

Norfolk Insider

City of Norfolk, NE

www.ci.norfolk.ne.us

July 7, 2014

“City of Norfolk Officials Issue Statement on Parade Entry”

Over the weekend, the City of Norfolk, Nebraska, Mayor, City Council and staff received several comments of concern regarding a Fourth of July parade float marked “Obama Presidential Library.” City officials would like to clarify that while the City issued a permit for the 39th Annual Odd Fellows Fourth of July Parade, it did not sponsor nor coordinate the event.

“We recognize and respect our citizens’ differing political beliefs and their rights to express them freely, however, we are disappointed that the occasion of this family-friendly celebration of America’s birth was used in a way that disparaged the office of the president. As an open and inclusive city, we have a responsibility to foster an environment of free exchange but also one of civility, courtesy, and decency. We are a community of people who work hard, help our neighbors, welcome newcomers, and teach our kids the value of respect and responsibility. This incident and the controversy it caused does not reflect the character and spirit of our city or our state, and we hope to demonstrate that to all who are open to giving us the opportunity,” said Mayor Sue Fuchtman.