

Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 6th, 2023



Present: City Council Chair Tammy Ward, Council Vice Chair Tom Beckius, Council Members: James Michael Bowers, Bennie Shobe, Michelle Suarez, and Sandra Washington. **Absent:** Richard Meginnis

Others Present: Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird, City Attorney Yohance Christie, City Council Office Manager JaMel Ways, City Clerk Soulinnee Phan; and various City Directors and Staff.

Council Chair Ward opened the meeting at 2:00 p.m. announcing the location of the Open Meetings Act.

I. Approval of Directors Meeting from January 23rd, 2023.

II. City Council Agenda & City Clerk Advisories

- There will be no City Council Meeting February 20th, 2023 to observe Presidents Day.
- Public Hearing – Liquor Resolutions
 - Items 4.a. & 4.b. to be called together.
- Public Hearing – Ordinances 2nd Reading & Related Resolutions
 - Items 7.g. & 7.h. to be called together.
 - Items 7.i. – 7.l. to be called together.
- Ordinances – 3rd reading & Related Resolutions
 - Item 8.b. has a motion to amend #1.

III. Mayoral Office Advisories

- **Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird** – Advised that Covid emergency ending May 11th. Will be meeting with the Unified Command Team on future steps. Discussed funds to support 2nd water source. Talks of the new convention center is still taking place and when community engagement takes place. Affordable Housing funds were discussed and how the funds were utilized. Haymarket Park Catalyst Project is underway in South Lincoln. Urban Development discussions on Block 5 – West Haymarket area plans to grow businesses with public and private partnerships.
- **Denise Pearce, Parks & Recreation** – Discussed Haymarket Park and \$10m grant that is being requested to assist in project. Tentative start date of Spring/Summer of 2024.
- **Chad Blahak, Director of Building & Safety** – Discussed short term rental program and gave status numbers from the beginning of the program in 2021 until current date.
- **Pat Lopez, Health Director** – Discussed meeting with the Unified Command Team on the status of free Covid tests in the future. Will give an update to the council in the next week or so. Currently looking at vaccine logistics right now and waiting to hear from the CDC. Will give updates when notified.

IV. City Council Member Boards, Committees, & Commissions Reports

- **Bennie** – Justice Council – New Chair & Vice Chair elected. Current jail population is high. City JC is now part of a National Justice group. Committee was invited to participate with a Criminal Health research care committee. Also discussed how Vet, DUI, and Drug courts are successful but night court is not being used as much.
- **Tammy Ward** – Downtown Lincoln Association – Discussed Lincoln Bold project and DLA project. District Energy – Election of Officers and discussed how bill LB637 was passed. JPA – Youth Sports Complex, vote for 1st payment was made.

Council Chair Ward adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.