

**AGENDA FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2001
Immediately Following Director's Meeting
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

I. MINUTES

1. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for October 1, 2001.
2. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Decision of the Supreme Court in *Kabredlos v. City* - June 11, 2001.
3. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Big Red Keno - September 10, 2001.
4. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Peoples Natural Gas Price Options - August 27, 2001.

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

1. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting (Cook)
2. Community Development Task Force Meeting (Cook)
3. Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development Investors Meeting (McRoy)
4. Joint Budget Committee (McRoy/Seng)

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - NONE

IV. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

1. The Child Advocacy Center is turning 3! They invite you to join them on October 11th to learn more about what they do. – Come help us celebrate our accomplishments – On Thursday, October 11, 2001 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – For cake & birthday fun – 3200 Sumner Street in Antelope Park (See Invitation).
2. JEO Consulting Group, Inc. – You are cordially invited to attend their Open House in celebration of their new office! On Friday, October 12, 2001 – 8101 "O" Street, Suite 300 – Join them any time between 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. for refreshments and hors d'oeuvres – 488-3040 (See Invitation).
3. You and a guest are invited to The Updowntowners Membership Appreciation and Recognition Luncheon on Thursday, October 11, 2001 – Lunch served at 11:45 a.m., Program begins at 12:15 p.m., Champagne Toast at 1:00 p.m. - at Embassy Suites, 1040 "P" Street – (You and a guest are invited as the president's

special guest. Your lunch will be complimentary if you choose to attend. Please RSVP to Randy Hawthorne at 437-0111 – Please present this card as your ticket for the luncheon) (See Invitation).

4. The Fashion Illustrations of Steven Stipelman: Art of Paper - The Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery --- October 26-November 21, 2001 – ON Friday, October 26, 2001 - 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Lecture by the artist Fashion Illustration as an Art Form Room 11, Home Economics Building – Opening Reception - 8:00-9:30 p.m. in the gallery — Hillestad Textiles Gallery is located on the UNL East Campus - Home Economics Building, 2nd floor, 35th & Holdrege (See Invitation).
5. Russ’s Market B&R Stores - Grand Opening Preview on Tuesday, October 9, 2001 - B&R Stores would like to extend an invitation to you and your guest to attend a special preview of the newest Russ’s Market location, 1550 S. Coddington Avenue. Please Join Us! – Refreshments will be served. Business casual attire. (See Invitation).
6. Time Warner Cable and IFC Present a Free Screening - To celebrate the addition of The Independent Film Channel to Time Warner’s Digital Cable Line-up! On Wednesday, October 17, 2001 - Reception at 6:00 p.m. - Film at 7:00 p.m. - Mary Riempa Ross Film Theater, 12th & “R” Street - Please RSVP by October 10th to Amy at Time Warner Cable at 421-0330 (See Invitation).

V. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VI. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - NONE

VII. MISCELLANEOUS - NONE

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 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; Darrell Podany, Aide to Council Members' Friendt, Camp and Svoboda; Joan Ray, Council Secretary; Mark Andersen, *Journal Star* representative.

I. MINUTES

1. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for October 1, 2001.
2. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Decision of the Supreme Court in *Kabredlos v. City* - June 11, 2001.
3. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Big Red Keno - September 10, 2001.
4. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Peoples Natural Gas Price Options - August 27, 2001.

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, Jonathan Cook, Glenn Friendt, Coleen Seng, Ken Svoboda, Terry Werner; NAYS: None; ABSENT FOR VOTE: Annette McRoy.

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

1. PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD (Cook) - CANCELLED
2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE (Cook) Mr. Cook noted that the rescheduled CDTF meetings will be falling on the same day as the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meetings and felt this might pose a problem.

He reported that the CDTF elected a new chair (Jon Carlson of the Planning Commission) and vice-chair (John Carter). Ms. Seng asked with what agency Mr. Carter was associated. It was not known, but Ms. Tejral stated she would get that information to Council.

Mr. Cook continued, noting that the Task Force had discussed the moving of some funds for the Action Plan, which always has to happen as it is a part of the process. Then the Task Force broke into sub-committees and each sub-committee selected Chairs. That was the extent of the meeting.

