

MINUTE RECORD

No. 729—REDFIELD & COMPANY, INC., OMAHA

LA VISTA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 4, 2006

A meeting of the City Council of the City of La Vista, Nebraska was convened in open and public session at 8:00 a.m. on March 4, 2006. Present were Mayor Kindig and Councilmembers Ronan, Quick, Sheehan, Carlisle, McLaughlin, Ellerbeck, Sell, and Gowan. Absent: None. Also in attendance were City Attorney McKeon, Interim City Administrator Gunn, and City Clerk Ramirez.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Times on February 23, 2006. 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 within 10 days after said meeting and prior to the next convened meeting of said body.

Mayor Kindig called the meeting to order and introduced Jim Brimeyer. Mr. Brimeyer met with the Council last year to facilitate a strategic planning process and was hired to conduct the city administrator search. The Mayor stated that Interim City Administrator Gunn had excused herself from the first portion of the meeting dealing with the city administrator search process.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS – PERSONNEL – CITY ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH

At 8:15 a.m. Councilmember Sheehan made a motion to go into executive session to discuss the city administrator applicants. Seconded by Councilmember Gowan. Councilmembers voting aye: Sell, Ronan, Quick, Sheehan, Carlisle, McLaughlin, Ellerbeck, and Gowan. Nays: None. Motion carried.

At 9:20 a.m. Council recessed for a ten minute break.

At 10:12 the Council came out of executive session. Councilmember Carlisle made a motion to reconvene in open and public session. Seconded by Councilmember McLaughlin. Councilmembers voting aye: Sell, Ronan, Quick, Sheehan, Carlisle, McLaughlin, Ellerbeck, and Gowan. Nays: None. Motion carried.

EXPLAIN, REVIEW DiSC PROFILE APPROACH

Mr. Brimeyer led the Council through an exercise in the DiSC Dimensions of Behavior model. This exercise identifies a person's behavioral tendencies and teaches strategies for working with others who might display different behaviors. The process emphasizes mutual respect, mutual trust, and a willingness to adapt.

At 11:50 a.m. Council recessed lunch.

STAFF UPDATE

At 12:30 p.m. Council reconvened and Interim City Administrator Brenda Gunn reviewed her work list and updated Council on the status of several projects including the Southport West development, which encompasses the City's parking district, the JQH Hotel/Convention Center complex, and Cabela's; the proposed budget amendment; annexation and redistricting issues; the ICSC Conference; the municipal aquatics study; and several other on-going issues. Gunn also informed Council that the City had won a free website makeover in a contest entered several weeks ago.

At 1:50 p.m. Council recessed for a ten minute break.

DISCUSSION 1. CODE OF CONDUCT

Mayor Kindig briefly reviewed the Council's Code of Conduct and explained that it was approved by Council a few years ago to provide a guide for how Council should conduct business. He asked that all of the Councilmembers read through the document again and encourage new Councilmembers to become familiar with it, as well.

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2. COUNCIL IDENTIFIED ISSUES

Interim City Administrator Gunn stated that Councilmembers had requested an opportunity at this work session to identify and discuss items that were of concern to them.

Councilmember Gowan began by discussing his desire to create some type of city center for La Vista. Since the City does not have a main street or a traditional downtown area, he would like to see a focus on redeveloping the 84th Street corridor, the 84th & Harrison Street intersection and the 72nd & Harrison Street intersection. Follow up discussion was held with Gunn indicating that the concept of creating a city center that would incorporate the City's existing facilities at 81st & Park View Blvd. and extend west to 84th Street and north to Harrison has been talked about by staff. Mayor Kindig also stated that part of the focus for those attending the ICSC Conference in May will be revitalization efforts and how to find and attract the developers to accomplish this. Gunn indicated that the City's comprehensive plan was last updated in 1997 and should be updated again to include the Council's desire to focus more resources on redevelopment and revitalization.

Councilmember Gowan also discussed the City's disaster preparedness. The NLC Conference this year focused on this issue in the aftermath of the hurricane destruction in the New Orleans area. Gowan stated much of the emphasis was on having a plan in place and keeping that plan updated. Gunn stated that the police and fire departments in La Vista work on this continuously and Sarpy County also has a county-wide emergency management plan that is developed cooperatively with all of the cities.

Councilmember Quick indicated that she would like to see the City pursue trying to get a post office located in La Vista. She has had a citizen contact her regarding this issue as well. Councilmember Sheehan stated the decision to locate post office facilities is made at the federal level and the trend right now is to consolidate facilities rather than build new ones. It was agreed that Council could do a resolution of support for locating a post office within the City and pass it on to the proper authorities.

Councilmember Quick also talked about the aquatics study and indicated that if a committee was formed to look at the recommendations made by Water's Edge, she would like to serve on it. She also reiterated her desire to keep the pool open longer at the end of the season and stated that she wanted to keep that funding as part of the budget amendment being proposed.

Councilmember Ellerbeck stated he felt there has been a lack of leadership and/or consensus regarding the swimming pool issue. He indicated a desire to keep the process moving so a decision could be made prior to the time the pool was supposed to open. Gunn explained that funding for the necessary repairs to open the pool in the spring were being proposed in the budget amendment. A decision regarding the long-term future of the existing pool versus construction of a new aquatics facility will be considered over the next several months as community input and financing alternatives will need to be taken into consideration.


Councilmember Sheehan indicated his pleasure at the potential of having the City's website revamped. Discussion was also held regarding the switch to a paperless Council packet and what might be needed to achieve that goal.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:25 p.m. Councilmember Carlisle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Sheehan. Councilmembers voting aye: Ronan, Quick, Sheehan, Carlisle, McLaughlin, Ellerbeck, Sell, and Gowan. Nays: None. Absent: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 21ST DAY OF MARCH 2006.

CITY OF LA VISTA


Douglas Kindig, Mayor

ATTEST:


Rita M. Ramirez, CMC
City Clerk