LA VISTA CITY COUNCIL
MEETING
March 8, 2008

A Strategic Planning Retreat of the City Council of the City of La Vista, Nebraska was convened in open and public session at 8:30 a.m. on March 8, 2008. Present were Mayor Kindig and Councilmembers Ronan, Quick, Sheehan, Carlisle, Ellerbeck, Sell, and Gowan. Absent: McLaughlin. Also in attendance were City Attorney McKeon, City Administrator Gunn, Assistant City Administrator Ramirez, City Clerk Buehne, Community Development Director Birch, Fire Chief Uhl, Finance Director Lindberg, Library Director Iwan, Police Chief Lausten, Recreation Director Stopak, Building and Grounds Director Archibald, Public Works Director Soucie, and Administrative Assistant Alex.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Times on February 27, 2008. 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.

Mayor Kindig called the meeting to order and led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Kindig made an announcement of the location of the posted copy of the Open Meetings Act for public reference.

Mayor Kindig welcomed the group to this Strategic Planning Retreat and then introduced the Facilitator for this Workshop, Marla Flentje.

Ms. Flentje gave an overview of the process of events for the day.

TEAM RECOGNITION

Ms. Flentje had each team member recognize another member of the team for something they had accomplished with regard to the strategic plan for the benefit of the City over the past year.

REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PLAN

City Administrator Gunn reviewed the strategic plan for 2007-2009 which was adopted by the Mayor and Council in 2007. She gave an update of the action steps which have been taken to meet the key objectives within the plan. Team members, working in small groups addressed reaction to the survey results and whether there were any significant survey findings which the team needs to take into account when setting direction for the next two years.

CITIZEN SURVEY RESULTS

City Administrator Gunn reviewed the Citizen Survey Results covering areas such as new development, appearance, education, and taxes. She stated that the overall results were good. Discussion was held regarding Mayor and Council reaction to the Survey results.

At 9:50 a.m. the team took a break.

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

City Administrator Gunn talked to the group about current items such as annexation planning, 84th Street redevelopment, Thompson Creek, and the swimming pool. Discussion was held regarding each of these items.

IDENTIFYING ADDITIONAL CITY ISSUES

Ms. Flentje led the Council and Staff through an identification process of emerging challenges or opportunities what the City’s strategic plan should address and what priority those issues should be given.

At 11:45 p.m. Council recessed for lunch.
TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITY

At 12:15 p.m. Council reconvened and Ms. Flentje led the team in an activity to learn more about the history of the City of La Vista.

BRAINSTORMING STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Team members worked in discussion groups, and based on the earlier discussions they looked at the current strategic plan to determine if there are any strategic objectives not yet undertaken that should be deleted from the plan. They also looked at possible revised or new objectives that could be added as the plan is updated for 2008-2010. Each team determined new objectives, not to exceed 7, to recommend to the full team.

At 1:30 p.m. The team took a break.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Each group presented their recommendations and the full team reached preliminary agreement on objectives.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

Team members talked about additional topics that they felt were important to put on the radar for future planning.

RETREAT EVALUATION

The team evaluated what was accomplished during this retreat, and what was learned about La Vista and the team today.

CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

At 2:50 p.m. Mayor Kindig made closing remarks regarding the great efforts of council and staff to make this retreat a very productive venture and thanked all for coming. He then declared this meeting adjourned.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 18TH DAY OF MARCH 2008.

CITY OF LA VISTA

Douglas Kindig, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pamela A. Buethe, CMC
City Clerk