

Directors Meeting Agenda

Monday, April 8, 2024, 2:00 p.m.
555 S 10th Street – City Chambers

- I. Open Meetings Law Announcement
- II. Approval of Directors Meeting Minutes from April 1, 2024
- III. City Clerk Advisories
- IV. Director's Advisories
- V. City Council: Commissions, Committees, and Event Updates
- VI. Post-Meeting Council Members Calls to City Directors
- VII. Adjournment

Next Directors Meeting – April 15, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

City Correspondence

Jennifer T. McDonald – BP240402 – 1 Administrative Approvals

Wynn Hjermstad – Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable April 8, 2024 – IN PERSON

Constituent Correspondence

Kari Watson – woods tennis court expansion – should be a regional park plan

Gregg Roseberry – Proposed Water District from 7th to 14th along Fletcher

Rosina Paolini – (no subject)

Tim Wellman – Vehicle damage

Perry Howell – RE: 665 Research Drive

Patte Newman – Woods Park

Cindy Cerny – Woods Park proposed Tennis Center expansion

The Directors Meeting Agendas and Minutes may be accessed at:
<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/City-Council/Directors-Minutes-Agendas>

Tom J. Beckius

From: Jennifer T. McDonald
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 12:51 PM
To: Council Packet
Cc: David R. Cary
Subject: BP240402 - 1 Administrative Approvals
Attachments: BP240402 - 1 Administrative Approval.pdf

Please see attached.

Thank you,

Jennifer McDonald
Administrative Aide II
Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department
555 S 10th St, Ste 213
Lincoln, NE 68508
402-441-6365



Memorandum

Date: April 2, 2024
To: City Clerk
From: Clara McCully, Planning Dept.
Re: Administrative Approvals
cc: Shelli Reid, Planning Dept.

This is a list of City administrative approvals by the Planning Director from March 26, 2024, through April 1, 2024:

Administrative Amendment #24016 to SP21037 West Van Dorn Ridge Community Unit Plan, was approved by the Planning Director on March 28, 2024 to add Outlot B for a wastewater lagoon and Note #21 regarding responsibility for future improvements for Outlot B generally located at SW 70th Street and West Van Dorn Street.

Tom J. Beckius

From: Wynn S. Hjermstad
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 4:26 PM
To: Wynn S. Hjermstad
Cc: Michon Morrow; Roy Rivera Barcenas
Subject: Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable April 8, 2024 - IN PERSON
Attachments: 04-08-24 Agenda.pdf; 02.12.24 Mayor's Roundtable Notes.pdf; Kim Morrow Presentation - Greenhouse Gas Reduct Measur.pdf

Good afternoon, Neighborhood Leaders and Representatives,

The next meeting of the Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable will be **IN PERSON** on Monday, April 8, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room: third floor City County Building, 555 S. 10th. Turn left off the elevators to the Mayor's Office. The current agenda and February meeting notes (no March meeting) are attached and will be available online soon at:

<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/urban/neighborhoods/roundtable.html>.

PLEASE NOTE: Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable is for Neighborhood Presidents or their designees.

*******NOTE: APRIL MEETING IS IN PERSON*******

Wynn

Wynn S. Hjermstad, AICP
Community Development Manager
City of Lincoln | Urban Development Department | Livable Neighborhoods Division
555 S 10th St | Suite 205 | Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
Office: 402.441.7606 | Direct: 402.441.8211 | Fax: 402.441.8711

MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE

In-Person at Mayor's Conference Room

COUNTY/CITY BUILDING
555 SOUTH 10TH STREET
3rd Floor, Mayor's Conference Room
Monday, April 8, 2024, 5:30 p.m.

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions; Volunteer to Take Notes
- Mayor Gaylor Baird Comments
- Introducing Chief Michon Morrow, Lincoln Police Department: 402-441-7238;
Lpd1143@cjis.lincoln.ne.gov.

Chief Morrow will introduce herself and present the vision for the Lincoln Police Department.

- Announcements
 - Next Meeting / Agenda
 - Adjourn
-

Next Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable Meeting
May 13, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
Mayor's Conference Room or via zoom

Severe Weather Policy: *The Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable meeting will be cancelled when severe weather warnings are issued including tornado, thunderstorm, and flash flood and when LPS closes due to weather.*

**City of Lincoln
Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable
Meeting Notes**

Date: February 12, 2024

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: Zoom

Welcome and Introductions; Volunteer to Take Notes

Chair Tracy Corr opened the meeting with introductions. Mary Unger volunteered to take notes.

