

**AGENDA FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2002
Immediately Following Director's Meeting
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

I. MINUTES

1. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - Executive Session - RE: Litigation Issues - September 9, 2002.
2. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for September 9, 2002.

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

1. Public Building Commission (Camp/Seng)
2. Multicultural Advisory Committee (McRoy)
3. Board of Health (Svoboda)

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - NONE

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - NONE

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

1. Community Health Endowment of Lincoln - RE: Mark Your Calendars for this Workshop! – "Sustainability for the Long Haul" - on Wednesday, November 20, 2002 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Lancaster County Extension, 444 Cherrycreek Road - **Watch for registration information in October!** (See Invitation)
2. East "O" Street Public Information Meeting - Please join us for a public meeting regarding the One-Way Pairs traffic system, which will go into effect on "O" Street, 56th Street, Cotner Boulevard, "N" and "P" Streets by the end of this month - on Monday, September 16, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the Villager Courtyard & Gardens Lincoln Ballroom. (See Invitation)

3. 2002 Nebraska Economic Forums - Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City - You and your business associates are invited to a Forum in your area. Although there is no cost to attend, participation is by invitation only and pre-registration is required – Will be in Lincoln on Tuesday, October 15, 2002 at the Cornhusker Hotel – The Program: 5:30 p.m., Registration – 5:45 p.m., Regional Economic Presentation, Mark Drabenstott, New Horizons for the Nebraska Economy – 6:30 p.m., Reception – 7:00 p.m., Dinner – 7:45 p.m., Monetary Policy Presentation, George A. Kahn, U.S. Economic Outlook and Monetary Policy – Registration must be received by September 30th - (800) 333-1040, ext. 5589. (See Brochure for more details)
4. 3rd Annual Governor's Summit on Workforce Development - October 1st & 2nd (Tuesday & Wednesday) – “Building Nebraska's 21st Century Workforce” - Registration Fee \$195.00 – Please fill out Registration Form and send in with payment by September 23rd (See Brochure for schedule)
5. You're Invited to The Sopranos - Season Premiere Party! - Sponsored by Time Warner Cable – on Sunday, September 15th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Win door prizes by showing off your Sopranos trivia smarts and win some loot – 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Season Premiere of The Sopranos - 7th Street Loft, 504 S. 7th Street – Seating is limited, so RSVP soon to Ann Shrewsbury to 421-0378 to reserve your seat. (See Invitation)
6. On behalf of the Community Health Partners Foundation we'd like to invite you to celebrate with us at our Healthy People Report Rally - on Monday, September 30, 2002 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, Nebraska Room, 33rd & Holdrege Streets - Complimentary Luncheon Provided - To register, return the enclosed card today or call directly at 441-8144. (See Letter of Invitation)
7. Join your state & local government colleagues for our 4th National Conference on how to measure and monitor your strategic plan for results Performance Measurement For State & Local Government, Linking Performance Measures, Strategic Planning & Budgeting Into An Integrated Management System – October 16-18, 2002 in Chicago – Register by September 17th to Save \$\$\$\$ - (See E-Mail of Invitation)
8. The Lincoln Chamber of Commerce will host the 3rd Annual Business to Business Tradeshow on Wednesday, September 25th at The Cornhusker Hotel – Enclosed with Invitation is complimentary tickets for you – 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. including a networking reception from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. - (See Letter of Invitation & Brochure)

9. Friends of Mayor's Committee for International Friendship - You are cordially invited to a luncheon at the Governor's Mansion at 14th & "H" Street at Noon on Friday, September 27, 2002 – The speaker will be Dr. Ian Newman from UN-L Department of Health Education, which he will talk about health issues in Southeast Asia - Cost is \$15.00 per person – Send RSVP by September 23rd with payment to Ken Johnson. (See Invitation)

VI. MISCELLANEOUS - NONE

VII. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2002
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

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

Others Present: Mark Bowen, Ann Harrell, Kent Morgan, Mayor's Office; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Joan Ray, Council Secretary; Darrell Podany, Aide to Council Members Camp, Friendt and Svoboda.

I. MINUTES

1. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - Executive Session - RE: Litigation Issues - September 9, 2002.
2. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for September 9, 2002.

Chair Jonathan Cook 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 unanimous consensus of members present, for approval.

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

1. PUBLIC BUILDING COMMISSION (Camp/Seng) - Ms. Seng reported on the most current reconfiguration from JoAnne Kissel, the Sinclair-Hille representative working on the County/City Space Study floor-plans. They had redesigned the plan to extend the Council Office area to the stairwell to create a shared reception area for the Council and the County Commissioners. They had re-done the kitchen area, and we sent them back for a re-do on that because we don't want any additional expense of moving plumbing and fixtures around if it isn't necessary. Eventually, there will be a pre-Council meeting for the City Council with JoAnne Kissel, when she gets the plan more completely finalized. Ms. Seng noted that Mr. Bowen will be talking with the Directors at a Wednesday Directors' Meeting and a pre-council would be scheduled for the Monday following.

