AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS’ "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2000
Immediately Following Director’s Meeting
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

I. MINUTES


II. COUNCIL REPORTS ON BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND CONFERENCES

1. Community Development Task Force Meeting (Cook)
2. DEC Board Meeting (Fortenberry)
3. Board of Health Meeting (Johnson)
4. EMS Task Force Meeting (Johnson)
5. Joint Budget Committee (Johnson/Seng)
6. Star City Holiday Festival Board Meeting (McRoy)
7. Concert/Entertainment Task Force Meeting (McRoy)
8. Mayor’s Downtown Action Team Meeting (Seng)
9. StarTran Task Force Meeting (Seng)
10. Parks & Rec. Facilities Committee Meeting (Shoecraft)
11. EMS Task Force Meeting (Shoecraft)

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS – NONE

IV. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

1. University of Nebraska-Lincoln – College of Business
Administration Nebraska Center for Entrepreneurship - UNL SIFE (Students In Free Enterprise) - Are proud to announce the Jack Shewmaker Presentation and Lecture - “Leadership And The Global Economy” on Monday, March 6, 2000 at 8:00 a.m. - University of Nebraska, East Campus Union (1 block north of 37th and Holdrege), Great Plains Room - RSVP 472-3353 by March 1st (See Invitation).

2. Face The Chamber - Join the Chamber for lunch as senators of the Lincoln Legislative Delegation join us to discuss current issues on Wednesday, February 9, 2000 from Noon to 1:00 p.m. (Registration begins at 11:45 a.m.) - At the Country Club of Lincoln, 3200 So. 24th Street - Admission is $12.00 prepaid; $15.00 at the door, and includes lunch. Deadline for reservations is Monday, February 7, 2000 by Noon - Please RSVP no later than 2/17/00 to Tera at 436-2355 (See Invitation).

3. Leadership Lincoln Open House - At the Old City Hall, 920 “O” Street, 3rd Floor - On Wednesday, February 9, 2000 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. - (See Invitation).

V. COUNCIL MEMBERS

VI. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR- NONE

VII. MISCELLANEOUS - NONE

VIII. ADJOURNMENT
MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS “NOON” MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2000
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

Council Members Present: Coleen Seng, Chair; Jeff Fortenberry, Vice-Chair; Jonathan Cook, Annette McRoy, Jerry Shoecraft, Jon Camp. Absent: Cindy Johnson.

Others Present: Jennifer Brinkman, Mayor’s Office; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Joan Ray, City Council Secretary; and Chris Hain, Lincoln Journal Star Representative.

I. MINUTES


Ms. Seng, Council Chair, requested a motion to approve the above-listed minutes. Jonathan Cook moved approval of the minutes, as presented. Annette McRoy seconded the motion, which carried by the following vote: AYES: Jonathan Cook, Annette McRoy, Coleen Seng, Jeff Fortenberry, Jerry Shoecraft, Jon Camp; NAYS: None; ABSENT: Cindy Johnson.

II. COUNCIL REPORTS ON BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND CONFERENCES

1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE MEETING (Cook) Did not Attend - Scheduling Conflict.
2. DEC BOARD MEETING (Fortenberry) Did Not Attend - Scheduling Conflict.
3. BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING (Johnson) Held Over until February 28th Meeting.
4. EMS TASK FORCE MEETING (Johnson) Held Over until February 28th Meeting.
5. JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE (Johnson/Seng) Ms. Seng reported that Ms. Linda Steinman was elected the new Chair. Ms. Seng further reported that she was the Vice-Chair, since Ms. Johnson declined election to that post. The Committee has begun looking at policies for 2000-01. She noted that they had been struggling with the Hanna-Keelan evaluation and doing some background work on that. She reported that Ms. Kit Boesch had already sent a letter out to the City/County Directors regarding the Nine Priorities. Those letters will be coming back with the Directors’ comments.

Ms. Seng reported that the Committee had approved the Keno recommendations and requested that Mr. Roper prepare the legislation for public agendas for both the County and City.
Ms. Seng reported that Ms. Boesch had spent a fair amount of time on the New Americans’ Task Force at this meeting. Her presentation dealt mostly with the Mental Health needs of the Asian community. A concern was that they were not being provided with mental health counselors of Asian background to give these recent immigrants adequate counseling. Human Services is trying to address the mental health needs of a lot of immigrants by trying to bring in some well trained mental health counselors who have some familiarity with customs and needs of these recent immigrants.