Attendees:

- Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird
- Tracy Corr, Chair and 40th & A

Neighborhood Reps:

- Gloria Eddins – Clinton NO
- Richard Piersol – Country Club NA
- Karen Dienstbier – Eastridge NA
- Pat Steer – Hartley
- Andy Gueck – Indian Village NA
- Dennis Hecht – Meadowlane NA
- Mary Unger – Prescott Area NA
- Crystal Bock-Thiessen – South Salt Creek
- Teresa Thompson – University Place Community Organization
- Julie Flodman – Witherbee
- Fred Frytag – Witherbee

Staff:

- Jon Carlson, Mayor's Deputy Chief of Staff
- Peter Hind, Director of Urban Development
- Wynn Hjermsstad, Community Development Manager, Urban Development

Others present:

- Tut Kailech – NeighborWorks Lincoln

Mayor Gaylor Baird Comments

- I. The city is actively filling the potholes in Lincoln's streets. 14,000 potholes were filled in January and February.
- II. Lincoln on the Move - \$98 million for the next two years for road repair/improvement. Residents are urged to report short-term repair work to Uplink:
<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/Payments-Services/UPLNK>
- III. Parks - Between Lincoln and the Game and Parks commission, Lincoln received a \$600,000 grant from the improving parks in Lincoln.

- IV. Recycling - Through the State Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE), the City of Lincoln received a grant of \$1.7 million for the Outreach and Recycle Educational Campaign for waste reduction. This will go to reduce food waste from Lincoln's landfill.
- V. Bison - Six new bison have taken up residence at Pioneers Park.
- VI. Urban Development - A grant was awarded for \$300,000 for the permanent supportive housing project for providing services.
- VII. Questions
 - A. Eastridge crosswalk safety concerns for students walking to school at 56th and Sunrise
 - B. Plastic Recycling: Is Lincoln recycling plastics as it is difficult to do? Keep recycling plastics as the recycling facility works to get the plastics where they need to go to be recycled.

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Lincoln: Kim Morrow, Chief Sustainability Officer, Office of Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird: 402-441-5633; kcmorrow@lincoln.ne.gov.

- I. Lincoln's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan (**See attached PowerPoint**)
 - A. Lincoln's Greenhouse Gases Reduction Measures goal: Reduce Lincoln's greenhouse gasses by 80% by 2050.
 - B. Lincoln is in the planning phase for the grant to help fund the plan. The next step will be to apply for the grant monies.
 - C. Lincoln captures biogases in its landfill. The City is looking to see if it would be a good use of funds and outcomes to expand the program.
 - D. Lincoln residents are encouraged to complete the greenhouse gas reduction survey. Reminder: The survey closes on February 18th.
<https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Projects-Programs-Initiatives/Resilient-Lincoln>
 - E. If there are any questions, please contact Kim Morrow at kcmorrow@lincoln.ne.gov.

Discussion: interest in returning Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable to in-person meetings beginning in March.

- I. Some individuals prefer in-person.
- II. Can meetings during the winter be held via zoom?
- III. Several like zoom because have meetings before and it is hard to get there with travel time.
- IV. Some like hybrid, both zoom and in-person, some do not.
- V. Those with disabilities find in-person more difficult; could another location be found?
- VI. A survey will be sent to vote on preference.

Announcements

- I. **Lincoln Housing Advocates Potluck - 2/22/2024** - Bennett Martin Library 5:30-7pm - connect with other advocates around Lincoln over a shared meal to explore ways to use collective power to strengthen Lincoln. A food item is NOT required for attendance! Questions contact Tut at NeighborWorks, tut.kailech@nwlincoln.org.

- II. **Aging Partners Survey** - The City of Lincoln invites residents of Lancaster County to participate in the Age-Friendly Community Survey at AARP.org/NE. This survey is a vital tool to understand and address the specific needs and wants of our community. It's a great opportunity for residents of all ages to contribute to shaping a community that reflects their aspirations. Take part in this important survey and add your voice to the future of Lincoln.
<https://survey.cmix.com/2CC3030B/G10DF6LT/en-US>

- III. **Indian Village** – Presentation by Stephanie Rouse, Planning Department, on a walk audit: safe and secure crossing from the neighborhood into Van Dorn Park, February 13th at 7:00 at Irving Rec Center.

