

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 14 , 2004
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

Council Members Present: Terry Werner, Chair; Ken Svoboda, Vice-Chair; Jon Camp, Jonathan Cook, Glenn Friendt, Annette McRoy, Patte Newman; *ABSENT:* None

Others Present: Mark Bowen, Ann Harrell, 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 from Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of June 7, 2004.
2. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Lincoln Wastewater System Capital Improvement Projects Status Update - April 12, 2004.

Chair Werner requested a motion to approve the above-listed minutes. Ken Svoboda moved approval of the minutes, as presented, by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Glenn Friendt and carried by unanimous consensus of the Council Members.

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

1. PUBLIC BUILDING COMMISSION (Camp/Cook) Mr. Camp commented that he had only been in attendance for a short time and then had to leave to attend a funeral, so Mr. Cook, who was able to attend the entire meeting, gave the report. Mr. Cook stated that they had authorized the bond for the Health Department and had voted "yes" on the Clark-Enersen architect contract. Part of that deal is that the City has to use 5% of this bond amount within a year and we wanted to move on the issuance of bonds because of the interest rate issue. The amount paid to Clark-Enersen will be just enough to cover this 5%.

Chamber Chair Replacement: Mr. Cook reported that they had voted on new chairs, which elicited mild rejoicing among Council Members. He stated that they had purchased orange ones in a bouncy stool design, a comment that momentarily dampened the joyous spirit of the moment. However, his comment was proven facetious, as he went on to report the following: Nine, high-back chairs with blue fabric had been purchased for the dais as well as four Aeron Chairs for Staff, (which was the reason we had initiated the chair purchase in the first place...as the Commission reminded Mr. Workman who wondered if they might not keep the current staff chairs, or utilize something cheaper). PBC hadn't purchased the leather covering, which was \$160.00 more per chair. Some of the PBC Members didn't like the cost of the leather; some thought the leather would be slippery and, as we began slouching in our seats, feared we might fall out. [Smiles] Mr. Camp asked if there had been discussion on purchasing black chairs instead of the blue? Mr. Cook explained that the blue was chosen because we already have these blue chairs [those being utilized in Conference Room 113] and if we ever need to add more chairs at the dais, we would have a match.

Mr. Cook continued, reporting on the Chamber/Conference Room Monitor Update: We may now get both a 15" and a 20-21" monitor, because Bob Workman wants to see about the small/large monitors. Some of us would like to see more small monitors, so we can look at items more closely. We'll try them both. We had to agree to buy a scan converter first, because that may not be returnable. Bill Luxford said he could use one anyway. Mr. Friendt asked if anyone had talked about just making our current monitors work on a regular basis? Mr. Cook laughed and reported that they had not.

Mr. Cook further reported that they had denied an RV the opportunity to use two parking spots all the time in the North Parking facility. Bins have been added for plastic recycling in the County City Building. Mr. Werner asked where the bins would be located. Mr. Roper commented that they would be placed on every floor in this building.

Mr. Cook reported that there had been discussion about the Parking Task Force. They had discussed whether or not there would be paid parking and if the employees would be required to pay. We did ask Don Taute [Personnel Director] to research all of the personnel issues that might be involved with that. When we have contracts with unions (wherein parking may be an issue), we need to know all of that information before we make any kind of decision or even appoint a Task Force - so we'll wait for that report from Mr. Taute.

Mr. Cook concluded his report with the following information: they had also discussed the 3rd Floor and the need, perhaps, for a larger conference room up there. The possibility of setting up some type of studio in that area had also been discussed - but it has *all* just been in the discussion stage at this point. We discussed the 3rd Floor expansion at the Cable Advisory Board meeting the next day, to make sure that the City had that covered. The Franchise Agreement does cover the possibility of our needing equipment on the 3rd Floor since this expansion is something that had always been envisioned. That's about it for the PBC report.

2. ISPC (Camp) Mr. Camp stated that the meeting will be held this week.
3. MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (McRoy) - Ms. McRoy did not attend - No Report
4. BOARD OF HEALTH (Svoboda) Mr. Svoboda reported that they had a meeting but no action was taken. They had received an update on the Hallam Disaster. Mr. Svoboda noted that he was very proud of our Health Department and their ability to respond very quickly. He noted that Animal Control had been, next to the Sheriff's Deputies, the first ones on the scene...which Mr. Svoboda thought was just great. They had a power point presentation, which, unfortunately they narrated for us at the Board of Health Meeting. Mr. Svoboda had requested that they put narration to the presentation and talk to Bill Luxford about actually airing that on Channel 5, because it was a very good display of how we work together with all of the different agencies at the City, County, State and Federal levels. It was an eye-opener. But, there was no action taken by the Board at this meeting.

