



STATE OF NEBRASKA
Office of the Attorney General

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MIKE HILGERS
ATTORNEY GENERAL

LESLIE S. DONLEY
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 28, 2025

Via email at [REDACTED]
Alesia Barker

RE: *Public Records Matter Involving the City of Laurel*
File No. 20251064

Dear Ms. Barker:

This letter is in response to your petition submitted to our office on May 12, 2025, in which you requested our review of the response you received from the City of Laurel pertaining to your April 21, 2025, public records request.¹ At our request, you supplemented your petition later on May 12. We considered this matter under the Nebraska Public Records Statutes (NPRS), Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 84-712 to 84-712.09 (2024).

On May 14, 2025, we forwarded your petition to City Administrator Daniel A. Kuhlman and requested a response, which we received on May 22. In his response, Mr. Kuhlman indicated he went through all Hillcrest Care Center records received by the City, and identified records responsive to your request, including a "FY23-24 budget worksheet." However, Mr. Kuhlman stated "previous year's budget statements were unable to be obtained." During a telephone call with the undersigned earlier today, Mr. Kuhlman stated that you had picked up all responsive records from the City office on May 27.

¹ Your request sought "Hillcrest Care Center FY 21 to Present Budget Records/Documents" and "Hillcrest Care Center FY 21 to Present Financial Records/Documents; to include but not limited to disbursements, deposits, lines of credit, donations."

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Under § 84-712.03(1)(b), this office is authorized to review public record matters “to determine whether a record may be withheld from public inspection or whether the public body that is custodian of such record has otherwise failed to comply with such sections” Since you have now received records responsive to your request, and Mr. Kuhlman has assured us that all records have been provided, no further action by this office is necessary and we are closing our file. If you disagree with our determination, you may wish to discuss this matter with your private attorney to determine what additional remedies, if any, might be available to you under the NPRS.

Sincerely,

MIKE HILGERS
Attorney General



Leslie S. Donley
Assistant Attorney General

c: Daniel A. Kuhlman (via email only)

49-3822-31