3. LINCOLN PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (INVESTORS MEETING) (McRoy) Ms. McRoy reported that they had met Tuesday morning. LES made a presentation on the survey they had just gotten back from the KMPG. The survey covered 106 cities and included 18 categories. Lincoln was 6th lowest [in electrical rates] of the 106 cities surveyed, as of the 1st of the year 2001. Last year, we were 8th; we're 4th in the Residential category (Residential with Electric Water Heating).

Mr. Cook asked if the 106 cities surveyed were about the size of Lincoln, or were the sizes varied? Ms. McRoy stated that the cities were of varied sizes and demographics. She noted that Lexington, KY was the lowest in the nation and New York City is the highest; so that shows the broad range of cities included in the survey.

She noted that they did do a regional break-down of the statistics. The average house size in Lincoln uses 1000 kilowatts per month.. Commercial/Industrial customers are ranked 15th - that is those in the category of 1,000-10,000 kilowatts per month. LES has not had a rate increase in seven years; but there is a 4% increase planned for 2003. That was the information in the presentation.

Ms. McRoy shared a point of interest in the LES presentation noting that, immediately following the presentation, the power went out. - Just a note of irony. [Laughter]

Mr. Camp asked if LES rates had ever included the service charge? He noted that there are different levels of service charges on the billings, which are supposed to cover Administrative costs. That has gone up quite a bit. He noted that some commercial rates, by the time the sales tax is added, are over \$20.00 per month. Mr. Camp added that often on a \$35.00 bill, \$25.00 of it is Administrative costs. Ms. McRoy responded that they had not discussed that, though they did discuss Commercial/Industrial and noted that we were 6th in that. She reported that there were some large customers who receive monthly bills of approximately \$8,000.00.

Ms. McRoy continued her report, noting that Mr. John Wood, Airport Director, also made a presentation. He gave an update on the Airport information. Mr. Wood was in Canada at an airport directors meeting the week of September 11th and ended up taking a bus home. [More irony] Mr. Wood talked about the industry as a whole and what Lincoln is doing as far as airport security is concerned. At the time of the attack, across the nation, 5000 planes were placed on the ground in less than an hour.

Ms. McRoy continued the report on airlines with the statistics regarding several different airlines and the statistics on their schedules in and out of Lincoln. She noted that the security measures would remain in effect and stated that Mr. Wood thought it would take two-five years for the industry to recover from this situation.

Ms. McRoy reported that the Lincoln Public Schools Foundation gave a presentation on their focus groups project. That is moving forward, and Ms. McRoy stated that she would be reporting on that as it developed.

Mr. Friendt asked if such survey's had been done on the gas rates for the City of Lincoln. It was determined that none had been. Discussion ensued which covered other concerns regarding Peoples Natural Gas Company and their customer service problems with dis-information and rudeness seeming to be the norm. The Council felt this should be looked into further.

4. JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE (McRoy/Seng) Ms. Seng reported that besides discussing the Malone Center for nearly two hours, we did have a lengthy agenda and did discuss other issues as well.

There has been concern from some of the other Human Service Agencies that have been working with the C-SIP, which is the planning side of the services. They want to have some language placed into the Comp Plan. Some members of the Committee had explained to them that the Comp Plan really deals with land use and zoning issues - and not human service issues. But, nonetheless, we've had many letters from many agencies with all kinds of suggestions dealing with housing, and transportation. In view of these concerns, Ms. Seng noted that she and Kathy Campbell had a meeting with Kathleen [Sellman] and Kent [Morgan] out of Planning Department and they made a presentation on Friday morning. She felt that with this presentation, everyone was all on the same page - after this extra effort.