The United Way and JBC funds distribution time-line was also discussed. So, JBC will probably have final recommendations the first Friday in May. The appeals, then will come to the Common on the JBC budget review, which will probably be on June 16th.

6. STAR CITY HOLIDAY FESTIVAL BOARD MEETING (McRoy) No Report

7. CONCERT/ENTERTAINMENT TASK FORCE MEETING (McRoy) Ms. McRoy reported that they had divided up into six different sub-committees to consider different parts of the entertainment and concert issues. Ms. McRoy indicated that she was on the Venue Subcommittee, which is the biggest one. She noted that the one that would probably be of most interest to the Council would be the one on Pinewood Bowl.

Ms. McRoy stated that she was the one who brought forward the reconsideration prospect of the Pinewood Bowl issue. Mr. Shoecraft felt this would be a waste of everyone’s time and money. Ms. McRoy stated that she had made this offer on the radio program with “The Animal” [John Terry on KIBZ (The Blaze/106.3)] She had indicated then that if he could get a certain number of signatures on a petition for Council to reconsider this, she would request a reconsideration by Council. She noted that she would have to stand by this statement. After a discussion, it was decided to find out if there had been a petition circulated that would warrant a reconsideration by Council.

Ms. McRoy indicated that she chose the Venue Sub-Committee because it would be active in getting concerts and other entertainment concepts and venues into the Lincoln community.

8. MAYOR’S DOWNTOWN ACTION TEAM MEETING(Seng) Ms. Seng reported that the Meeting included an update from the Leland Study Group regarding the Old Federal Building. They have been contracted by the City through Urban Development to do this study.

Ms. Seng also noted that Ed Zimmer and David Hunter had made a presentation on Centennial Mall, which was discussed this morning at an earlier meeting.

9. STARTRAN TASK FORCE MEETING (Seng) Ms. Seng reported that no committees had been set up yet, but they were still receiving materials and input about StarTran’s history and what changes have occurred through the years. Ms. Seng noted that the Task Force make-up is fairly representative of the community at large.

Mr. Shoecraft commented that one of the biggest complaints Council receives about StarTran is regarding the cleanliness of the bus shelters. Then we heard today from the StarTran Director that they contract out the cleaning of all of the shelters. Ms. Seng answered that the thing is they may be clean at eight o’clock, but by ten o’clock, they may be filthy. She stated that as soon as someone calls in the problem, they send some one out.
Mr. Shoecraft stated that the second problem, as Mr. Fortenberry has mentioned, is concern about the overall system. He stated that what he has been hearing is that if the system were improved, it would increase ridership. If the cleanliness of the shelters and the busses were improved, if the routes were run more frequently and improved in layout, we would gain ridership to make the program stronger.

Ms. Seng commented that she had noted in the presentation earlier this morning that they had expanded some routes. Now they need look at that. She noted that StarTran had not lost ridership since the ‘50s when there was a big push for everyone to have their own vehicle. There was a major drop in ridership at that time. Since then, however, we’ve operated quite well. It is surprising when we look at the numbers because it is not as bad as we think it is after hearing and reading what is said at a town hall meeting. She commented that it is a very small number of people who show up at the town hall meeting. She commented that it is the same folks that come and tell us the same thing all the time. The Task Force was presented with a lot of background information. She commented that she is pleased with what she is hearing at the task force meetings. She stated that it is better than she thought it was.

Discussion ensued regarding further possible options to improve the StarTran service including expanded night service, which has been initiated; looking at other expenditure options for low rider routes including subsidization by industry; smaller busses; privatization by van services. Ms. Seng commented that the Task Force was just getting organized and would be getting to all of these issues and ideas.

10. PARKS & REC. FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING (Shoecraft) - No Report

11. EMS Task Force Meeting (Shoecraft) Mr. Shoecraft reported on the Certificate Review meeting. They want to be part of the negotiation process between the City and Rural Metro. (This will be further discussed at a meeting scheduled for Thursday of this week.) Mr. Shoecraft did not know if including this Task Force in the negotiations would be a wise thing to do. Perhaps the negotiations between the two entities needs to occur and after things have been settled; then some considerations could be added in as far as some of the intangibles that the Task Force wants to be included as part of the process. He felt the negotiations, which seem to be going well, should go on uninterrupted and see what happens before we start adding other elements.

