are aired live on LNKTv City and re-aired later. For a schedule, visit lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: LNKTv). LNKTv City can be found on all three cable television systems: ALLO Channel 2; Spectrum Channel 1300; Kinetic Channel 1005. Meetings are also streamed live at lincoln.ne.gov (keyword: LNKTv) and available at youtube.com/LNKTvcity.

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Thank you,

Angie Birkett
Administrative Secretary
Lincoln City Council
555 South 10th St., Ste 111
Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone 402-441-6867
Fax 402-441-6533
abirkett@lincoln.ne.gov



From: Hunter Henning [mailto:hbear5103@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2020 12:33 PM
To: Council Packet <CouncilPacket@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: Regarding The Next Upcoming Agenda

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

Hello, I am writing with regards to a few questions that I have with the upcoming city council meeting. My first question is what exactly will be on the agenda for this upcoming Monday meeting? My second question is how long do meetings usually last? Thank you for your time.