

WORK SESSION JOINT GOVERNING MEETING

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Norfolk, Nebraska met with representatives from the Northeast Community College Board of Governors, the Norfolk Public School Board and the Madison County Commissioners on Wednesday, November 13, 2013, beginning at approximately 12:00 p.m. at Perkins Restaurant, 1229 West Omaha Avenue, Norfolk, Nebraska.

Mayor Sue Fuchtman called the meeting to order.

Roll call found the following City Council members present: Mayor Sue Fuchtman and Councilpersons Pfeil and Moenning. Absent: Coy, Clausen, Fauss, Lange, Merrill and Murren. A quorum of the Norfolk City Council was not present at the meeting.

Staff members present were City Administrator Shane Weidner and City Clerk Beth Deck.

Others present were:

Norfolk Public Schools – Sandy Wolfe, Brad Krivohlavek, and Dr. Jami Jo Thompson
Madison County -- Lee Klein, Jerry McCallum, Christian Ohl and Nancy Scheer
Northeast Community College – Dr. Mike Chipps, Dr. John W. Davies and Dirk Petersen

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Norfolk Daily News, and notice of the meeting was given to the Mayor and all members of the Council prior to the meeting.

Mayor Fuchtman informed the public about the location of the current copy of the Open Meetings Act available in the meeting room and accessible to members of the public.

City of Norfolk – City Administrator Shane Weidner updated attendees on the status of Highway 275 expansion, whether as an expressway or four-lane highway. Vehicle count is an important factor in expansion of the highway. Further meetings will be held with communities along the route to discuss getting the project into the State Department of Roads 20-year plan with hopes of Columbus being reciprocal in supporting the effort since the City of Norfolk supported Columbus' efforts to expand Highway 30.

Dirk Petersen, Nucor Steel, stated that if the Highway 275 expansion could at least continue from Tony's Steakhouse, located east of Norfolk, to Highway 15 south of Wayne it would be a good start to the project and take care of 60-70% of the real issues with traffic.

Weidner discussed the proposed Rural Water District south of Norfolk. Norfolk needs to protect its southern boundary but is supportive of the project and is a possible water source for the Rural Water District. The City of Madison is also a possible water source for the District. However, at this time, a study of the proposed district is almost complete and indicates the infrastructure would be very expensive for the Rural Water District project.

The group briefly discussed a possible partnership between the City of Norfolk and Northeast Community College on a looped trail system on the campus.

Weidner stated the City will be watching the Legislature in 2014 regarding LB 84 (sales tax expansion), which may be repealed; and LR29CA (TIF financing), which would expand repayment of the bonds from 15 to 20 years and also change the “blighted and substandard” language.

Northeast Community College – Dr. Chipps provided an update on the addition of 200 college housing units on campus. A private/public partnership is being considered which will provide a shorter term than the issuance of normal bonds. Chipps indicated the project will take approximately two years to complete.

Norfolk Public Schools – Dr. Jami Jo Thompson stated the school district is working on an overall strategic plan as well as expanding partnerships within the community.

Madison County – Commissioner Lee Klein stated Madison County bridges are being repaired/updated and the Northeast Industrial Highway project is progressing well.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Sue Fuchtman
Mayor

ATTEST:

Elizabeth A. Deck
City Clerk

(S E A L)