AGENDA FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS’ “NOON” MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2003
Immediately Following Director’s Meeting
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

I. MINUTES


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

1. RTSD Board Meeting (Cook/Friendt/Svoboda)
2. Homeless Coalition Meeting (Newman)
3. Citizen’s Meeting (Newman)

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - NONE

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - NONE

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

1. Antelope Valley Public Information Meeting on Tuesday, June 24, 2003 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - Open House at Agriculture Hall, State Fair Park and Whittier School Tours at 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - (See Invitation)

2. E-Mail Invitation from Chris Giglio - National League of Cities December Conference in Nashville - (See E-Mail)

3. You are invited to attend an Information Open House - Pine Lake Road Roadway Improvements - S. 40th Street to S. 59th Street and S. 56th Street - Madalyn Road-to Red Rock Lane - on Wednesday, June 25, 2003 from 5:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. at Scott Middle School, 2200 Pine Lake Road - Project Overview Presentation 5:30 p.m. – (See Invitation)
4. The Lincoln Chamber of Commerce would like to invite you to the following ribbon cuttings:
   A.) Midland Recycling on Wednesday, July 16, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. at 4th & “J” Streets

   - RSVP to Tera Pugh at 436-2355 or E-Mail.

5. E-Mail Invitation - Special Preview of the Lakeside Festival of Homes - 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, June 20, 2003 - Heritage Lakes, 95th & Pine Lake Road - Ribbon Cutting at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Coleen Seng. (E-Mailed to Council Members on June 19th)(See Invitation)

VI. MISCELLANEOUS - NONE

VII. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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Council Members Present: Jon Camp, Chair; Terry Werner, Vice-Chair; Glenn Friendt, Annette McRoy, Patte Newman, Ken Svoboda; ABSENT: Jonathan Cook

Others Present: Mark Bowen, Mayor’s Office; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Joan Ray, Council Secretary; Darrell Podany, Aide to Council Members Camp, Friendt and Svoboda

I. MINUTES


Chair Jon Camp requested a motion to approve the above-listed minutes. Ken Svoboda moved approval of the minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Terry Werner and the minutes were approved as presented by unanimous consensus of the Council members present.

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

1. RTSD (Cook/Friendt/Svoboda) No Quorum Present - Meeting Cancelled

2. HOMELESS COALITION (Newman) Ms. Newman reported that, just as Mr. Werner had indicated it would be, the meeting had been absolutely wonderful,. There had been discussion of a couple of grants. Ms. Newman reported that Matt Talbot is part of the Blueprint Project. They will do a vision improvement project - providing glasses for some of their clients. They’re teaming with DayWatch, Fresh Start and City Mission, and Adams Street Center is providing medical transportation for the program.

Ms. Newman informed Council that there is a three-year grant which will be funding a mental health male diversion project similar to the drug court where they can help some of the people get released into the new mental health system. There will be two case workers working on that.

St. Monica’s just got a million dollar grant that will provide out-patient service for 13-18 year-olds whose parents or schools, or possibly Cedars, make referrals.

She stated that the homeless population in Lincoln is down from 1800 to 1400 this Spring. Mr. Friendt asked how the community kept track of the homeless. Ms. Newman answered that the City’s Urban Development Department did that tracking. Ms. McRoy added that a couple of agencies in cooperation with the Police Department do a survey twice a year involving a sweep and numbers compilation.

3. CITIZEN’S MEETING (Newman) Ms. Newman reported that at her first citizens’ meeting, about 15 people showed up. Kent Morgan discussed the amendments to the Comp Plan. She noted that the meeting had been very fruitful and everyone had enjoyed it.
OTHER MEETINGS - None

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - None

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - Mr. Bowen stated that a letter regarding AmeriCorp had been sent directly to the President last week. Mayor Seng ended up choosing to send it to President Bush since a solution will require supplemental appropriations. What is most likely to come through is one that the President is going to request on behalf of Defense funding. Since he has been a very outspoken supporter of AmeriCorp, it seemed best to contact the President to urge him to resolve it that way.

You probably saw the articles between Congressman Bereuter’s letter and the editorial on AmeriCorp. AmeriCorp does have an internal struggle going on within itself. And, then, within the Administration - between the Budget Office and their own Accounting Office, who is responsible for the problem that happened right now. Mr. Bowen noted that the Congressional delegation has a copy of our letter. You’ve seen comments from both Senator Nelson and Congressman Bereuter. They are actively aware of it and are both trying to resolve it.

