

# MINUTE RECORD

No. 729 — REDFELD & COMPANY, INC. OMAHA E1107788LD

## LA VISTA CITY COUNCIL MEETING BUDGET WORKSHOP JULY 17, 2013

A meeting of the City Council of the City of La Vista, Nebraska was convened in open and public session at 6:00 p.m. on July 17, 2013. Present were Mayor Kindig and Councilmembers, Gowan Ronan, Sheehan, Thomas, Crawford, Quick, Hale and Sell. Absent: None. Also in attendance were City Attorney McKeon, City Administrator Gunn, Assistant City Administrator Ramirez, Police Chief Lausten, Fire Chief Uhl, Public Works Director Soucie, Public Building & Grounds Director Archibald, Finance Director Lindberg, Library Director Barcal, Community Development Director Birch, Recreation Director Stopak, City Clerk Buethe, Deputy City Clerk Garrod, Public Buildings & Grounds Foreman Siebels, Human Resource Generalist Fagin, Police Captain Pokorny, Police Captain Barcal, Chief Building Official Sinnett, City Planner Solberg, Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Kottmann, Streets Superintendent Goldman, Parks Superintendent Lukasiwicz, Park Foreman Thornburg, Sewer Foreman Foster, Assistant Recreation Director Karlson, Recreation Program Director Carstensen, Assistant Library Director Linhart, Golf Course Services Manager Dinan, Community Relations Coordinator Beaumont, and Assistant to the City Administrator Calentine.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Times on July 3, 2013. Notice was simultaneously given to the Mayor and all members of the City Council and a copy of the acknowledgment of the receipt of notice attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated to the Mayor and City Council in the advance notice of the meeting. All proceedings shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. Further, all subjects included in said proceedings were contained in the agenda for said meeting which is kept continuously current and available for public inspection at City Hall during normal business hours.

### I. CALL TO ORDER

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Kindig called the meeting to order and led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

### III. ANNOUNCEMENT OF LOCATION OF POSTED OPEN MEETINGS ACT

Mayor Kindig made an announcement of the location of the posted copy of the Open Meetings Act for public reference.

### V. FOLLOW UP FROM JULY 15

City Administrator Gunn talked to Council about a letter received from the State regarding NE Advantage Act Refund claims in the amount of 2.46 million dollars. Gunn stated that the city had put back 1.2 million dollars anticipating a refund of a larger sales tax receipt. Gunn stated the biggest problem is anticipating what comes next. Gunn is asked departments to look at their yearend estimates for savings and additional revenue. Gunn stated that the city is only projecting 2 million dollars in sales tax in years out in anticipation of refunds. Gunn recommended the Council make no more changes in the budget and staff will be working to delay capital purchases and hiring. Gunn has asked staff to come up with some savings ideas.

Finance Director Lindberg informed council that a memo has been given to them regarding questions asked at the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Councilmember Sheehan asked Lindberg about the increase in hotel occupation tax. Lindberg stated that is a conservative number and she is confident the city will receive that amount.

At 6:16 Councilmember Sell arrived to take his seat.

Mayor Kindig stated that the city will survive this sales tax issue. It will be hard on staff and some hard decisions will need to be made by council. It is unfortunate that some lack of transparency by the State and some inaccurate numbers have created this hardship. Kindig agrees that the council should not make any rash decisions.

### IV. BUDGET REVIEWS

#### **Sewer Fund**

Finance Director Lindberg provided an overview of the sewer fund stating that, based on the user rate study and annual increase of 8% in sewer use fees is reflected in the Master Fee Schedule. Lindberg stated that three positions in the organization will be split 50/50 between General and

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Sewer. Lindberg stated most of the increase is for sewer treatment fees. \$300,000 has been placed in the sewer replacement reserve.

Sewer Foreman Foster reviewed the sewer maintenance with the Mayor and City Council. Increases are being requested for motor vehicle supplies, lab and maintenance supplies, building and grounds to paint the sewer shop, sanitary sewer maintenance, and the purchase of a pole camera. The camera will save about 45 minutes of time per manhole. The life span is many years if taken care of.

Public Works Director Soucie gave an overview of the Storm Water Management Account which manages grant funding made available by the NDEQ for implementation of the Storm Water Management Plan for the City of La Vista. This funding requires a 20% match by the City.