Mr. Camp commented that he felt the process was somewhat backwards in allowing potential bidders to divide up the spoils. He stated that he did not mind letting the two sides visit and exchange ideas, but at some point it seems the Council needs to set back and say what the RFP is, what the procedures are and determine the requirements on quality oversight. Normally, the bidder isn’t allowed to tell the contractor what to do. He asked if he was missing something in this situation?

Ms. Seng replied that she did not know. If they can get along with each other, she felt that was good. Mr. Cook stated that the Administration looked at a lot of things. He noted that the Administration is in charge of setting policies on a lot of issues. Mr. Camp replied that Council was in charge of setting policies. Mr. Cook stated that it was a cooperative effort. Mr. Camp restated that Council was in charge of setting the policy. This was discussed briefly.
OTHER MEETINGS

Ms. Seng reported on the Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development where Kathleen Sellman had a marvelous power point presentation. Council saw portions of it in the Comp Plan Update presentation. There was also a presentation on North 27th Street.

Ms. Seng reported that Paul McCue discussed efforts being made in getting a slot in Chicago at the O’Hare Airport for Lincoln air traffic. They’re trying to get that negotiated.

Ms. Seng reported that they had also toured the new Chamber of Commerce facilities during the meeting.

The letter regarding the Wireless Communications which Council received was also discussed. Mr. Roper was requested to have Steve Huggenberger answer with a notation that Council has requested that the Law Office respond to the letter.

III APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - None

IV. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted without Comment

V. COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP - No Further Comments

JONATHAN COOK - No Further Comments

JEFF FORTENBERRY - Mr. Fortenberry commented to Ms. Brinkman that he assumed that the Charter Revision Commission was not one of those put on the chopping block. Ms. Brinkman noted that some appointments had expired last July and five appointments have just been approved. There was one person who has resigned so there is one opening right now. She noted that ‘we’re looking and we’ve asked the Multicultural Advisory Committee is they have some suggestions’. She emphasized that the Administration wants to make sure that we have good representation on the Commission. She asked that if Council had recommendations, to please let her know. She explained that the Charter Review Committee meets twice a year as required by ordinance - and they have been meeting.

CINDY JOHNSON - Absent

ANNETTE McROY - No Further Comments

COLEEN SENG - No Further Comments

JERRY SHOECRAFT - No Further Comments

DANA ROPER - No Further Comments
JENNIFER BRINKMAN - Ms. Brinkman gave brief comments on the Directors’ Addendum item regarding the Lincoln Traffic Safety Committee. She wanted to make sure that everyone understood the intent of the memo.

The Departments had been working under a grant and once the grant expired no one really pursued the matter. Now they would like to look at other alternatives. The thing that will come before Council is regarding the Pedestrian/Bicycle Advisory Committee, which Parks and Recreation Department staffs. The Traffic Safety Committee, by ordinance, appoints three of their members to be on the Bike Committee. So, Administration will be bringing an ordinance to Council which is ready to go and will have first reading next week, so that the three appointments will be maintained. The Mayor will make them, as he makes the other eleven. If there are others Council would like to suggest, she requested that Council let her know. She indicated that those three people had actually called and expressed interest in still participating in some way, so with Council approval of that change in the ordinance, Administration will bring forward the appointments.

Ms. Brinkman explained that she had given Council a “starter list” on legislation currently before the Legislature and if Council would like Jack Moors to come and give specific information, that would be done. We will try to give as much information as Council would like without undue overload. She reiterated that Council should let her know if they would like further information.

Mr. Shoecraft pointed out that the legislation LB1351 is the one that he had drafted and had introduced. He explained that he would be testifying at a hearing on this legislation next week on February 17th at 1:30 p.m. Ms. Brinkman noted that they would make sure Mr. Moors will be there in case Mr. Shoecraft might need anything.

VI. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - None

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

ADDENDUM

1. Form Letter - Answer to Council Correspondence - Mr. Fortenberry made a slight change in the letter, noting that this would merely be a response to constituents to acknowledge receipt of their correspondence. Mr. Camp requested that the cost of postage be tracked for six months in order to evaluate the costs involved in this effort.

2. Computer Upgrades for Council Office - It was pointed out that the Computer Upgrade would involve the two Staff Computers and the computer in Council Member Jon Camp’s office. Mr. Camp’s computer upgrade would be done under the same agreement with IS as the computer upgrade in Council Member Fortenberry’s office which would involve no costs. Council approved unanimously the upgrades for these computers from WordPerfect 6.1 to WordPerfect 2000. IS has been notified and hopefully this will take place shortly at an estimated cost of $199.00.

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED Approximately 12:45 p.m.