Next Meeting / Agenda

- I. Ideas:
 - A. Neglected properties process, status.
 - B. UPLNK update, process.
 - C. City arborist, plans, limitations.
 - D. Number of people living together unrelated.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Mary Unger

Tom J. Beckius

From: K. W. <watson3k@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2024 10:21 AM
Subject: woods tennis court expansion - should be a regional park plan
Attachments: parks - Lincoln levels.pdf

Hello,

I am writing about the reconfiguring and expansion of Woods Tennis Courts. I was able to attend a public meeting and there was one statement that stood out strongly to me. This was Lincoln's Parks and Recreation 2040 plan (see attachment). According to this document Woods Parks would be assessed as a community park not a Regional Park & Tournament Sports Facilities.

Listening to Friend's of Woods Tennis, I'm understanding their need for growth and the desire to bring in larger regional tournaments. Let's do this right, follow the plan and create a space for a tournament sports facility. I only see Lincoln's population continuing to grow and along with this the growth of sports, including tennis and pickleball.

Pickleball continues to grow and did you know there is a group called Pickleball Lincoln, Ne that has been raising money to convert community tennis courts into pickleball courts? A local pickleball player said this had happened with Peterson Park. Just another topic to consider for a sports facility.

A second consideration which I did not hear discussed is staffing. Does Woods' tennis program have enough coaches to train all of the anticipated players?

A third consideration is the traffic. If this plan goes forward I would suggest a crosswalk with a pedestrian light across from the tennis courts. Either at 33 & Woods Ave or 33 & L streets. The increase of cars will increase the danger of vehicle- pedestrian accidents. The local neighborhood has many pedestrians crossing the street at 33rd to use the park. It is a matter of time before an accident happens.

Thank you and please consider voting no to this expansion and voting yes to a more robust plan of a Regional Park & Tournament Sports Facility in another area where this can be successful.

Kari Watson
3312 Woods Ave
Lincoln, NE 68510

Tom J. Beckius

From: City Clerk
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2024 8:42 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: FW: Proposed Water District from 7th to 14th along Fletcher Ave

From: Gregg Roseberry <groseberry@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2024 3:29 PM
To: City Clerk <CityClerk@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: Proposed Water District from 7th to 14th along Fletcher Ave

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for hearing my opinions at Monday's City Council meeting.

More information has come to me in the last few days and I thought I would expand on my comments just a little.

I have spoken with almost all of the property owners and none of them are in favor of this proposal except for the petitioner Keith Spilker. I was unable to speak to anyone at Hartland Homes, but since they are a developer I am sure they have no objections to having someone else pay to put in infrastructure instead of themselves.

Additional background, Keith does not live at the property, currently his children do. I believe that the reason he is seeking this proposal is so his family will have an easier time selling the property, not to provide his family with potable city water. They have tried to sell the property a few times since his dad died and taken it off the market when it did not sell.

Several of the properties are a great distance from Fletcher Ave and if the property owners want to get the water to their homes, it would be at greater expense than if they were just a normal from yard distance to the street. Mr Anderson pointed this out on Monday, but I thought it was worth repeating.

Thank you for your time,

Gregg & Valerie Roseberry
700 Fletcher Ave

Tom J. Beckius

From: Rosina Paolini <rapaolini@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2024 10:56 AM
To: Council Packet

Good day Council Members,

I am seeking clarification that 10 b- 10j of today's agenda are the action steps to follow the work of Ken Seacrest and Adam Hintz towards making the Saltillio industrial zone environmentally friendly to protect the Salt Creek and its inhabitants.

Adam and Ken crafted a plan that carefully aligned with the PlanForward - Comprehensive Plan better than most developments. An important process to replicate with every plan.

Thank you for you care,

*rosina

Rosina Paolini
1850 Dakota Street
Lincoln, NE 68502
402-423-1260

Tom J. Beckius

From: Tim Wellman <twellmn14@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2024 2:45 PM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Vehicle damage

Hello,

My name is Tim Wellman. My wife and I recently filed a claim to get our vehicle repaired after one of the street signs in the haymarket blew over and did damage to the front bumper. I wanted to check the status of that and see if a decision has been made.

Thank you

Tom J. Beckius

From: Perry Howell <phowell@css-design.com>
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2024 4:32 PM
To: Tyler K. Spahn
Cc: Council Packet; Sue K Burgason; Yohance L. Christie
Subject: RE: 665 Research Drive

Tyler,

I was unable to attend the time slot that was assigned to me (4/1/2024 3:00pm) as I had other matters to attend to.