Ms. Seng explained to Council that Marc Wullschleger, Director of Urban Development, is a voting member on the JBC, so he is always there. He brought in the following information: They've given out eight emergency shelter grants - to usual agencies that deal with emergency shelter. He also stated that the units on the SRO [Single Room Occupancy] proposal had been sold to someone else, so the funding on that project was pulled back by the Mayor and Urban Development. Mr. Bowen stated that the proposal had been discussed, but he had not heard that there was an actual sale. Ms. McRoy stated that she did not know that they had sold it, but Marc had stated that they offered it to the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company. Ms. Seng stated that she understood from Mr. Wullschleger that it had been sold. Ms. Harrell noted that the long-and-short of it is that there may be some changes.

Ms. Seng continued her report, noting that JBC would be looking at the Community Learning Centers. They will have Staff come in and discuss those.

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS: Mr. Camp commented on the Holmes Lake Restoration Meeting which had been held on October 2nd. He noted that it was a good meeting and what had really impressed him was the citizen involvement. There was a diversity of people attending - not just those in southeast Lincoln. [Here Mr. Camp's comments were inaudible] He noted that the estimated cost was \$5,000,000.00, plus. That wasn't made clear, initially in the media reports, and there weren't very many concerns regarding that issue. So, the two elements of the study will be recreational uses vs. flood control. The City Staff and the State Games, Parks and Recreation and the NRD were there. It was a well orchestrated meeting and went like clock-work. The next meeting will be on the 13th of November at Lux Middle School.

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - Noted Without Significant Comment

IV. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted Without Significant Comment

V. COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP - No Further Comments

JONATHAN COOK - No Further Comments

GLENN FRIENDT - Mr. Friendt asked what the next step would be in the Re-districting discussions and when will that be done? Mr. Cook thought it could be brought forward on next week's "Noon" Agenda with a follow-up Pre-Council thereafter - if necessary.

Mr. Svoboda asked what the process was. Mr. Cook explained that once we decide what we want to do (and we have some maps of the districts), and whatever everyone wants is sent forward, we'll have Planning prepare the necessary documents (or Law - whichever is appropriate), and they will put it on the agenda for us in November. Mr. Svoboda asked if any of the Council Members, or a group of Members, can bring a proposal to the table and say here is one suggestion and then it will be discussed. Mr. Cook noted that if anyone has a suggestion, bring it into the "Noon" meeting and we'll discuss that and see if we want to go forward with it.

Mr. Friendt stated that he was expecting more folks to be interviewed for that article [in the *Journal Star*]. He asked if he had expressed the Council's criteria correctly? Council Members all agreed that Mr. Friendt had done a good job in summarizing Council's criteria.

Ms. Seng wondered if there would be enough time to do this at a "Noon" meeting. She felt a Pre-Council would be a better venue for the discussion. She asked if there was time available for such a Pre-Council? Mr. Svoboda stated that that was why he had been curious about what the process might be. He didn't know if next week we were just to bring proposals and then the following week have the Pre-Council after we've had time to digest it.

Mr. Cook thought he and Ms. McRoy might make that decision. Ms. McRoy stated that she thought everyone ought to be working on it individually and amongst themselves, negotiating or working out differences or concerns.

Ms. Harrell noted that she would contact Mr. Morgan and Mr. Shively to make sure that they would be here for which ever meeting Council would wish.

ANNETTE McROY - Ms. McRoy asked about the Resolution opposing the mistreatment of citizens of Arab or Muslim decent, which had been discussed at last week's "Noon" meeting. Mr. Roper indicated that the resolution had been included in the Council's Thursday Legislative Packets. Council, upon review of the Resolution, approved the wording and made no changes.

Ms. McRoy also reminded the Council Members to have their parking permits displayed clearly in their cars when using the parking facilities beneath the building.

COLEEN SENG - No Further Comments

KEN SVOBODA - No Further Comments

TERRY WERNER - Mr. Werner commented that he had noticed in the paper this morning that Grand Island City Council has gone “paperless”. Where do we stand on that? How do we want to proceed? Mr. Cook declared that “we love paper”. Mr. Werner stated that he would like to make another small step towards “paperless”.

Mr. Cook noted that the Council’s Formal Agenda is as “paperless” as it is likely to be. The Staff reports are there; the legislation is there; the Agenda is there. But, our Directors and “Noon” Agendas are still kind of in limbo on that.

