

**AGENDA FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2001
Immediately Following Director's Meeting
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

I. MINUTES

1. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for September 10, 2001.
2. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Downtown Parking Study - August 13, 2001.

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

1. Public Building Commission (Camp/Seng)
2. ISPC Meeting (Cook)
3. Multicultural Advisory Committee (McRoy)
4. Board of Health (Svoboda) - **SEPTEMBER 11TH MEETING CANCELLED - MEETING RESCHEDULED TO SEPTEMBER 18TH**

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - NONE

IV. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

1. You are cordially invited to attend a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House for the Lancaster County Election/Jury Commission's New Building at 601 North 46th Street on Thursday, September 20, 2001 – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 2:00 p.m. and Open House from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (See Invitation).
2. Come Celebrate Downtown! - On Wednesday, October 17*, 2001 - Downtown Lincoln Association Annual Meeting at the Embassy Suites Hotel. Your formal invitation to this Noon Luncheon will be arriving in a few weeks – (*Note date change due to a scheduling conflict) (See Invitation).

VI. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - NONE

VII. MISCELLANEOUS - NONE

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

CA91701/tjg

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2001
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

Council Members Present: Annette McRoy, Chair; Jonathan Cook, Vice-Chair; Jon Camp, Glenn Friendt, Coleen Seng, Ken Svoboda, Terry Werner.

Others Present: Mark Bowen, Ann Harrell, Amy Tejral, Mayor's Office; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Don Herz, Finance Director; Darrell Podany, Aide to Council Members' Friendt, Camp and Svoboda; Tammy Grammer, City Council Staff and Chris Hain, *Journal Star* representative.

I. MINUTES

1. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for September 10, 2001.
2. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Downtown Parking Study - August 13, 2001.

Mr. Jonathan Cook, Council Vice-Chair, requested a motion to approve the above-listed minutes. Ken Svoboda moved approval of the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Coleen Seng and carried by the following vote: AYES: Jon Camp, Ken Svoboda, Terry Werner, Coleen Seng, Glenn Friendt, Annette McRoy, Jonathan Cook; NAYS: None.

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

1. Public Building Commission (Camp/Seng) — Ms. Seng reported that they had two meetings. Ms. Seng reported that they decided that they were going to meet with Omaha the same day they are having the Joint Lincoln/Omaha City Council Meeting and they made the decision to have it at 1:00 p.m. But, than DLA changed their meeting time and date from October 18th back to October 17th. So, she thinks Larry Hudkins is trying to get a hold of Don Killeen to see if may be they could start the Public Building Commission Meeting with them earlier than that. Ms. Seng indicated that she and Mr. Camp wants to attend the DLA Meeting.

Ms. Seng reported that they had a presentation by some folks and they will probably hear from them at a news conference next week.

Ms. Seng stated that they are going to start calling the Old Police Building the "233 Building", so instead of calling it the Old Police Building they are going to say the "233 Building".

Ms. Seng reported to Council that the State is starting to circulate their policy regarding space heaters, but they don't know anymore than that. Ms. Seng stated to Council just to bring everyone up-to-date the reason everybody is upset

about the space heater business is because that's how the fire started over in Labor. So, their trying to establish some sort of a policy that they either have a shut off or a timer on them, in case somebody goes and leaves them on over the weekend they'll shut off. Mr. Friendt asked Ms. Seng why don't they just disallow them all together. Ms. Seng stated to Mr. Friendt that there has been that thought, but they have hundreds of them in this building.

Ms. Seng reported that they approved the purchase of two pieces of property on South 8th - 742 & 744 South 8th Street for possible parking at some point. So, they might want to go and look at these two properties.

Ms. Seng reported that the eagle statue that they have been discussing which they have probably heard a lot about, that it is actually coming out of the Mayor's Office. Ms. Seng asked Ann Harrell if she knows anything about it. Ms. Harrell indicated to Ms. Seng that's all she knows about it. Ms. Seng stated that they have been working on the insurance business and the liability questions.

Mr. Camp reported that in one of the Public Building Commission Meetings they talked about the 3rd floor in the County/City Building and they talked about the parking lots. Mr. Camp reported that they are doing an update space use to help them understand their long-term need for parking and usage because last time they did one was in 1991. So, this will help them a little bit with the 3rd floor in the County/City Building and the Old Federal Building, etc. Ms. Seng stated that they have done it, but it was time for them to do it again because it is really out dated. Ms. Seng indicated that they have been following the plan and it is time to do it. Mr. Camp reported that Rick Haden is going to be doing the Parking Study. Mr. Camp stated that may be at some point they need to have a Pre-Council Meeting on this issue to help (especially the new Council Members) understand it. Mr. Friendt commented that he would appreciate it.

