

**AGENDA FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2002
Immediately Following Director's Meeting
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

I. MINUTES

1. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for December 2, 2002.
2. Minutes of Director's Meeting for December 2, 2002.

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

1. Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development Investor's Meeting (Camp)
- 2.. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting (Cook)
3. Floodplain Task Force Meeting (Seng)

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - NONE

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - NONE

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

1. Discover How Cities and Counties are Surviving the Budget Crunch! – America's cities and counties are getting creative as they deal with massive revenue shortfalls. The leading management strategies pioneered by the nation's "Best-in-Class" municipalities will be explored at the 2003 City and County Innovations Summit, being hosted March 3-5, 2003 at the U.S. Grant Hotel in beautiful San Diego! --(See Invitation)
2. "2nd Annual DLA Holiday Party at the Rococo" - You and a guest are invited to join the downtown community in celebrating the season at a Holiday Open House at the historic Rococo Theatre at 13th & "P" Streets on Thursday, December 19th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Cash Bar & Light Hors d'oeuvres – (434-6900). (Please present the invitation at the door for admission)(See Invitation)

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

- **1. Discussion of hold message on Council phone system. — HELD OVER FROM THE NOVEMBER 18TH “NOON” AGENDA & HELD OVER FROM THE DECEMBER 2ND “NOON” AGENDA.**
- 2. Discussion on the “Fire Department Study”. (Requested by Jonathan Cook). — HELD OVER FROM THE DECEMBER 2ND “NOON” AGENDA.**

VII. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2002
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

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

Others Present: Mayor Don Wesely, Mark Bowen, Ann Harrell, Corrie Kielty, Mayor's Office; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Joan Ray, Council Secretary; Darrell Podany, Aide to Council Members Camp, Friendt and Svoboda; Nate Jenkins, Lincoln *Journal Star* representative.

I. MINUTES

1. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for December 2, 2002.
2. Minutes of Director's Meeting for December 2, 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 Annette McRoy and the minutes were approved as presented by unanimous consensus.

FIRE DEPARTMENT STUDY - Prior to the Reports, Mr. Cook requested the Mayor to come forward and begin the discussion on the Fire Department Study meeting that he had held with Council Members Camp, Svoboda and Werner on Wednesday, December 4th. [See Item 2 under Miscellaneous of these Minutes]

Mayor Wesely came forward and reported that what he had proposed then, and proposed today to the Council, was that instead of a Study focused on the Fire Issue alone, it should be a Public Safety Study, because the Police Department, over time, has fallen behind as the City has grown. Mayor Wesely added that, of course, that is also our concern with the Fire Department. The Mayor passed out to Council Members a written copy of his proposal. [Attached]

Mayor Wesely stated that he believed this Study would allow long-range planning for the City's emergency and security needs. He briefly reviewed the outlined proposal for the Council. He felt this in-depth study should take no longer than one year to complete. The consultant aspect of the study was set out with the thought that if we start with a local committee and experts looking at what information we have, they could determine, at any point, when and if they would need to bring in a consultant.

He noted that when the Infrastructure Study was being done, that was the process that was implemented. Instead of a consultant, an arbitrator was all that was necessary to finalize the report. Mayor Wesely thought if the Committee was allowed to get started, they could make any determinations that might be necessary regarding outside help in reaching conclusive goals for the community, in order to integrate their findings into a long term strategy for the City.

The one element which Mayor Wesley apologized to Council for omitting from the list of Committee representation was the Health Department. After a lengthy discussion wherein concerns of the various Council Members were brought to light, with the addition of the Health Department to the list of Committee representatives, the proposal was moved for acceptance and approval with Council direction to move forward. The motion was made by Terry Werner, seconded by Annette McRoy and passed by the following vote: AYES: Terry Werner, Coleen Seng, Jonathan Cook, Annette McRoy, Ken Svoboda; NAYS: None; ABSTAIN: Glenn Friendt, Jon Camp.

It was agreed that the legislation regarding a Fire Study which appears on the Formal Agenda for today's Council Meeting would be permanently withdrawn and the implementation of this proposal would be brought forward in its stead. It was agreed that Council would submit names for nomination to the committee to the Mayor's Office as soon as they had persons whose names they would want considered. The committee make-up would be considered at a future "Noon" meeting.

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

1. LINCOLN PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INVESTOR'S MEETING (Camp) - Mr. Camp reported that it had been a good meeting. He passed out material to Council which had been taken from the website of the Angelou Economics group out of Austin, TX. Review of this material had comprised most of the meeting. [The material included a survey which Council Members were encouraged to complete] Mr. Camp noted that the attitude of the Angelou group was a "take charge" style that showed a time-frame that challenged the community to be pro-active in the economic recovery process. He stated that there should be local people involved in the program to "sell" Lincoln in the greater world economy arena.

Mr. Camp felt that whatever economic development track we take, we need to be sure to work from within. Sometimes there is this thought that you go out and give more to outside entities and forget your own homegrown talents and businesses. Basically, this group's message seems to be that economic development starts at home. The information gathered from the survey at this site will be used to further a pro-active economic strategy for future use - (website: <http://www.angeloueconomics.com/>) .

