AGENDA FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS’ “NOON” MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2004
CONFERENCE ROOM 113

I. MINUTES


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

*1. Citizen’s Meeting (Newman)
2. Internal Liquor Committee Meeting (McRoy/Newman/Svoboda)
3. PRT Meeting (Newman)
4. Officials Committee Meeting (Svoboda/Werner)
5. PBC-Special Meeting- (Camp/Cook)

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - To Be Announced

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - To Be Announced

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

1. Open House at Gallup’s Downtown Interviewing Center - Enjoy hors d’oeuvres & networking while learning about Gallup’s solutions to crucial business challenges; see cutting-edge management techniques which improve interviewing productivity; visit with managers & tour the interviewing center (RSVP by 08-06-04 458-2023)

2. 2004 Governor’s Summit - on Workforce Development - November 9th & 10th, The Cornhusker Hotel

3. 34th Annual Legislative Conference - September 8-11, 2004, Washington DC Convention Center (Brochure in Council Office)

4. Lancaster County Fair - Lancaster County Fair Board Invites you to attend a VIP Luncheon for Community Leaders. Luncheon to be held during the fair on Thursday, August 5, at Noon between Pavilion 2 and 3 in the large Fair Tent (See enclosed map)
5. Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department - Downtown Master Plan Community Workshop. Tuesday, August 10, 2004 at 5:30 p.m. (Presentation at 5:30 followed by small group discussions. Place - Cornhusker Conference Center - 313 So. 13th Street.

6. Parks & Recreation Department - Dedication of Lincoln’s Newest Neighborhood Park AND the Near South Neighborhood Associations’ Ice Cream Social. Sunday, August 15, 2004 (Dedication at 1:00 p.m. - Ice Cream Social following. Location: 19th & “A” Streets

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

*1. Discussion on CIVILITY - (Requested by Ken Svoboda)

2. Will December 13th be the day Council would prefer for the Board of Equalization for Public Works’ Assessment Districts? (See E-mail from Elmer Cole)

VII. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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, Corrie Kielty, Mayor’s Office; Rick Peo, City Attorney’s Office; Joan Ray, Council Secretary; Darrell Podany, Aide to Council Members Camp, Friendt and Svoboda; Nate Jenkins, Lincoln Journal Star representative

I  MINUTES


Chair Werner requested a motion to approve the above-listed minutes. Jonathan Cook moved approval of the minutes as presented. Ken Svoboda seconded the motion which carried by unanimous consent of the Council Members.

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

*1. CITIZEN’S MEETING (Newman) Ms. Newman reported that there had been 26 citizens there to hear Don Herz and Steve Hubka of the Finance Department discuss the Budget. Marc Wullenschleger (Director, Urban Development Department) and Lynn Johnson (Director, Parks & Recreation Department) were also in attendance. The interesting thing about the meeting was that when the question was posed to the constituents about whether or not, if the vote were held today, they would vote in favor of the bond, about two-thirds of them raised their hands.

2. INTERNAL LIQUOR COMMITTEE (McRoy/Newman/Svoboda) Ms. Newman reported that NU Directions had a report coming forward. She also reported that the ILC, in the spirit of cooperation between State and Local governing bodies, invited Hobert Rupe of the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission to begin attending the ILC meetings.

3. PRT (Newman) Ms. Newman reported that there was a problem property with a great deal of junk in the yard. The resident is an 80 year-old widow. Apparently, the Lincoln Action Program got out there to help her clean it up, but they wanted the dump fees waived in order to do it. So, that is what the PRT’s little bit of money will be used for. Ms. Newman commented that it is good that there are groups out there, like the Lincoln Action Program, that we can use to get the youth involved in community service.
4. OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEETING (Svoboda/Werner) Mr. Werner was out of town and therefore unable to attend. Mr. Svoboda, who had attended the meeting, reported that there really wasn’t much to report. He observed that most of the Council Members [in their capacity as Council Chair] had attended these meetings and knew that there was little to report.

5. PBC-Special Meeting- (Camp/Cook) Mr. Cook reported that the PBC acted to approve the issuance of the bonds for the Health Department. So, it is done - the final step - and it’s on its way. Mr. Camp added that they thought it would be about 4.65% interest rate buying for a twenty-year period. Mr. Cook stated that they get a rating that is an average between the County and the City. The City’s rating is really great; the County rating is “okay”….so we get [a rate] that is okay. Mr. Werner asked when construction would begin. Mr. Cook didn’t believe they had discussed a time-line.

Mr. Camp added that the PBC Members had received a copy of the letter from the County Sheriff’s Office, noting in passing, that the part-time people staffing the Hall of Justice are going to go full-time. There may be some minor financial impact that Mr. Camp would be monitoring and he would keep the Council members posted on the issue.