Mr. Camp stated that they are still working on the tables and on the dias issue. Mr. Svoboda asked about instead of having the cords wrapped over the edge of the counter, he was wondering if a hole could be drilled, so that the cords are not hanging all around. Mr. Cook stated to Mr. Svoboda the problem with putting the cords in that way, that they were told, would interfere with the sound that runs a long the microphone cords.

Ms. McRoy stated that she noticed that the Public Building Commission removed two seats in the back of the Council/County Chambers for wheelchair access. Mr. Camp indicated to Ms. McRoy that it was two or four seats. Mr. Camp and Ms. Seng stated that 'yes' they did. Ms. Seng stated that the seats were supposed to be out quite a while ago, but it did not get done. Ms. Seng stated that it did not get done until they went in there and yelled about it, which was right before the Public Hearing started for their Budget Meeting. Ms. Seng stated to Council that the seats were supposed to be out a couple weeks before the Public Hearing on the Budget.

Mark Bowen stated to Council that the Joint Lincoln/Omaha City Council Meeting is on Wednesday, October 17th at 3:00 p.m. [to 5:00 p.m.] [at Mahoney State Park - Park Lodge, Lower Level Conference Room]. Mr. Bowen stated to Council that Jack Cheloha from the Omaha City Council Office is going to fax down a 'tentative' Agenda, so if they have other Agenda items to let him know and he will pass them onto Mr. Cheloha for the final Agenda.

Mr. Camp stated to Mark Bowen that this is kind of off the subject, but he has seen John Ways driving around town again pulling that trailer with the sign on it. Mr. Bowen stated to Mr. Camp that he will pass on this information. Ms. McRoy asked Dana Roper about this situation. Mr. Roper stated to Council that if he is towing the sign to a new location that is one thing, but if this is an on going business practice to drive around the streets towing your sign, he thinks that's a problem.

2. ISPC Meeting (Cook) — Mr. Cook stated that he did not attend this meeting and indicated that he never attends these meetings, but they do send him the "minutes" for this meeting.
3. Multicultural Advisory Committee (McRoy) — Ms. McRoy reported that they did meet on Tuesday and so obviously what was all on their minds was the National tragedy and they discussed it.

Ms. McRoy reported that the "Community Dialog" has already been scheduled and Larry Williams the Human Rights Director has been working on it for a while. Ms. McRoy stated to Council that this is coming up, so they should be receiving their invitations to this event. Ms. McRoy stated that this event is on Saturday, September 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Elliott Elementary School. Ms. McRoy stated that there will be a light lunch for people who are participating in it and she thinks that they will probably do a cultural lunch.

Ms. McRoy stated that they had an abbreviated meeting. Ms. McRoy reported that the Community Health Endowment made an abbreviated presentation and than all of their members wanted to go to the [inaudible], so they cut the meeting short.

Ms. McRoy stated that they discussed the National tragedy and they were happy that they were already working on the "Community Dialog".

Ms. McRoy reported that they discussed the Website Policy deadlines in Lincoln to the Multicultural website regarding other links that might be of interest. Ms. McRoy stated that they set guidelines with the Mayor's Office and how they can handle requests for it at that stand point.

4. Board of Health (Svoboda) - **SEPTEMBER 11TH MEETING CANCELLED - MEETING RESCHEDULED TO SEPTEMBER 18TH** — Mr. Svoboda stated that this meeting was postponed until tomorrow evening [September 18th].

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

Ms. McRoy stated to Council that she does have a meeting request for someone. Ms. McRoy stated that tomorrow for some reason her schedule got kind of packed and she has an emergency Cornhusker State Game meeting at 5:30 p.m. Ms. McRoy stated that she just got word of it this weekend in regards to some changes in Personnel staff and so she would kind of like to attend this meeting. Mr. Werner indicated to Ms. McRoy that he plans on attending the StarTran Meeting. Ms. McRoy stated to Mr. Werner that's what she was going to ask them about. Ms. McRoy indicated that she thinks being a Lincoln resident that she should probably try and get there, plus she is kind of curious about it because they usually don't call an emergency meeting, so she really wanted to attend the meeting. Mr. Werner stated to Ms. McRoy that he will be attending the StarTran Meeting. Ms. McRoy stated to Mr. Werner okay and thanked him.