## **Debt Service Fund**

Finance Director Lindberg provided an overview of the Debt Service Fund. Lindberg stated that the recommendation is to leave the levy at the current rate with some potential increases in outer years. Sales Tax is estimated lower in years out. Debt payments for the fire station will be through April and then Lottery Fund transfers will only be for the police station after April.

## **Capital Improvement Program**

Assistant to the City Administrator Calentine stated that there are projects carried over to FY14 that won't be done in FY13. Calentine stated that it appears there are not many park projects, this is due to the redevelopment plan and the movement of those projects. Total Capital Improvements for FY14 are \$20,449,684.

## **Lottery Fund**

Finance Director Lindberg stated that Lottery revenue this year is projected about the same as FY13. Lindberg gave an overview of the FY14 recommended budget for the Lottery fund.

## **Golf Fund**

Lindberg stated that final payment for the golf course will be in December 2013.

Golf Course Manager Dinan gave an overview of the golf clubhouse budget stating that all requests are at the same level as last year except for requests to purchase glow ball equipment, utility increases, an increase in travel and training for the Golf Course Manager to attend the LEAD training, and additional funding to continue updating of the clubhouse.

Golf Course Maintenance Superintendant Calentine gave an overview of the golf maintenance budget. Reductions will be made to postage, printing and telephone. Additional funding is requested for utilities, dues, travel and training, building and grounds. The department heads recommended funding for a rough mower, to replace a 1992 rough mower, which can be utilized into the future when the transition to a Civic Park takes place.

## **Economic Development Fund**

Gunn is recommending a transfer from the General fund and Debt Service fund in the amount of \$300,000.00 from each. In FY17 the JQ Hammons loan will be paid in full.

## **Off-Street Parking Fund**

Assistant Public Works Director Kottmann reviewed the Off Street Parking budget with Council. Kottmann stated they are requesting a decrease in funding for botanical supplies and an increase in utilities.

## **Redevelopment Fund**

City Administrator Gunn stated that aggressive plans and funding are necessary to move forward with the redevelopment of 84<sup>th</sup> Street. 2.6 cents can be levied to pay for projects on redevelopment only. There is also an option of half cent sales tax with voter approval. Councilmember Sheehan asked how we insure that the state can't take that money also. Mayor Kindig directed the City Attorney to explore this as it is done by taxpayer authority. Mayor Kindig asked the thoughts of Council on putting this option out to the voters in May. Councilmember Crawford stated that he is not in favor of increases in property tax. Councilmember Sell stated that this shows our commitment to the redevelopment of 84<sup>th</sup> Street. Councilmember Hale supports this option. Councilmember Quick approves but is concerned how it is earmarked so the state can't take it. Councilmember Sheehan asked when we need to know and Mayor Kindig said a decision should be made by October to get the information out to the taxpayers. City Attorney McKeon will look up the statutes covering

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information out to the taxpayers. City Attorney McKeon will look up the statutes covering requirements. Council wants to be sure the money cannot be taken for rebates by the State. Councilmember Gowan stated this is a way for us to move forward with 84<sup>th</sup> Street. Councilmember Thomas agrees that we need to move forward. Councilmember Crawford feels the City needs to find a large funding source before we look at a tax.

## VI. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None

## VII. COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

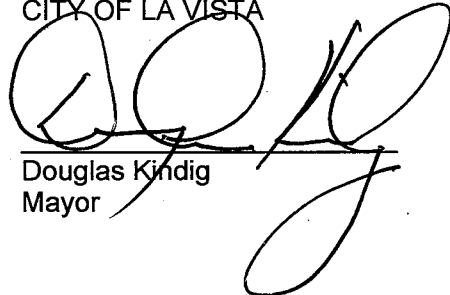
Mayor Kindig thanked the expanded staff for the work done to present this recommended budget.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:12 p.m. Councilmember Crawford made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Hale. Councilmembers voting aye: Gowan, Ronan, Sheehan, Thomas, Crawford, Quick, Hale, and Sell. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.


PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 6TH DAY OF AUGUST 2013.

CITY OF LA VISTA



Douglas Kindig  
Mayor

ATTEST:



Pamela A. Buethe, CMC  
City Clerk

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