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## LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

## ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SESSION

## **LEGISLATIVE BILL 324**

Introduced by Moser, 22.

Read first time January 16, 2025

Committee: Urban Affairs

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Business Improvement District Act; to amend sections 19-4027, 19-4029.01, and 19-4029.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change protest procedures relating to

4 creation of a proposed business improvement district or modification

of an existing business improvement district as prescribed; and to

6 repeal the original sections.

7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

- **Section 1.** Section 19-4027, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 19-4027 (1) Except as otherwise provided under subsection (2) of
- 4 this section, whenever Whenever a hearing is held under section 19-4026
- 5 or 19-4029, the city council shall:
- 6 (a) (1) Hear all protests and receive evidence for or against the
- 7 proposed action;
- 8 (b) (2) Rule upon all written protests received prior to the close
- 9 of the hearing, which ruling shall be final; and
- 10 (c) (3) Continue the hearing from time to time as the city council
- 11 may deem necessary.
- 12 (2)(a) If a special assessment is to be used, proceedings shall
- 13 terminate if, after a postcard for voting has been mailed pursuant to
- 14 section 19-4029.01 to all written protest is made prior to the close of
- 15 the hearing by the record owners of over fifty percent of the assessable
- 16 units in the proposed business improvement district, less than fifty
- 17 percent of such record owners returning the postcard vote in favor of the
- 18 <u>creation of the proposed business improvement district</u>.
- 19 (b) If an occupation tax is to be used, proceedings shall terminate
- 20 if, after a postcard for voting has been mailed pursuant to section
- 21 <u>19-4029.01</u> to all users of space in the proposed business improvement
- 22 district, less than protest is made by users of over fifty percent of
- 23 <u>such users of space returning the postcard vote in favor of the creation</u>
- 24 of the space in the proposed business improvement district.
- 25 Sec. 2. Section 19-4029.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 26 amended to read:
- 27 19-4029.01 (1) At least ten days prior to the date of any hearing
- 28 under sections 19-4026, 19-4029, 19-4029.02, and 19-4029.03, notice of
- 29 such hearing shall be given by:
- 30 (a) One publication of the notice of hearing in a legal newspaper in
- 31 or of general circulation in the city;

- 1 (b) Mailing a copy of the notice of hearing to each owner of taxable
- 2 property in the proposed, modified, or expanded business improvement
- 3 district as shown on the latest tax rolls of the county treasurer for
- 4 such county along with a self-addressed postcard for voting if a special
- 5 <u>assessment is to be imposed. Such postcard may be returned by a record</u>
- 6 owner as provided in subdivision (2)(a) of section 19-4027 or subdivision
- 7 (2)(a) of section 19-4029.04, whichever is applicable;
- 8 (c) Providing a copy of the notice of hearing to any neighborhood
- 9 association registered pursuant to subsection (2) of this section in the
- 10 manner requested by such neighborhood association; and
- 11 (d) If an occupation tax is to be imposed, mailing a copy of the
- 12 notice of hearing to each user of space in the proposed, modified, or
- 13 expanded business improvement district along with a self-addressed
- 14 postcard for voting. Such postcard may be returned by a user of space as
- 15 provided in subdivision (2)(b) of section 19-4027 or subdivision (2)(b)
- of section 19-4029.04, whichever is applicable.
- 17 (2) The notice required by subdivision (1)(c) of this section shall
- 18 be provided to any neighborhood association which is registered pursuant
- 19 to this subsection and whose area of representation is located, in whole
- 20 or in part, within a one-mile radius of the existing or proposed,
- 21 modified, or expanded boundaries of the business improvement district.
- 22 Each neighborhood association desiring to receive such notice shall
- 23 register with the city the area of representation of such association and
- 24 provide the name of and contact information for the individual designated
- 25 to receive notice on behalf of such association and the requested manner
- 26 of service, whether by email or first-class or certified mail. The
- 27 registration shall be in accordance with any rules and regulations
- 28 adopted and promulgated by the city.
- 29 (3) Any notice of hearing for any hearing required by sections
- 30 19-4026 and 19-4029 shall contain the following information:
- 31 (a) A description of the boundaries of the proposed business

- 1 improvement district;
- 2 (b) The time and place of a hearing to be held by the city council
- 3 to consider establishment of the business improvement district;
- 4 (c) The proposed public facilities and improvements to be made or
- 5 maintained within any business improvement district; and
- 6 (d) The proposed or estimated costs for improvements and facilities
- 7 within the proposed business improvement district and the method by which
- 8 the revenue shall be raised. If a special assessment is proposed, the
- 9 notice shall also state the proposed method of assessment.
- 10 (4) Any notice of hearing for any hearing required by sections
- 11 19-4029.02 and 19-4029.03 shall contain the following information:
- 12 (a) A description of the boundaries of the area to be added to or
- 13 removed from the existing business improvement district and a description
- of the new boundaries of the modified business improvement district;
- 15 (b) The time and place of a hearing to be held by the city council
- 16 to consider establishment of the modified business improvement district;
- 17 (c) The new public facilities and improvements, if any, to be made
- 18 or maintained within any business improvement district; and
- 19 (d) The proposed or estimated costs for new and existing
- 20 improvements and facilities within the proposed, modified, or expanded
- 21 business improvement district and the method by which the revenue shall
- 22 be raised. If a special assessment is proposed, the notice shall also
- 23 state the proposed method of assessment.
- 24 Sec. 3. Section 19-4029.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
- 25 amended to read:
- 26 19-4029.04 (1) Except as otherwise provided under subsection (2) of
- 27 <u>this section, whenever</u> Whenever a hearing is held to change the
- 28 boundaries or the functions or ordinance provisions of an existing
- 29 business improvement district under section 19-4029.02 or 19-4029.03, the
- 30 city council shall:
- 31 (a) (1) Hear all protests and receive evidence for or against the

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- 1 proposed action;
- 2 (b) (2) Rule upon all written protests received prior to the close
- 3 of the hearing, which ruling shall be final; and
- 4 (c) (3) Continue the hearing from time to time as the city council
- 5 may deem necessary.
- 6 (2)(a) If a special assessment is to be used, proceedings shall
- 7 terminate if, after a postcard for voting has been mailed pursuant to
- 8 section 19-4029.01 to all written protest is made prior to the close of
- 9 the hearing by the record owners of over fifty percent of the assessable
- 10 units in the modified business improvement district as proposed, less
- 11 than fifty percent of such record owners returning the postcard vote in
- 12 <u>favor of the modified business improvement district as proposed</u>.
- 13 (b) If an occupation tax is to be used, proceedings shall terminate
- 14 if, after a postcard for voting has been mailed pursuant to section
- 15 19-4029.01 to all users of space in the modified business improvement
- 16 <u>district as proposed, less than protest is made by users of over fifty</u>
- 17 percent of such users of space returning the postcard vote in favor of  $\frac{1}{2}$
- 18 the modified business improvement district as proposed.
- 19 Sec. 4. Original sections 19-4027, 19-4029.01, and 19-4029.04,
- 20 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.