I'll presume you've recommended to the council that the claim be denied. My phone calls to RUTalkn have been ignored and the email address, as noted, is not deliverable.
So here I sit with little recourse.

Frustrating hand washing display.

Perry

From: Perry Howell
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 3:04 PM
To: Tyler K. Spahn <TSpahn@lincoln.ne.gov>
Cc: Council Packet <CouncilPacket@lincoln.ne.gov>; Sue K Burgason <sburgason@lincoln.ne.gov>; Yohance L. Christie <YChristie@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: RE: 665 Research Drive

FYI, that email was undeliverable. Or so MS Outlook bounce stated.

From: Perry Howell <phowell@css-design.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 2:56 PM
To: Tyler K. Spahn <TSpahn@lincoln.ne.gov>
Cc: Council Packet <CouncilPacket@lincoln.ne.gov>; Sue K Burgason <sburgason@lincoln.ne.gov>; Yohance L. Christie <YChristie@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: RE: 665 Research Drive

Thank you for the responsiveness and guidance on a better contact method. I now see that email address on the bottom of their webpage.

I'll reach out and see what happens.

Thanks

Perry

From: Tyler K. Spahn <TSpahn@lincoln.ne.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 2:37 PM
To: Perry Howell <phowell@css-design.com>
Cc: Council Packet <CouncilPacket@lincoln.ne.gov>; Sue K Burgason <sburgason@lincoln.ne.gov>; Yohance L. Christie <YChristie@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: RE: 665 Research Drive

Mr. Howell: Thank you for your email. You are correct the name of the contractor is Rutalkn. I apologize if the misspelling caused any confusion.

The Avoca address provided in my letter is the address of Rutalkn's registered agent and principal office per the Nebraska Secretary of State's website. You may wish to contact them by email to avoid any issue. They list an email of info@rutalkn.com on their website.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact our office at 402-441-7281.

Thank you,
Tyler K. Spahn
Asst. City Attorney

From: Perry Howell <phowell@css-design.com>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 2:20 PM
To: Council Packet <CouncilPacket@lincoln.ne.gov>
Cc: Tyler K. Spahn <TSpahn@lincoln.ne.gov>
Subject: 665 Research Drive

Lincoln City Council and Tyler Spahn, City Attorney's office.

Tyler, I received a letter from you last week addressing damage that was caused by a snow removal contractor who lost control of their vehicle and came onto my property past the sidewalk(~20feet). I submitted video of the incident showing the sequence of events.

The response from the City of Lincoln was certainly disappointing, but I understand that you may have a contract that indemnifies the City against incidence such as these. There are still problems with that response. Namely, that as the victim in this case I really do not have any recourse. I've called the company who contracted with you, no response. Basically, I'm left to do nothing or sue this company for damages wasting more time.

There are also other issues with your response. You list Rutalkin Inc. as the company with an address of 716 346th Street, Avoca NE 68307

That is close, but doesn't exactly match their website or address. The company name that I can find is : RUTALKN INC. There is no "i" in the corporate name. And the address is : 716 346th ST. Elmwood, NE 68349. NOT Avoca as noted on your letter.

For those that watched the video, you see a driver who has an accident, then leaves the scene. This looks like a texting or sleep deprivation or drunk driving incident as they just drove off the road.

I will be traveling on business this week, returning Friday. I will be very hard pressed to make the 3:00pm meeting, although I'd very much like to hear what you had to say.

I have a sincere appreciation for the council and the attorney's office. I'm not super happy with this however.

Thanks

Perry Howell
President
Communication Systems Solutions, Inc.
665 Research Drive Lincoln, NE 68521

Phone: (402) 261-8688 x201 **Fax:** (206) 350-2776

www.css-design.com

www.css-mindshare.com

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Tom J. Beckius

From: Patte Newman <pattnewman@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 3:36 PM
To: Council Packet; Mayor; Parks Counter Registrations; Annette McRoy; TERRY WERNER
Subject: Woods Park
Attachments: Woods Park Letter.docx

For Parks board in April and not yet scheduled future City Council discussion.

