

Administrative Services Committee Meeting Douglas County, Nebraska

Tuesday, November 17, 2015

The meeting convened at 8:01 a.m. in Room 903 of the Omaha-Douglas Civic Center, 1819 Farnam Street, Omaha, NE 68183. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is located near the entrance of the room. A notice of the meeting was published in the November 10, 2015 issue of The Daily Record. County Commissioners present at the beginning of the meeting were Jim Cavanaugh, Clare Duda, and PJ Morgan. Others present at the beginning of the meeting were Patrick Bloomingdale, Marcos San Martin, and Toni Dunn of Administration; Tom Riley and Carol Jennings of the Public Defender's office; Tim Cavanaugh of the Treasurer's office; Kevin Conlon of the Sheriff's office; Jerry Leahy of Public Property; Amber Michalski of Corrections; Kent Holm of Environmental Services; Mike Schonlau of GIS; Jim Tourville of the Health Center; Deanna Vansickel-Staudt of Extension; and Clerk/Comptroller Dan Esch. Commissioner Cavanaugh conducted the meeting.

1) County space needs.

County Commissioners Chris Rodgers and Marc Kraft entered the meeting during this item, as well as Joe Lorenz, Diane Carlson, and Catherine Hall of Administration; County Attorney Don Kleine; Clerk of the District Court John Friend; Wayne Hudson of the Sheriff's office; Kathleen Hall of the Clerk/Comptroller's office; and Mark Conrey of 911/Communications. Ms. Dunn left the meeting during this item. Speaking during this item were Commissioner Cavanaugh, Public Defender Riley, County Attorney Kleine, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Tim Cavanaugh, Clerk of the District Court Friend, Clerk/Comptroller Esch, and Mr. Bloomingdale. Highlights from the discussion included the following:

- Public Defender Riley discussed some of the space needs/issues of the Public Defender's office.
 - Public Defender Riley said the Public Defender's office on Harney Level is at capacity.
 - Public Defender Riley said he doesn't want to have the Public Defender's office bifurcated.
 - Public Defender Riley said IT needs should be considered when planning for space.
 - Public Defender Riley said there will need to be space for remote visitations with inmates.
 - Public Defender Riley said the long-term IT plans for Corrections, Youth Center, and the Courts need to be considered, as well.
- County Attorney Kleine discussed some of the space needs/issues for the County Attorney's office.
 - County Attorney Kleine said the County Attorney's office is bifurcated and that makes it difficult to manage.
 - County Attorney Kleine said if Workers' Compensation Court and Probation were to move out of the first floor of the Hall of Justice (HOJ), it may make sense to move County Attorney employees into those locations.
 - County Attorney Kleine said there is still the situation with County Attorney employees in basement of HOJ.
 - There has been flooding issues in this area.

- Commissioner Cavanaugh said this will probably be the last bond issue the County will want to do for a while, so doing it for too small of an amount may not make sense.
- Commissioner Cavanaugh said the bond issue could be a public safety and public health bond issue if there are needs to be addressed at the Health Center.
- Other topics discussed during this item:
 - Commissioner Cavanaugh said there has been success with geothermal energy at the Midtown Campus.
 - Commissioner Cavanaugh and Commissioner Duda discussed possible collaboration on 42nd Street with UNMC, VA, and the Health Center.

3) Strategic planning.

Speaking to this item were Commissioner Cavanaugh, Commissioner Morgan, Commissioner Duda, Commissioner Rodgers, Public Defender Riley, Mr. Leahy, Ms. Vansickel-Staudt, Mr. Bloomingdale, Mr. Holm, Mr. Lorenz, Mr. Conrey, and Clerk/Comptroller Esch. Highlights from the discussion included the following:

- Mr. Bloomingdale provided a strategic planning document (see Attachment #1).
 - This document was produced by Deb Burnight, who facilitated the County's Strategic Planning Session on September 24, 2015.
- Commissioner Cavanaugh asked all of the elected officials and department heads to share any thoughts they have on strategic planning.
- Commissioner Duda said there are always going to be unknowns, which will be hard to plan for.
- Commissioner Cavanaugh, Commissioner Rodgers, and Mr. Leahy discussed the possibility of a juvenile justice center.
- Other topics discussed during this item:
 - Mr. Bloomingdale said if Environmental Services is moved out of its Menke Circle location, the County would try to sell that location.
 - Mr. Esch said Commissioner Rodgers has previously brought up the idea of involving Sheriff Dunning, the Omaha Fire Chief, the Omaha Police Chief, and the First Responders Foundation with the promotion of the public safety bond.
 - Mr. Conrey talked about filming Motorola has done of Douglas County 911, which could be used to inform the public on public safety.
 - Mr. Conrey said the County did not ask Motorola to do the filming, nor did the County pay Motorola to do the filming; people with Motorola did it on their own.
- Public Defender Riley left the meeting during this item.

4) Other business.

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 a.m.