Ms. Seng noted that 5City-TV had been left where it was. Conference Rooms had been discussed, with a decision to leave Room 113 as is and then have another conference room in a Studio configuration for the use of 5City-TV. It would be smaller than this one, which would better serve their needs. These are all issues Ms. Kissel is still working on. Nothing is final and the whole project is a work in progress. Ms. Seng noted that she had been very pleased with this re-configuration plan.

Ms. Seng continued, stating that it had been discussed and agreed upon not to do anything with the Mayor's Office and to place Urban Development on the 2nd and 3rd Floors. Mr. Camp noted that the plans didn't show the restrooms between the County and City offices. Ms. Seng noted that Ms. Kissel had not been aware of those restrooms. [These had been included in the information submitted by Council Staff when the measurements for the Study were first being collected.]

Mr. Cook asked about the 5City-TV area now having a studio, but wondering if that would still be available for use as a conference room? Mr. Bowen explained that it would be a more specialized area to keep the cameras there which would make it possible for there to be less moving of equipment back and forth between the two areas.

Ms. Seng noted that they had also discussed not having such a big area for the press at the back of the Council Chambers. It has been suggested that that area might be used for more storage space.

Mr. Cook stated that this configuration would assume a combined City-County receptionist at the entrance doors. Ms. Seng answered that is correct and is what was originally proposed when this building was built. Mr. Cook noted that the blue-print didn't include the information booth. Mr. Bowen explained that the information desk had been transferred to the Security area located near the front entrance.

Mr. Friendt asked if there would be no cafeteria? Ms. Seng explained the food service plan which had been discussed at last weeks "Noon" meeting.

2. MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (McRoy) Ms. McRoy reported that it had been a brief meeting. The Mayor came and shared with MAC some upcoming events and appointments to different committees. She noted that he had also shared some of the e-mail his office has received lately which were race-related.

There had also been an election of officers for the MAC.

3. BOARD OF HEALTH (Svoboda) Mr. Svoboda reported that the meeting had been somewhat lengthy with most of the time spent on the Animal Control Ordinance changes. The Board is reviewing the changes and further discussion was tabled until the next meeting by which time the Board Members will have had a chance to review the material.

He reported that a couple of highlights discussed were the 'pooper-scooper' law which is introduced in this legislation; and the other -the cat issue- was the one that took the majority of time. It was done in a very public manner - similar to the way the Department of Health handled the tattooing issue with a forum which included everybody involved. He felt that process had come up with very good ordinances. The changes proposed would allow for people to have up to 15 cats, but they would have a "cattery" license under a Special Permit. The other option would be to become licensed as breeders. A "cattery" would require that all the animals at the location would have to be altered; if they are licensed as a breeder, then there would be different criteria for the license.

The one thing Mr. Svoboda stated that he had asked the City Attorney to do was to draft legislation regarding the cat restraint ordinance. This would mirror, identically, the dog restraint ordinances. The attorney indicated that she would get that worked into the ordinance changes. Mr. Svoboda stated that he would more than likely introduce that as an amendment to the ordinance at the next Board meeting because all the calls he has received on this issue have dealt with cat restraint laws. This issue has been brought up a number of

times and dropped. The last time it was suggested as a potential ordinance change, it was dropped for “political purposes”. Mr. Svoboda indicated that he did not know what that term means, exactly - in this context, but that was what had been stated. He did not know why it would be ‘politically incorrect’ to do a cat restraining law now as opposed to any other time. He stated that he would introduce the bill, because that is what his callers on this matter have expressed their desire to be. They’re saying if a dog can’t run wild, then neither should a cat. He explained that these were not necessarily dog owners, but people who live next door to cat owners.

Mr. Bruce Dart had indicated to the Board that this would be a very difficult law to enforce, because you can’t find a cat like you can a dog. An at-large dog will come up to a person, but a cat will be more likely to hide or climb. But the people who have called to Mr. Svoboda’s office say they’d just like a law by which cat owners would be required to abide. Whether Animal Control would ever be able to catch a cat running at large is yet to be seen, but other communities do it.

Council discussion veered briefly to rabbit and squirrel control. Mr. Svoboda noted that there was also a change suggested for the ordinance that would ban the confinement of roosters as well. All of the issues that have come to the fore in the last year are now in these ordinance changes. The ordinances will more than likely be coming before Council in November or December.

Mr. Friendt asked for a listing of the cat owners in the City. Mr. Cook asked if that information could be broken down by district. [Laughter] Mr. Svoboda stated that Mr. Weverka can get that information for Council. Mr. Svoboda stated that the Health Director had just told him this morning that there is a much greater chance of getting an infection from a cat bite than from a dog bite. There are actually more reported cat bites than there are dog bites in any given year. So, cats are an issue that needs to be resolved.

Mr. Friendt noted that Mr. Svoboda’s political career may be ruined by addressing this issue. [Laughter]

Mr. Svoboda posed the question of whether or not Council would like to have another informational meeting (as was held last year) put on by the Health Department again this year. Council, with the assurance that the Awards Dinner and Annual Meeting would still be presented, concurred that such an informational meeting would be better presented every other year rather than on a yearly basis.

