

# Minutes

Monday, September 21, 2009



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## Public Service Committee

4:27 p.m.  
Carnegie Town Hall  
235 West Tenth Street

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Members Present: Vernon Brown, Kenny Anderson Jr., De Knudson and Kermit Staggers.

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Debra Owen and Tamara Jorgensen

Guests: Greg Jamison, J. Pat Costello and Bob Litz; Judy Buseman; Doug Barthel; Robert Amundson; Randy Bartunek; David Huntimer; Keith Allenstein; Debra Gaikowski; Robert Amundson; Gail Eiesland; Steve Haddorff; Sue Aguilar and Michelle Erpenbach.

### 1. Call To Order

Committee Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 4:27 p.m.

### 2. Review and approval of Minutes dated August 31, 2009

A motion was made by Knudson and seconded by Staggers to approve said minutes. A voice vote was taken and all members present voted yes. **Motion Passed.**

### 3. Affordable Housing

Discussion was held regarding recent meetings with Administration to determine whether or not to move forward with a feasibility study for affordable housing and whether or not to proceed in 2009. The study will cost around \$50,000 and the Finance Department is conducting research to find the extra money. The committee received encouragement from the Administration to move forward yet in 2009 with the study. Council Member Knudson stated she did not see the need for that kind of money to go forward for 'a study'. Discussion followed. Additional information will be provided on this subject at the Public Services Committee Meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2009.

### 4. Wheelchair/stretchers transport service

Information was received from Dave Kadinger, Sioux Falls Wheelchair and distributed to the group. Wheelchair Express also distributed documentation regarding their requested rate changes.

Discussion was held regarding deregulation of the wheelchair business and letting the market determine the rates. Steve Haddorff stated that their first preference would be for deregulation (but still allowing the city to perform the licensing function) and their second preference would be for allowing the changes as proposed along with allowing a fuel surcharge. Knudson stated that she would like to hear from customers who actually use the service before moving this item on to the City Council.

A motion was made by Staggers and seconded by Anderson Jr. to bring this item to the City Council with the proposal to remove the caps on rates. A voice vote was taken and three members voted yes with Knudson voting no. **Motion Passed.**

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### 5. Noise Ordinance

Public Health Director Buseman and Police Chief Barthel were invited to attend this meeting to discuss the noise ordinance and the enforcement of the noise ordinance. Discussion was held regarding the acceptable decibel levels for establishments, the procedures used to test and enforce the decibels levels and the licensing procedures for establishments. Buseman stated that the Health Department had been talking about the levels and they would like to wait until the 'outdoor season' winds down in the next month to move forward with any proposed changes. Consideration was granted due to the timeline and this item will be brought before the committee again at the Public Services Committee Meeting scheduled for Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

### 6. Open Discussion

Discussion was held with Chief Barthel regarding the dance hall ordinance. Recent events have provided information which indicates that the dance hall licensing and ordinance are not strictly enforced. As Chief Barthel has just received the proposed ordinance change, this discussion has been rescheduled for the Public Services Committee Meeting on Monday, November 9, 2009, following the Informational Meeting.

### 7. Adjournment

A motion was made by Anderson Jr. and seconded by Knudson to adjourn the meeting at 5:49 p.m. A voice vote was taken and all members present voted yes. **Motion Passed.**

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### Pending Items:

*The subjects listed below are pending and can be moved up on this Agenda when necessary.*

#### 1. Council Chambers (Railings)

The Council Chamber railings have been removed and the posts will remain in place. A curved ledge was added today as a safety precaution for the Council Members. Some minor staining will need to be done to some of the woodwork. This item is now completed and closed.

#### 2. Campaign Finance Ordinance Revisions - City Attorney input

City Attorney Amundson has taken time to review the amendments sent to him last week. He agrees with the suggestions and understands the need to bring the ordinance into compliance with state laws. He thanked the committee for the opportunity to review the information. Note: the revisions are noted in detail in the Public Services Committee meeting minutes of August 31, 2009.