Ms. Newman commented that she had given Mr. Bruce Dart a copy of an article from the Omaha *World-Herald* which recorded the observations of a weather reporter who was in Hallam covering the storm. He had reported that the most amazing thing he had ever seen was an Animal Control officer with a bunch of dogs on a leash, walking them in the hope that the owners would be able to find them - and there were some amazing reunions.

OTHER MEETINGS -Mr. Cook reported on the RTSD Meeting held this morning, so they would not have to address this at a future meeting. He noted that they had approved the budget, which had not included anything for our 3rd & "F" Street Underpass, although Mr. Cook had asked about it. He noted that Mr. Workman is very much against that project. He thought that Mr. Workman had lead the charge in the first place to take it out of the RTSD budget.

Some contracts had been approved. The major event had been appointing Roger Figard as the Executive Director of the RTSD. Mr. Cook commented that Mr. Figard had thought that he was the Executive Director for the past several years....but actually, technically, he never was. So, now he is officially so titled. Mr. Friendt asked if they hadn't also elected new officers. Mr. Cook responded that they had. Ms. Deb Schorr is now the Chair of the RTSD; Mr. Ken Svoboda is Vice-Chair; and Mr. Workman is the Secretary.

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - None

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - Mr. Bowen reported that there had been discussion about the RTSD moving certain maintenance into the City Budget a couple of years ago. As we're looking at the budget with great scrutiny, we're looking to see if they can take it back. We continue to work on the budget. If any Council Members have ideas or thoughts/concerns on the subject, we will talk to any of you anytime about the budget. We're always trying to find ways to cut back and find ways to save more money. Call anytime you have an idea you want to share.

Mr. Bowen reported that the SRT did meet again this morning. The Steering Committee is on track to deliver their report sometime by the end of next week. We'll have a better idea by the end of this week on the time-line and where they are with their final language. We'll make sure Council receives a copy of their final report as quickly as possible. The Mayor has stated that she wants to use whatever they are going to suggest as part of what she will present in her State of the City message concerning the budget issues.

Mr. Camp mentioned Mr. Bill Austin's Op-Ed piece in yesterday's newspaper on the bonds not being a funding source. He asked if he was correct in assuming that the bond portion would then be amortized through increased property taxes? That's the normal process, have we considered... Mr. Bowen stated that it would be a standard GO Bond. It would go to the people and they would determine whether it would pass or not. Then, if it passes, a portion of that would go toward adding to the levy. Mr. Camp commented "to property, only".

Mr. Werner stated that the SRT Committee has been clear that the bond would be only a portion of the solution that they're looking at and there are other options that they'd like the City to consider. Mr. Camp commented that he was just trying to clarify the point, noting that Bill Austin had been trying to distinguish a new funding source vs. [inaudible]. Mr. Bowen commented that the new revenue source is what Mr. Werner is referring to, which is the on-going part to help close the rest of the gap....and the bond issue is only being referenced in the \$70,000,000 range.

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted Without Significant Comment.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS - None

VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS -

JON CAMP - No Further Comments

JONATHAN COOK - No Further Comments

GLENN FRIENDT - No Further Comments

ANNETTE MCROY -Ms. McRoy commented that she had seen Ms. Elaine Hammer at the Cornhusker State Games Dinner on Thursday. She had talked about the 27th Street Pedestrian/Bicycle Over-Pass. Ms. McRoy wondered how the negotiations with the lumber company were going on that project?. Mr. Roper indicated that he hadn't heard anything lately on that issue. Mr. Bowen stated that they would investigate that issue and check with the City Attorney's Office, and get an update to Council as soon as possible.

PATTE NEWMAN - No Further Comments

KEN SVOBODA -No Further Comments

TERRY WERNER - No Further Comments

MARK BOWEN - No Further Comments

ANN HARRELL - No Further Comments

DANA ROPER - No Further Comments

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately 11:53 p.m.

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