April 2, 2024

Dear City Council members,

As you know, Lincoln prides itself on its quality of life. So much so, that many who run for office promise to prioritize neighborhood pools, parks and libraries. Our park system is truly second to none, with manicured locations like Sunken Gardens attracting not only locals, but visitors from all over the country. Larger areas like Pioneers Park, Holmes Lake and Wilderness Park provide different attractions including kayaking, bridle, biking or hiking trails and even nature learning centers.

There are nearly 20 community parks scattered throughout Lincoln. These are defined in the Comprehensive Plan as 30 to 50 acre sites serving residents within a 3 mile radius (or 2 mile radius defined in the City's Plan Forward) to provide green space for nearby neighborhoods. Woods Park was created as a community park in the 1950's, close to a busy downtown, as a space for neighbors to fly kites, play frisbee, kick a soccer ball, walk the dog or laze on a grassy field.

Woods Park and Witherbee neighborhoods have spent more than four decades trying to preserve their park that is so important to their quality of life. Over this time, they lost their once beautiful rose garden. The Health Department expanded its building and parking lot. The neighborhood pool became a large pool for regional swim meets. Wesleyan negotiated to use the park's baseball field.

Each action changed the park slightly, chipping away at the green space and trees and quiet of a community park, with increased traffic and parking spilling into nearby residential streets.

And then there was tennis.

In 1964, 3 courts were built, 3 more in the 1970's and 6 added in the 1980's. Broken promises started then, when residents were told there would be NO MORE than 12 courts built. They were told the "bubbles" over the 6 of the indoor courts would be temporary. Each time neighbors were told to be reasonable since there was enough parkland for everything and just one more "small sacrifice" was needed.

This is why we three former City Council people are writing this letter. By February of 2005, with 15 existing courts, OUR Lincoln City Council **unanimously** voted to refuse an additional three courts at the corner of 33rd and J. We agreed with the nearby neighbors that they had already compromised too much of their beloved green space. It was obvious then, and even more obvious now, that tennis has outgrown Woods Park.

Despite this history, Friends of Woods Tennis now says there is a need for 25 courts to be shoehorned into this community park. Expanding its current facility into a major regional tennis center is beyond reason and beyond any sense of scale. Plans are to reconfigure (dig up and

rebuild) 12 outdoor courts, add three more outdoor courts at 33rd and J, cover three courts and add a fourth, remove at least 41 trees and pour more concrete for new parking along J Street.

Leaving the Woods Park courts as they are and adding a court or two throughout the city in parks or next to elementary or middle schools for free use for kids in all quadrants of Lincoln would serve the entire community. Instead, a \$15 million facility would be used by only a small sector of the community. The last expansion of \$6.3 million was subsidized by additional public funds of over one million dollars from city and county sources. Many taxpayers already feel overburdened with needs vs. wants.

Any regional tennis center (where you pay to play) should be built with private funds, on an appropriate site with ample parking and arterial streets for access...NOT in the middle of a residential neighborhood.

Social media posts over several weeks this spring from Woods Park neighbors show photos of kids playing soccer, people walking dogs and chatting and neighbors simply enjoying their neighborhood green space...with empty tennis courts in the background.

When parkland is gone, it is gone - forever. Woods Park neighbors have already sacrificed and compromised the heart of their community. If the Lincoln City Council believes in a true quality of life for ALL of its wonderful neighborhoods it will say no to more courts and Keep Woods Park Green.

Patte Newman (2003-2007)

Terry Werner (2001-2005)

Annette McRoy (1999-2011)

cc: Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird

Tom J. Beckius

From: Cindy Cerny <ccerny.79@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 9:51 AM
To: Council Packet
Subject: Woods Park proposed Tennis Center expansion

I am a 38 year resident of the Woods Park neighborhood. My family and I have enjoyed the park during that time. We do not play tennis but have used the green space for many activities. I am not against tennis, but feel that they have taken enough of the park and need to be located elsewhere in Lincoln for any expansion. They are making do with this iteration of the tennis center and should have room to expand as needed in the future, but not in Woods Park. I also understand they have a waiting list which is primarily for indoor tennis. As I walk through the park often, I rarely see the outdoor court full or even half full. I also am concerned about the number of mature trees that would be cut down to put in parking lots. This is not inline with the mayors climate initiative. The traffic in the neighborhood would be chaotic at best and no buffer for the neighbors on J Street. Simply put any more expansion of the Tennis Center should be located somewhere else. Enough of the park has been eaten up already.

Respectfully,
Cindy Cerny
434 South 28 ST