

Norfolk Insider

City of Norfolk, NE

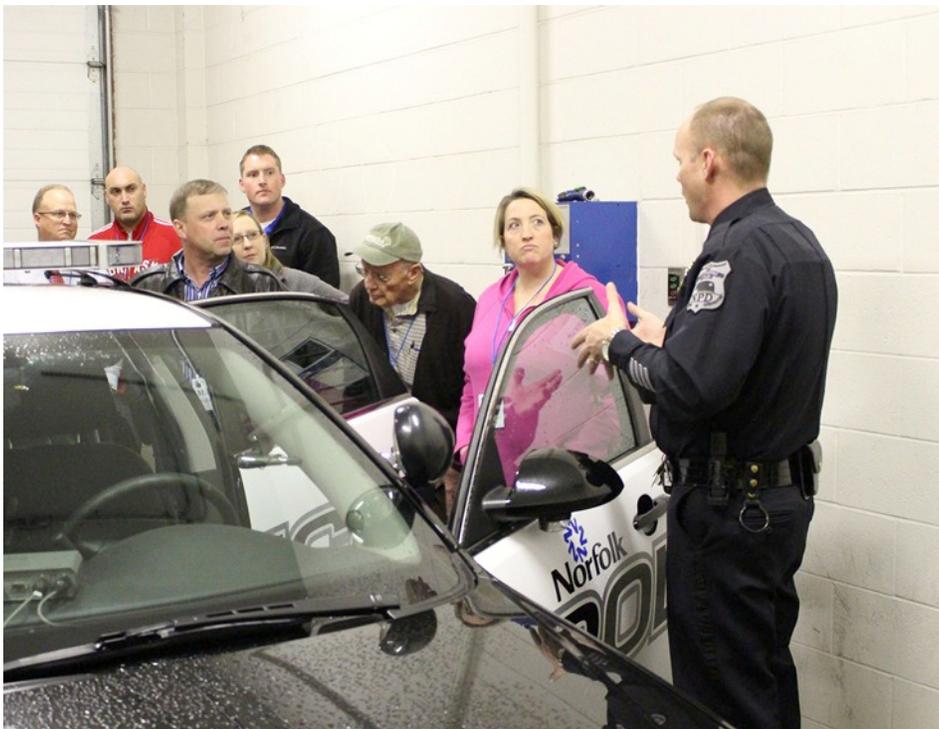
www.ci.norfolk.ne.us

July 30, 2014

“Registration Open for Norfolk 101: Citizens Academy”

Do you want to learn more about the City of Norfolk? Norfolk 101: Citizens Academy will be held this fall to give citizens an opportunity to go behind the scenes of city government and experience firsthand the diverse operations of the city.

“This is a great way to learn about how the City of Norfolk provides roads, clean water, parks, emergency response teams and a host of other services to the citizens of Norfolk,” said Diane Becker, City of Norfolk Communications Director.



Last spring was the first Academy with 20 people enrolled for the course. The next Norfolk 101 begins September 16 with sessions running from 6:00-9:00 pm each Tuesday evening for seven weeks. For each session the group meets at a different city facility for a presentation on one or more divisions and a tour. On November 3, the group will meet with City Council members to discuss their role in city operations and then will be recognized at the City Council meeting that night.

“In our first Norfolk 101, the participants learned things about everything from treating wastewater to building trails to low income housing. Norfolk 101 is a

program for people who may be interested in running for a city council seat or who just have an interest in what makes the city run,” Becker said.

Dave and Becky Maggart participated in the first Norfolk 101: Citizens Academy.

“My wife and I both thoroughly enjoyed the classes while at the same time learned so much about the city we call home. When you live here for as long as we have, you tend to take many things for granted—things like our infrastructure, and how many great people it takes to make Norfolk such a nice place to live. The citizens are very lucky to have so many people that care, taking ownership of all the functions of a city of Norfolk’s size,” Maggart said.

There is no cost to participate in Norfolk 101. Each participant must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Norfolk. They must also be committed to attending most if not all of the Norfolk 101 sessions.

Session topics include: 1) “Governing the City- the Mayor, the City Administration and Staff” 2) “Quality of Life – Parks and Streets” 3) “Planning for the Future – Public Works and the Water Division” 4) “The Environment – Wastewater Treatment and the Transfer Station” 5) “Growth – Norfolk Housing and the Norfolk Economic Development Council” 6) “Public Safety – The Fire and Police Divisions” 7) “The Norfolk Public Library and Information Technology” and 8) “Leading the Way -The Norfolk City Council and City Council Meeting Recognition”.

The Norfolk 101: Citizens Academy schedule is subject to change. Twenty participants are selected on a first come first served basis. Forms can be found at www.ci.norfolk.ne.us/ed/norfolk101.htm , at the Norfolk Public Library and at the Administration Building at 309 North 5th Street or call 402-844-2034 for more information.