Mr. Camp reported that in Austin, TX -a city comparable to Lincoln as being a capital city with a major university- has a SWAT Team approach to the economic development process. If there are groups coming into the City, the Governor's mansion is contacted - even within hours of the arrival - and meetings are arranged with community business leaders to facilitate and encourage economic growth and influence its direction.

The favorability of luring high-tech industries into a community was discussed briefly in connection with the Angelou group. Mr. Friendt noted that, in keeping with the spirit of this group, there is a movement in Lincoln now to get all of the soft-ware companies that have started up in Lincoln together to begin a dialogue on long-range visions for the community.

2.. PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD (Cook) Mr. Cook reported that there had been a review of the East Downtown Community Park and Trago Park Expansions. Mr. Cook felt most of the Council Members had seen the various maps and materials showing the trails involved in that. There had also been a review of the Pioneers

Park Nature Center Master Plan with the potential road that would go through to the other side of the Park -which would run it through some prairie land. This might be somewhat controversial, but they had wanted to position the road for the possible expansion of the golf course. But now the golf course may not ever be expanded, so that is an idea whose time may have passed.

The Board voted to recommend an ordinance change that will be coming before the Council soon. The ordinance will reference park hours. The changes would change the park hours of 6:00 a.m. - 12:00 midnight to 5:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. The thought behind this was that many people may want to use the park early in the morning, jogging or whatever, with fewer people utilizing the parks in the late evening hours - which might be considered a more trouble-inducing time period. These times would all be during Day Light Savings Time. During the remainder of the year, the hours would be from 7:00 a.m. - sunset.

The other major change would be to make the community recreation trails open 24-hours per day - wherever they are -except those running through park grounds. This would be treating them like streets, essentially, rather than like park land.

The Board also appointed a new Chair and Vice-Chair at this meeting. Bob Ripley will be the Chair and the Vice-Chair will be Dennis Scheer.

Ms. Seng noted that there might be a second BMX park located near 84th Street (North). She reported that the minutes indicated that there had also been an anonymous donation of free land to Peter Pan Park.

3. FLOODPLAIN TASK FORCE MEETING (Seng) Ms. Seng reported that they're getting down to the nitty-gritty of it all. She noted that there had been a questionnaire sent out to the Task Force Members to give them the opportunity to share their opinions. The Heartland Center is the facilitator for this group. She warned that there seem to be a lot of big, broad policy issues that will be dumped in Council's lap one of these days soon. - Be prepared!

Ms. Seng noted that much of Old Lincoln had been built along river fronts and along railroad lines, but now these are places that we don't want to be. So, this is just a "heads up" for Council.

OTHER MEETINGS: - Mr. Cook called for the RTSD Meeting report from the meeting that had been held this morning. Ms. Seng reported that there had been an update on the 3rd and "A" Street area. The Salt Creek - Bridge had been discussed as well as the Firth Overpass and the South 68th Street area. Mr. Cook stated that the Firth Bridge would be just one structure and the Southwest 40th Overpass will be a huge project which would create a tremendous increase in traffic in the area.

Ms. Seng encouraged all Council Members to drive the area so when this project comes forward, they would have the lay of the land in their heads. She noted that there are a great number of railroad crossings in addition to the creek in that area. She told Council that the County had held up any decisions on the bridge until the City and the RTSD had made a determination on the Southwest 40th Street project. The funding for an overpass would probably come through the Railroad Transportation Safety District coffers.

Mr. Werner reported that he had been involved in getting a group together which included, along with himself, a medical doctor he had met through the Shadowing Program, and Randy Jones, as well as someone from the Bryan Foundation. They had discussed getting the portable defibrillators (AEDs) for the Lincoln community. There were other meetings that also included some people from Lancaster County Medical Society, EMS, Inc. and the Health Department. Mr. Werner stated that there were a lot of groups out there doing stuff with AEDs, but what we're missing is the hub to coordinate all of these activities. He explained that the doctor's experience in other areas of the country had been that this is done through the community Health Department, which is why we included them in the second meeting. Mr. Werner noted that the whole project has taken on a life of its own, is progressing and is a very positive thing.

Mr. Werner stated that he had discussed this with Ken because he is the Council's representative on the Health Board. Mr. Werner stated that he will make certain the Mr. Svoboda is invited to all the meetings.

Mr. Cook asked why the coordination was so important? Mr. Werner stated that there are many groups trying to provide the units to the community, yet there is not a strategy in place - or even an educational program. There are a lot of turf issues because of the many entities involved.

Mr. Svoboda asked if there wouldn't be liability issues involved. Mr. Werner stated that those were issues that this group would address. He noted that they were trying to come up with funding to staff someone -perhaps at the Health Department, perhaps only on a part-time basis- for such a coordinating position.