Ms. Ray commented that for Council Staff to do that, they would need more help. We can’t start this without more office staff. If you want to go “paperless”, you’ll have to hire more staff. Mr. Werner asked if it wouldn’t make it easier, to go “paperless”? Ms. Ray stated that it might after a year or so, but at the outset, it would be time-consuming. It would take time. Time to do the scanning, and the linking once the documents are on the Internet, as well as the set-up on the website. Time. is what would be the deciding factor.

Ms. McRoy stated that some Council Members are *not* interested in the paperless concept. So, it didn’t seem prudent to go ahead until everyone on the Council could feel comfortable with the process. Mr. Werner stated that he felt we should keep thinking about it, and added that if there are some small steps we could take, we should.

Mr. Cook noted that instead of using the copy machine, we could just use the scanner. The scanner might take a little more time, perhaps. So, there is just time spent watching the machine work...but we do have a scanner. We just haven’t done anything with it.

He stated that there are also logistic problems noting that we probably wouldn’t want the Director’s packet in a single, giant file, but would want to have it broken down into some manageable way in which we can reference particular pages more easily. Those things need to be worked out and Mr. Cook felt they could be. Of course, if some Council Members want paper copies, then somebody in the Council Office would just print out the digitized version. Once you’re in the paperless realm, it is easy to make a paper copy for somebody. Mr. Friendt observed that Mr. Cook was sounding like a wonderful Chair for a Task Force, along with Mr. Camp. -The `JC’s of the group.

Mr. Cook thought if the Council Office is going to go forward with that, perhaps they need some help from the IS Department...an assist in getting up to speed.

Ms. Ray stated that Staff would make it a priority to get the paperless process initiated for the Directors’ and “Noon” Agendas.

ANN HARRELL - No Further Comments

MARK BOWEN - No Further Comments

DANA ROPER - No Further Comments

VI. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR -[This portion of the Agenda had formally been used when the Mayor wished Council Members to attend public functions in his stead when he was unable to attend - Due to the current use of this portion of the Agenda as a forum for information from the Administration, this section will be placed before the COUNCIL MEMBERS Section on our Agenda from this point forward - as requested by Mr. Cook]

Mr. Bowen stated that there was a Public Building Commission meeting scheduled for tomorrow, and it will be starting early. He noted that one of the things that had been discussed with Directors last week was building space and trying to get some feel from them on what they would need under a three- to five-year projection. In anticipation of the Old Fed becoming private and having to relocate some agencies currently there, the PBC had already last month talked about doing a long-term study on the space problems.

Mr. Bowen indicated that we've got a fairly good handle on where the growth will be in the City Agencies now. He had done some analysis within the building, trying to accommodate what County's concerns might be as they have growth issues of their own. They don't have the same kinds of concerns that we do in personnel placement, but he thought the City would be looking at trying to reconfigure the second and first floors a little bit to accommodate our current needs.

They had looked at the issue of the third floor and trying to decide if it is worth going for full development of that area. Mr. Bowen stated that the way the economy is, we're not sure that is a good idea at this time. For tomorrow we will be trying to meet on some common ground with the County in finding just a little additional space here in the current building before we start pledging a lot of money.

Mr. Werner commented that perhaps they could split up some of the County Commissioners offices. [Laughter] Divide them in half and let the Commissioner share the space. Ms. Seng commented that she was very glad that Mr. Bowen had done this analysis because it will help the Building Commission in their planning.

Mr. Bowen stated that looking at it from the City side we keep two things in mind. First, space needs projected for three to five years out. Also, in terms of how Directors feel they might be growing personnel-wise, for actual space needed. Mr. Bowen noted that this tempered down some of the needs they originally thought they wanted, to a more realistic level.

Mr. Bowen added that he had expected to have an updated Agenda for the Joint Meeting, [Lincoln and Omaha City Councils] but he did not have that available for today's meeting. He thought he would have it available for them sometime this week. Mr. Camp suggested having it available for placement in the Council Members' Weekly Packet.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS - None

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately 12:50 p.m.

CM100801/jvr