

DIRECTORS' ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Monday, December 6th 2021

555 S. 10th Street

LUXFORD STUDIOS

Present: Bennie Shobe, Tammy Ward, Richard Meginnis, Tom Beckius, Jane Raybould, Sandra Washington, James Michael Bowers, Soulinnee Phan, Leirion Gaylor Baird, Pat Lopez, David Young, Yohance Christie, Tammy Wissing, Dan Marvin, Yohance Christie, Chad Blahak, David Carey

Meeting opened at 2:01 PM

I. MINUTES

Pending

II. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

III. CITY CLERK

City Clerk stated that the Council will start off with the Mayor's Award of Excellence. City Clerk stated that item 1c will have a motion to amend. City Clerk stated that she will call items 2a through 2i together. City Clerk stated she will call items 4a and 4b together. City Clerk stated that item 10i will have a clerical correction. City Clerk stated that item 11a will have continued public hearing.

IV. MAYOR'S OFFICE

Mayor Gaylor Baird expressed thanks to the council for adopting the affording housing coordinated action plan. Mayor Gaylor Baird referenced last week's announcement about working with community development institutions. Mayor Gaylor Baird stated that Lincoln is making improvements and progress on addressing housing challenges by these partnerships.

Mayor Gaylor Baird stated that Director Liz Elliot and LTU has released a streamline process to advance transportation projects more quickly and efficiently. Mayor Gaylor Baird stated she signed 6 contracts with different firms who have been prequalified to do work with the city such as surveying, design engineering, and studies. These contracts allow us to utilize these firms as needed. These firms are held to the same approvals and reviews, but this will speed up the process.

Mayor Gaylor Baird stated that the vaccination remains a key strategy to move out city forward in the pandemic. Mayor Gaylor Baird shared that wearing masks is another way to control the spread and keep the pressure off from the hospitals. Mayor Gaylor Baird stated that hospital capacity could impact anyone who seeks and needs care. Mayor Gaylor Baird expressed gratitude to the health department team.

Mayor Gaylor Baird stated that the city has been working to provide emergency rental assistance to residents. By November 19th the city has served 3,935 unique households.

Director Pat Lopez provided an update on covid-19 in our community. Director Lopez stated our hospital numbers still remain critical. Director Lopez stated that people are waiting in emergency rooms or have been seeking care in another states. Director Lopez stated that case numbers have increased. Director Lopez stated the vaccination rate for the total population is at 62.8%. Director Lopez provided an update on booster clinics in the community. Councilwoman Raybould asked if clinics were vaccinated children. Director Lopez stated that they had been and that they have also been providing flu vaccines.

DIRECTORS' ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Monday, December 6th 2021

555 S. 10th Street

LUXFORD STUDIOS

Director David Young introduced Tammy Wissing. Tammy Wissing spoke regarding changes in the investment policy. Ms. Wissing stated that they are having brookers seeking to do business with the city will complete a questionnaire, require their office to be located in the state of Nebraska instead of near the state of Nebraska, increases certification of participation bonds from one year to three years for a better return, and allow 5% of the 20% portfolio municipal bonds to extend for five years as opposed to three years for a better returns. Ms. Wissing stated that they would like to review the need of an investment committee. Councilmembers raised concerns about removing an investment committee. Councilwoman Washington stated she agreed an annual review of policy makes sense, but had concerns about removing an investment committee. Councilwoman Raybould asked if it was normal for a municipality to have an investment committee. Director Young stated that they reached out to the bond council. He learned that because the investments go through scrutiny by auditors and an audit on the account every year there is oversight.

V. BOARDS/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS

DLA - Councilman Meginnis

Councilman Meginnis stated that the DLA met last week and that there was a North Pole set up downtown.

Justice Council - Councilwoman Raybould

Councilwoman Raybould stated that the jails are continuing to increase in their population to almost alarming levels. It has been a struggle to segregate the population due to covid. Councilwoman Raybould shared they are looking at initiatives for pretrial bonds.

RTSD - Councilman Beckius

Councilman Beckius stated that the RTSD board met earlier today. Councilman Beckius stated there will be an open house regarding 33rd and Cornhusker. Councilman Beckius shared that visuals are on the 33rd and Cornhusker website. There has been ongoing discussion on quiet zones.

VI. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

VII. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE

Meeting ended at 2:38 PM