

**City of Seward, NE**  
**Tuesday, January 20, 2015**  
**Regular Session**

**Item G3**

**7:00 P.M. - PUBLIC HEARING - PRESENTATION AND  
DISCUSSION OF FUNCTIONING AND PROGRESS OF THE  
SEWARD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN - Greg Jerger,  
Citizen Advisory Review Committee**

*Consideration to approve Report*

**Administrative Report:** Following presentation of report, a motion to accept the Report would be in order.

Staff Contact:

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Seward, Nebraska will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at the City Council meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 142 North 7th Street, Seward, NE to review the functioning and progress of the Seward Economic Development Program funded by local City Sales Tax.

Bonnie Otte  
Assist. Admin./  
Clerk-Treasurer/  
Budget & HR Director  
City of Seward, Nebraska

**CITIZENS ADVISORY REVIEW COMMITTEE  
FOR THE LB 840 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
SEMI-ANNUAL REVIEW REPORT**

To: The Seward City Council  
From: Citizens Advisory Review Committee - LB 840 Economic Development Plan  
Date: December 18, 2014  
Re: Six-month review report required by the Economic Development Plan

The Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) is a committee of 5 registered voters appointed by the Mayor (and affirmed by the City Council) to review the Economic Development Plan (the Plan) established under LB 840. The CARC mainly reviews the actions taken by the LB 840 Application Review Board (ARB). The ARB is the committee that has the authority to spend the LB 840 funds.

The CARC met on December 18, 2014, to review the functioning and progress of the Plan. The meeting consisted of discussions about the following:

1. A review of the minutes of the ARB meetings held on 6/24/14 and 7/31/14 and the applications approved and denied by the ARB at those meetings.
2. A copy of the general ledger reports including a report of all transactions for the 6 months ended 11/30/14.

The CARC felt that the project approved by the ARB during the last 6 months did meet the broad guidelines established in the Economic Development Plan. The CARC also felt all transactions listed in the financial reports appeared to be appropriate.

The 7/31/14 minutes of the ARB included excellent and thoughtful discussion on future application approvals along with considering the appropriateness of loans instead of grants under certain conditions. Even though guidelines were not finalized, the CARC felt the potential guidelines discussed at the meeting contained very good ideas and the CARC encourages the ARB to continue developing project funding guidelines.

The CARC notes that it does not audit nor does it verify the numbers submitted to it in the general ledger reports. It is our understanding that these accounts are audited during the annual overall audit that is done on the city's financial records.