Mr. Werner also reported that DayWatch was proceeding on to a new location. A lease has been signed. They are using tax credits to fund the rent. It's a larger, more expensive place, but because of the tax credit use, it will end up saving DayWatch over the long run. Mr. Friendt asked if they were State, local or Federal tax credits? Mr. Werner indicated that he thought they were Federal tax credits.

Mr. Werner reported that he also had a Transportation group that had been meeting over the past year to discuss transportation issues. They have put together some recommendations for the Comprehensive Plan Study. He noted that they were meeting with Marvin Krout, who has a copy of the recommendations, this coming Wednesday evening.

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - NONE

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - Mr. Bowen passed out the EMS medical report to the Council Members for their review.

He also presented them with the parking information that he felt he should have given to Council Members last week. He noted that this was information on how much has been ticketed, and what the trend is - whether toward ticketing more or ticketing less. Mr. Bowen stated that it appeared that they are ticketing no more than normal, but are towing more than is normal. He reported that the marketing for the Haymarket garage had also been discussed.

Mr. Bowen noted that on today's formal Council Agenda, there was a resolution setting the Mayor's salary for the next four years, which is required by City Charter and must be done this month. Mr. Bowen stated that the Administration has recommended a freeze on the Mayor's salary for the next four years.

Mr. Camp asked if he and Mr. Friendt should abstain from the vote on this issue. Mr. Roper answered that they would not be required to do so because it is a speculative interest only, and as such does not pose a conflict of interest.

Mr. Cook asked where the Budget Retreat would be held. Mr. Bowen indicated that it would be held in the Mayor's Conference Room. [The time and date will be Thursday, December 19, 2002 from 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. The location is the Mayor's Conference Room] It was decided that each Council Member would be responsible for his/her own lunch. Mr. Bowen asked, for a final confirmation, if this was intended to be mainly a philosophic look at the budget rather than a practical, numbers oriented discussion. Council confirmed that this was to be a philosophic discussion of the budget process.

Mr. Cook asked which Council Member had been chosen to sit on the interview committee for the selection of the Aging Director. He was reminded that Mr. Svoboda had been selected by the Council for that duty at last week's "Noon" meeting.

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted Without Significant Comment

VI. MISCELLANEOUS -

- **1. Discussion of 'hold message' on Council phone system. - Carry Over to Next "Noon" Meeting (12-09-02) - Council determined that the message would be re-installed on the Council phone system as long as there was no charge to the Council and the message was always merely informational and never political.
2. Discussion on the "Fire Department Study". After a meeting with the Mayor last week, Mr. Svoboda, Mr. Werner and Mr. Camp reported to the other Council Members in discussion, which included input from Mayor Wesely (See Pages 1 and 2 "Fire Department Study" of these Minutes]

VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS -

JON CAMP - No Further Comments

JONATHAN COOK - Mr. Cook suggested that the Council Members who had not been present for the discussion last week about the proposed law effecting billboard changes should contact their governor to tell him it is a bad idea to propose a change of State Law that would allow more billboards along interstates.

Mr. Cook had a final question regarding the debates that had been going on at the formal Council meetings. He wanted to see if the other Council Members had any problems with the way those meetings were being conducted (giving everybody an opportunity to talk - back and forth - and not refusing anyone by telling them that they'd had their chance and would not be allowed to speak again). No one had any problems with the current procedures, but Mr. Friendt had an observation. He noted that at times, a couple of our Council Members end up getting into more discussion with the public than he felt would be desirable.

Council agreed that during the voting session *was* the appropriate time for their comments and philosophic discussions. Mr. Cook noted that someone had complained that the Council had any discussion at all during the voting session. It was agreed that, in the past, Councils had been accused of doing just that....merely voting aye or nay with no discussion

GLENN FRIENDT - Mr. Friendt asked if the City/County Innovations Summit being held in San Diego in March was covered by Council Members' Discretionary Funds. Mr. Roper stated that it would be.

ANNETTE McROY - Ms. McRoy announced that she would be ringing the Salvation Army Christmas Bells at the 48th and "R" Streets Target Store on Friday, December 13th at 11:00 a.m. She encouraged the Council Members who felt like giving during this holiday season to stop by and give to someone they trusted.

Ms. Seng commented that she would be ringing the bells on December 20th at the Gateway Mall.

COLEEN SENG - Ms. Seng brought forward the issue of the required adjustment to the Council [Office] Budget which needed to be addressed. It was agreed that discussion on this issue would be arranged sometime in the near future.

KEN SVOBODA - No Further Comments

TERRY WERNER - No Further Comments

MARK BOWEN - No Further Comments

ANN HARRELL - No Further Comments

CORRIE KIELTY - No Further Comments

DANA ROPER - Mr. Roper stated that he had checked with the State Accountability and Disclosure Department last week when Annette declared a conflict of interest on the creation of an Alley Paving District because it was on a street where she lived. The Accountability and Disclosure Office stated that because she rents and there is nothing else in the factual mix that would affect her decision, she doesn't have a conflict of interest and she may vote. The premise was speculative only.

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately 1:04 p.m.

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