Ms. McRoy commented that she had noted that the [parking garage] gates were up and wondered when and how the access would be set up. Mr. Cook answered that his preference would be to have some kind of indicator showing that, in fact, our cards work….cards that we could try out for a few weeks ahead of time. They plan to send notices to everybody to let them know when and how [the gates will be activated]. Mr. Cook noted that there are still some people who need passes who don’t have them yet….so it may be some weeks before the gates become operational.

Mr. Bowen noted that the ID’s that Council Members had received about a year ago to enter the 911 doors in the Hall of Justice should operate the new gates also. There was also discussion on exactly how the cards would be used for access. This will be reviewed further at the next PBC Commission. Mr. Werner noted that he had talked with a member of the security committee today and he had stated that it would be operational after the Labor Day Week-end. Ms. Ray commented that she, too, had spoken with Mr. Diegel and he had indicated the gates would be operational sometime after the Labor Day week-end. He had stated that the security ID’s that had been issued to the Council Members earlier would be their passes into the parking garage. Council discussed, very briefly, other possible options for entry access, including the option of micro-chips being placed in the forehead of each Council Member, which, it was thought, would certainly be the most expedient option.

[Humor]

OTHER MEETINGS - None

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - Ms. Kielty handed out the proposed Appointments/Reappointments scheduled through the month of October. [See attached copy]
IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - Mr. Bowen had two issues - one being Budget and the other being the smoking reconsideration and that issue’s possible ballot placement. (Introduction and possible dates of ballot placement, including the introduction of the referendum issue resolution - scheduled for next week). Then it would be held over for a week and on the 23rd everyone would be in attendance for the vote.

Mr. Svoboda asked if Council wasn’t setting the date today? Mr. Bowen answered that they wouldn’t have to set the date today. But, that would be discussion that we’ve had in terms of making sure everyone was here. Mr. Cook commented that Council would indicate which election we’d want as part of the schedule on the actual vote for the ballot. It could be introduced on the 16th. Mr. Bowen thought Council would prefer introduction on the 9th to have extra time for consideration. Mr. Werner asked at what point the motion would be made today - at the end of our voting session? Mr. Cook answered that it would be then, when we get to that point on the agenda.

Mr. Cook further stated that it was up to the Council Members if they want to simply make a single motion that directs the City Attorney on what action to take. If, in fact, we were to put it on the ballot, then the City Attorney would follow that direction and place it on our Agenda next week. a Resolution with the ballot language.

Mr. Friendt asked if everyone had received the communication from Mr. Radcliff and asked if Mr. Radcliff had a valid point in that message. Everyone had received a copy of the message which indicated that the only time this issue could be on the ballot would be next May - the next General City Election. It was noted that the City Charter says that it would have to be on a City Election ballot - not a General Election. It was also noted that it could be on a Special Election ballot as well. Mr. Svoboda commented that there could be a Special Election called on the same day in November as the General Election is held. Mr. Rick Peo, in attendance from the City Attorney’s Office, indicated that the interpretation is that the Special Election could be held along with the General November Election; otherwise, it would have to be held to the next City Election - [which would be in May, 2005].

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted Without Significant Comment

VI. MISCELLANEOUS -

*1. Discussion on CIVILITY - (Requested by Ken Svoboda) Mr. Svoboda stated that he thought what happened two weeks ago [at the Council meeting on that date] was rather disgusting. He observed that Council Members continue to have this constant debate amongst ourselves where we’re calling each other names; we’re throwing out political end-bombs that just serve absolutely no purpose at all. For the last two weeks, he has heard nothing on KLIN but the clip of that exchange - dozens of times a day. It is used as a “filler” - as a joke, with the point being “This is what your Lincoln City Council is doing”. He has heard it over and over....Jon’s comments, Terry’s comments, Glenn’s comments.

Mr. Svoboda felt it was just beyond belief that Council Members act like this. He admonished his colleagues, stating that “If you have no respect for each other, that’s one thing, but at least have respect for the position that you were elected to. We have to stop this and stop it now”.

Mr. Werner ‘thanked’ Mr. Svoboda for his comments and asked if there were any other comments. Mr. Camp stated that he would refer people to [inaudible] e-mail that Mr. Camp had sent out in the packets. There were no other comments.
2. Will December 13th be the day Council would prefer for the Board of Equalization for Public Works' Assessment Districts? - After a brief discussion, the December 13th date was accepted unanimously by Council as a preferred date for the BOE.

VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS -

JON CAMP - No Further Comments

JONATHAN COOK - No Further Comments

GLENN FRIENDT - No Further Comments

ANNETTE McROY - No Further Comments

PATTE NEWMAN - No Further Comments

KEN SVOBODA - No Further Comments

TERRY WERNER - No Further Comments

MARK BOWEN - No Further Comments

CORRIE KIELTY - No Further Comments

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately 11:55 a.m.