Mr. Bowen continued, commenting that the other thing....we talked more about the budget “tab” [Journal Star insert]. He stated that he felt they had a solution for many of the concerns expressed by Council members on this matter. He reported that they would not do the old insert style used last time. They will purchase the inside four pages of the “Neighborhood Extra” section of the Saturday newspaper. This will be the budget flier. It will be advertised on the front page - that the Budget information can be found in the Neighborhood Extra section. It is slightly smaller than the former eight-page budget inserts. It will save about $3,000.00. The cost will be just under $7,000 for a four color print-out. The distribution will be a little higher. The big benefit is that this will change the dead-line on when the information is due. This will allow us to get the Council changes into the flier document before it’s introduced for public hearing. This will go to print on July 28th. The Council’s budget hearings will wind up on July 21st, so this should work out well.

Council Members thanked the administration for this response to their concerns. They asked if there would be extra copies of the four page insert for Council use. Mr. Bowen stated that they would always order extra [for Council, Staff and] for distribution at whatever meetings there might be. Mr. Werner asked that there be sufficient advertising to let the public know this would be the procedure used this year, so the City could not be accused of “hiding” the budget insert in the Neighborhood Extra section of the paper.

Mr. Bowen asked Council if they would need more time for the 3:15 Pre-Council’s Part II of the Infrastructure Pre-Council. Discussion ensued which resulted in all of the Pre-Council’s currently scheduled for June 30th to be moved to July 7th. This included the Part II Infrastructure Financing - which will be allotted 45 minutes.

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted Without Significant Comment

VI. MISCELLANEOUS - None
VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS -

JON CAMP - No Further Comments

JONATHAN COOK - Not in Attendance

GLENN FRIENDT - No Further Comments

ANNETTE McROY - Ms. McRoy asked if they had decided on what to do with the Public Policy Comments. Mr. Camp answered that he has just announced at the meeting that changes would be implemented. Ms. McRoy asked if those changes would take effect today. Mr. Camp asked for Mr. Roper, because Mr. Roper had been concerned that there might need to be an ordinance change before any changes to the open mike portion of the Council Meetings were implemented.

Mr. Werner [who had been absent for last week’s discussion on this issue] asked what they had decided to do? Mr. Camp answered that the suggestion was to go to pre-signing, but in the event that they had not pre-signed, someone could speak one minute with additional time granted at the Council’s discretion.

Discussion continued with the decision to leave the open mike portion of the meeting as it stands for today’s meeting. Mr. Camp asked if there was concurrence to go to pre-registration then give a two minute time limit to those not pre-registered to speak. He felt since that would only be altering the time limit, it should not take an ordinance amendment. It was suggested that the open mike portion of the meeting not be televised and leave the rules the same. Mr. Friendt felt that would be the easiest, simplest approach. Mr. Werner noted that they would have to adjourn first if the did not televise the open mike, because the ordinance states that the agreement is for “gavel to gavel” coverage.

Mr. Roper came into the meeting at this point and Mr. Camp asked him if Council needed an Ordinance change to make changes in the format of the Formal Council Meetings. Mr. Roper answered that he thought Council would want to amend the ordinance because of the language in the ordinance that states “no person shall be allowed to speak for more than five minutes”. He thought people would insist that they were entitled to their “five minutes”. Just to foreclose that argument, we should do an ordinance change. When the ordinance had public hearing, everyone would have an opportunity to give their input on the issue. He felt that, then, it would have all taken place in a public forum with public discussion of the open mike policy.

Discussion continued on this issue for some time. A final decision was made that there would be no ‘open mike’ period at the up-coming public hearing on the City’s Budget and there would be five minutes allotted for each speaker “on the budget”...not five minutes on each category of the budget. This would require each citizen to focus on his/her most important issue and to be organized in his/her presentation. Council Members agreed that this would be a good format.

Mr. Svoboda asked if changing the schedule of the Council meetings [i.e. having two night meetings per month rather than one] would require an ordinance revision? Mr. Roper stated that it would not. It was requested that Council Staff check into the costs of having staff on hand for more than one night meeting per month.

Mr. Werner asked if it were required by statute to have the open mike at every Council Meeting. Mr. Roper answered that the Open Meetings Law requires that people get to comment, but not necessarily at every meeting. So, if the night meetings were chosen as a time of no open mike, or open mike only at night meetings, it could be done. Council agreed that the night meetings were where there should be open mike time - when most people can come and address the Council.

A final decision on changes to the conduct of Formal Council Meetings was left pending.
PATTE NEWMAN - No Further Comments
KEN SVOBODA - No Further Comments
TERRY WERNER - No Further Comments
MARK BOWEN - No Further Comments
DANA ROPER - No Further Comments

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately 1:05 p.m.