OTHER MEETINGS: None

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - Mr. Camp asked what the procedure was on the Community Health Endowment Appointments. He noted that there were some seats with terms that had expired and wondered if the hold-overs had full voting rights until a new appointee assumed that seat. Mr. Bowen noted, with concurrence by Mr. Morgan, that the incumbent maintained the seat with all voting rights until the new appointment was made. Mr. Roper affirmed that this was the accepted practice under the law. He noted that if there were people whose terms were expiring, names needed to be brought forward for appointment. The specifics of the current Health Endowment appointments were discussed briefly.

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - Mr. Bowen commented that he had two items for Council's consideration. He noted that in the next week or two, the Administration would have Jack Moors attending a "Noon" meeting to offer a Legislative Update on where we're going this next legislative session. Mr. Cook wondered, in relation to that, regarding the gas tax (which would be a legislative issue), if that would be an appropriate time for discussion on that issue as well. Mr. Bowen indicated that it would. *[Both of these issues would be considered material for Pre-Council Meetings...not "Noon" meeting discussion]*

Mr. Bowen's second comment concerned the Joint Omaha/Lincoln Meeting. He noted that it is Lincoln's turn to host the event this year. There had been discussion of having the Omaha City Council come to the County/City Building for the meeting, but Mahoney Park, which has been the standard meeting location for this event, was also mentioned. After discussion, it was Council's decision to have the Joint Meeting at Mahoney Park, as has been the standard practice. Mr. Bowen indicated that they would start making arrangements with Mahoney Park for the October meeting.

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted Without Significant Comment

VI. MISCELLANEOUS - Mr. Cook reported that the Time Schedule on the Solid Waste Ordinance has changed and asked if the Council would want to go ahead now with the Pre-Council currently scheduled for September 23rd? After brief discussion, Council determined to cut the time from one hour to one-half hour, but to continue with the pre-council as scheduled.

VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP - No Further Comments

JONATHAN COOK - Mr. Cook had comments regarding a letter to the editor of the newspaper on 9-12-02. Mr. Cook began to read the article: "Some time ago, I asked my City Council representative how I, Joe Ordinary, was to know before hand..." Ms. Seng asked if that was the one she had brought up earlier. Mr. Cook indicated that it was not. He stated that this letter was from Dick Pfifer who said that his Council Representative told him, when asked if he needed his own attorney to figure out City budget issues, he was told that "it wouldn't hurt". Mr. Cook asked which one of the Council Members said that? [There was such an outpouring of denial all around that it looked like an Egyptian delta.] Since Mr. Werner was not in attendance, it was determined that it must have been he who had made the comment*. Another possibility brought forward for consideration by one Council Member was, after having monitored many letters to the editor, his inclination was to believe that perhaps the author was simply in error. It was noted that constituents are *never* in error. However, it was determined that it might be *possible* that no City Council representative had made that statement.

*{*These minutes were amended by unanimous consensus of Council at the September 23, 2002 "Noon" Meeting to indicate that Mr. Werner had NOT made the comments facetiously attributed to him in this exchange - See "Council Members' "Noon" Meeting, September 23, 2002 at Page 1, MINUTES - Approved as Amended}*

GLENN FRIENDT -No Further Comments

ANNETTE McROY - No Further Comments

COLEEN SENG - Ms. Seng asked if any of the Council Members knew Jerry Henderson, who had been with the City for over 28 years in the Human Rights Department. She noted that he had died and wondered if it would be appropriate for the Council as a body to offer a gesture of condolences to the family. It was determined that, since only one other Council member knew Mr. Henderson, it would not be appropriate for the entire Council to participate in the offer of condolences.

Ms. Seng had another question regarding a County employee who was hospitalized. The Council discussed the issue briefly and it was decided that if the Council worked with an individual it would be appropriate to offer, as a body, a message of sympathy, but otherwise it would not be appropriate to do so.

Mr. Svoboda asked if Council would like to send a card to the family of the night janitor who had passed away. Council agreed that since he had worked directly for Council in their offices and at the night meetings, it would be appropriate to send a card in this instance.

Ms. Seng made a final comment that she had been to several neighborhood festivals. She noted that there had been one yesterday at the Whitehall Family Center which had been well attended.

KEN SVOBODA - No Further Comments

TERRY WERNER - Absent

ANN HARRELL - No Further Comments

KENT MORGAN - No Further Comments

MARK BOWEN - No Further Comments

DANA ROPER - Mr. Roper stated that he had been in error. He noted that the Kringles had *not* filed a claim against the Housing Authority. He had been thinking of the softball player who fell into the culvert who has filed a claim against the Airport Authority. So at this time, we only have *us* on the line for the little boy in the culvert. Upon questioning, Mr. Roper announced that he was sure that the Housing Authority would be "invited to the dance" at some time.

Ms. McRoy stated to Mr. Friendt that this was why she had not addressed this issue, because they had been advised, while the case was in litigation, not to make public comment.

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately 12:35 p.m.

cm091602/jvr