

MINUTES
DIRECTORS' MEETING
Monday, April 13, 2020

Present: Roy Christensen, Sandra Washington, Bennie Shobe, Tammy Ward, Jane Raybould, Richard Meginnis, and James Michael Bowers

Others Present: Teresa Meier, City Clerk; Pat Lopez, Interim Director, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department; Jeff Kirkpatrick

Chair, Jane Raybould opened the meeting and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

I. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

Washington moved to move the discussion on teleconferencing Council Directors' meetings & City Council meetings to be the first item discussed.

Washington moved to hold the April 20th & 27th Directors' Meetings & City Council Meetings via teleconferencing & the next in person Council Meeting on May 4th.

Christensen asked if they could divide the question into 2 parts. The first issue is teleconferencing the April 20th & 27th. The second issue is the in person Council Meeting on May 4th.

Discussion on teleconferencing April 20th & 27th:

Washington stated that given the Covid-19 pandemic, it is good sense that Council has the flexibility to meet at a responsible & safe distance in order to provide ourselves & staff the same precautions we are asking of others. She believes we have the creativity & technology to do their jobs in full view & with full participation of the public.

Christensen stated that he would like to reiterate the fact that the City Attorney's Office has recommended we not do this.

Bowers stated that we have a way to keep the public safe & to not abdicate our responsibility of City business. Stated they have an obligation not only to conduct City business but to keep every person we come into contact with safe also. This is a pretty common sense way to get their work done.

Meginnis stated that personally, he is not very comfortable going against the advice of the City Attorney. We have a way of being able to conduct business if it's important to the City while we are suspended our meetings for 2 weeks & that is through emergency meetings which can be called & we can do votes there to keep the City running. Stated he just doesn't feel comfortable about just continuing as is & putting people's projects or whatever they bring forward to us possibly in jeopardy.

Christensen stated he agrees with Councilman Bowers that we protect the public, City Staff, each other, & follow the advice of our City Attorney & Law Office. Believes we can do all those things but we need to take a step back from teleconferencing to do that.

Raybould stated we all received information from Attorney General Doug Peterson that explained & clarified that initiative. We have taken steps to make sure and, most importantly, keep within the intent of the Open Meetings Act & the spirit of the Open Meetings Act. We have published this Directors' Meeting as well as the City Council Meeting as ones that we are going to be teleconferencing because we've had several discussions and doing so. We've had two Directors' Meeting discussions on this topic. We had an open discussion on this topic as well at one of the Council Meetings. When the Governor

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issued the Executive Order on no more than 10 people at a gathering, we have gone to great lengths to abide by that. When he issued the Executive Order on evictions we consented and enforced on this. When the Governor stated he wanted our bars & restaurants to function & to allow carryout liquor as long as it had a lid on it, we went along with that.

Vote on teleconferencing the April 20th & 27th Directors' & Council Meetings:
Seconded by Ward & carried by the following vote: AYES: Bowers, Raybould, Ward, Washington;
NAYS: Christensen, Meginnis, Shobe.

Vote on the next in person Council Meeting on May 4th.
Seconded by Ward and carried by the following vote: AYES: Bowers, Christensen, Meginnis, Raybould, Shobe, Ward, Washington; NAYS: None.

II. CITY CLERK

Under Ordinances - 3rd Reading & Related Resolutions - Item 5.b., there is a Motion to Amend No. 1 and Item 5.d. - there is a Motion to Amend No. 1.

III. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE

LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1. Public Health Update provided by Pat Lopez, Interim Director, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.

Lopez briefed Council on the latest guidance and concerns regarding COVID-19. Stating there are currently 56 positive cases in Lancaster County; 37 of those cases were community acquired; and there has been 1 death. COVID-19 testing has improved by increasing the number of daily tests that are completed and adding an additional testing site. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department continues to monitor calls on the Directed Health Measure changes.

Chair, Raybould adjourned the meeting