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - NONE

Mr. Werner stated that he has a question in regards to the Appointments and Reappointments. Mr. Werner asked Amy Tejral if she was going to be taking over this responsibility. Mr. Werner stated to Ms. Tejral that he would appreciate it and may be that's what her intentions are is to give them notice of these well in advanced, so if they have some suggestions of people who might be suitable for it. Mark Bowen stated to Mr. Werner that generally their policy is 60 days. Mr. Werner thanked Ms. Tejral and Mr. Bowen.

IV. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted Without Comment

VI. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - NONE

VII. MISCELLANEOUS - NONE

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

KEN SVOBODA

Mr. Svoboda stated to Council that he had asked a couple of months ago and than spoke with all of them individually about opening each one of their City Council Meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Svoboda stated that he regrets to say that he didn't push this issue a little bit faster, than it could have been done prior to last

Tuesday's events. But, in light of what has happened last Tuesday he formally would like to say if they could start each session immediately and leave it up to the Chair when she feels that it would be the appropriate time to do it, whether it would be before or after the 'moment of silence', but he would like to ask if they might be able to do it. Mr. Friendt asked if this is a procedural issue that they can just decide on it here and it doesn't require a public motion. Dana Roper indicated to Council that they can do what they would like to do, that in Chapter 2 they have the Council rules and procedures, they can make it one of their Council rules if they wish to do so or they can simply by a majority vote choose to start doing it at their Council Meetings. Mr. Roper stated to Council that he thinks at some point and time if they want to continue it, that it might be good if they amended their rules just so they had it on record of what they were doing. Mr. Svoboda asked Mr. Roper if the rules were amended to allow for the 'moment of silence'. Mr. Svoboda asked Mr. Roper if the current statute of having the 'moment of silence' has been amended into their rules. Mr. Roper stated to Mr. Svoboda that is a good question, that he will check on it. Mr. Svoboda stated to Mr. Roper okay. Mr. Roper stated to Council that in taking a quick look at it, he doesn't believe that it is in there. Mr. Roper stated to Council that he thinks it is their choice on what they want to do, but he will do some more checking on it.

Discussion continued with concerns, comments and questions from the Council. After an extended discussion, Council decided that they would start the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of each Council Meeting and they would start this today. Also, Ms. McRoy stated that she will have Mr. Svoboda lead them in the Pledge of Allegiance, since it was his idea.

JON CAMP - NO COMMENTS

JONATHAN COOK

Mr. Cook stated that he has a few things. Mr. Cook stated that he wanted to mention the schedule conflict regarding the DLA Meeting for October 17th, but they have already discussed it.

Mr. Cook stated that some of them have had some angry phone calls from people who have received letters from the Public Works Department saying that they have to cut down their plantings, move rocks and may be put up new fences and so on in the right-of-way or near the right-of-way. Mr. Cook stated that may be there in a frame of sight distances or may be they are just being told this is illegal, that they can't have this kind of plant in there. Mr. Cook stated that it isn't clear to him from reading the ordinance of what is or isn't allowed exactly. Mr. Cook stated that he tried to get some more information from the Public Works Department and he hasn't heard back on exactly

where the complaint came from, but it seemed to cover a number of properties. Mr. Cook stated that may be they need to look at exactly what those ordinances say and what the enforcement policies are because in the older neighborhoods they just can't have a strict policy about exactly where the plants go. Mr. Cook indicated that he thinks this is a case where they need to look at their policies a little more carefully. Mr. Cook indicated that in the new neighborhoods it is easier when your building something brand new to meet exact site distance requirements.

Discussion continued with Council, Ann Harrell and Dana Roper. After an extended discussion, Ann Harrell is going to check with Building & Codes in regards to this issue and than report back to them next Monday about it.

Mr. Cook stated that he thinks there are three issues here: 1.) Handling the issue at hand, which is the site distance that they need to get it cleaned up a little bit - 2.) The Rehabilitation issue of rehabilitating all of the buildings, finding ways of modifying the codes to may be allow reinvestment in older buildings more easy rather than tearing them down - 3.) A following up on the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Cook stated that these are the three things that he sees.

ANNETTE McROY

[Ms. McRoy's first comments - inaudible]

Ms. McRoy stated that they are scheduling a "bar walk" for Council Members and for who ever else is in involved in it. Ms. McRoy stated that they are going to discuss it on Monday at the Internal Liquor Committee.

GLENN FRIENDT - NO COMMENTS

COLEEN SENG - NO COMMENTS

TERRY WERNER - NO COMMENTS

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:07 P.M.

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