

**AGENDA FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2004
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

I. MINUTES

1. Minutes from Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of September 13, 2004.

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

1. Joint Lancaster County/Douglas County PBC Meeting (Camp/Cook)
2. Multicultural Advisory Committee Meeting (McRoy)
3. Homeless Coalition Meeting (Newman)
4. Citizen's Meeting (Newman)
5. Board of Health Meeting (Svoboda)

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - To Be Announced

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - To Be Announced

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

1. Neighborhoods, Inc. 2004 Annual Meeting "A Celebration of Success" on Thursday, September 23, 2004 - Lincoln Firefighters Hall, 241 Victory Lane - Complimentary buffet served from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. - Entertainment from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Program from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. - (See Invitation)
2. Governor Mike Johanns & Senator Pam Brown, Senator Jim Jensen invite you to join them at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, October 1, 2004 at the Strategic Air Museum, 28210 W. Park Highway, Ashland, NE for an important meeting to discuss planning and development issues for the Omaha-Lincoln corridor - meeting will conclude at 5:00 p.m. - At that time, the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce & the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce will co-host a reception - Please RSVP to Scott Dolton at 471-2714 - (See Letter of Invitation)

3. 2004 Downtown Impact Awards - Downtown Lincoln Association Annual Meeting & recognition ceremony on Thursday, October 21, 2004 - Doors open at 11:30 a.m. - Luncheon & Awards Ceremony at Noon - \$25.00 per person - at The Embassy Suites Hotel Ballroom - Please RSVP by Oct. 8th - (See Invitation) - Council Members will be COMP'd for this Luncheon (per Polly McMullen)
4. Leadership Lincoln's 20th Anniversary Celebration - Annual Recognition Dinner on Monday, October 4, 2004 - at The Cornhusker Hotel - Social Hour at 5:30 p.m. - Dinner at 6:30 p.m. - Program at 7:00 p.m. - (Attend as their guest for dinner) - Please RSVP by Sept. 20th - (See Invitation)
5. Child Guidance Center's 2nd Annual Leader in Children's Mental Health Award Breakfast on Monday, October 18, 2004 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. at The Cornhusker Hotel - \$20.00 per person - RSVP with payment by Oct. 11th - (See Invitation)
6. Indian Center, Inc. Annual Dinner 2004 on Thursday, September 23, 2004 - 5:00 p.m. Social Hour - 6:00 p.m. Dinner at The Indian Center, Inc., 1100 Military Road - RSVP by Sept. 20th to 438-5231 - (See Invitation)
7. Lincoln Community Learning Centers - our state and community will be participating in the 5th Annual Lights On Afterschool Rally "Reaching Home with Afterschool" on Thursday, October 14, 2004 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Haymarket Park - RSVP to Heather at 436-1966 or by E-Mail - (See Invitation)

VI. MISCELLANEOUS - NONE

VII. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 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, Corrie Kielty, Mayor's Office; Joan Ray, Council Secretary; Dana Roper, City Attorney; 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 September 13, 2004.

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

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

1. JOINT LANCASTER COUNTY/DOUGLAS COUNTY PBC MEETING (Camp/Cook) Mr. Cook and Mr. Camp reported on this meeting at the 09-13-04 "Noon" Meeting under the "Other Meetings" portion of the Agenda.
2. MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (McRoy) Ms. McRoy reported that the MAC had resumed their meetings, after the usual Summer Hiatus. The main presentation at this meeting had been on the proposed use of the 'fazer' weapon as a compliment to some of the Police Department's other items of operation such as OC [Pepper] Spray. They are currently going around with a group to different types of organizations to gather input, and may be coming back with a recommendation on that. They're considering [inaudible]. We currently have about ten of them under evaluation and about 80 officers have gone through some type of training, but they're not in widespread use yet as they are still in the evaluation phase of the review.
3. HOMELESS COALITION (Newman) Ms. Newman reported that the Coalition had met and the members are talking about another awards program. It won't be a lunch because they can't afford that. Ms. Newman noted that Mr. Svoboda and Mr. Friendt had both attended the last Homeless Coalition Awards ceremony, along with Mr. Werner. It was a big event and they're talking about doing something again to promote education about what is being done in the community to help the homeless situation.

Ms. Newman reported that, along the same lines, the Community Services Initiative met last month and they are talking about a computerized system that can tap into IRIS, which is something the Health Department has - a program they are using in trying to carefully track consumers of some of the social service systems so that we can get a better idea of how many homeless people are out there. It looks like it's a really good system and will be more effective as more people are entered into it. So, stay tuned on that one.

4. CITIZEN'S MEETING (Newman) Ms. Newman reported that there had been 24 people in attendance at the September Citizens' Meeting. Public Works Department was there and talked about sub-standard roads and the rehab of sub-standard streets. It was very interesting and we all learned something. Ms. Newman asked if Elmer Cole was scheduled for a pre-council on sub-standard streets? Mr. Werner indicated that he did not think so. Ms. Newman felt it would be good for the Council as a body to hear exactly how that formula is calculated. She noted that Mr. Cole had done the list which Mr. Svoboda had requested showing the sub-standard streets in the City and, she noted, there were problem locations throughout the City. Mr. Werner requested Mr. Bowen to make those arrangements for a Pre-Council meeting as an update on the issue.
5. BOARD OF HEALTH (Svoboda) Mr. Svoboda reported that the evening had been spent going over the tie-ins to the new website. Laptops had been provided for each Board of Health Member so he or she could link up and go through it all. It was interesting to see all the documents and data that can be retrieved with all the various links to CDC, the City, State and others. We spent the entire evening going over that information.

OTHER MEETINGS - None

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - Ms. Kielty informed Council that there was nothing new to report.

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - Mr. Bowen updated the Council about the recent efforts to go to a paperless packet for the Council Members. He noted that they had determined that September 30th would be the last "paper packet" for everything except Legislation. Mr. Cook added that the final decision had been to make the focus of this effort the Director's Agenda and the Council Members' folders. He noted that the "Noon" Agenda would not be included in this current effort since it is small and the decision had been made to address one issue at a time in the change-over. The Legislative packet would remain the same, as well.

Mr. Cook explained the changes currently being discussed. The goal is to eliminate all paper copies of everything coming in from City Departments. The only paper coming into the Council Office would be from citizens who write something sent through the U.S. mail. All e-mails will be turned directly into a PDF file. All City Departmental correspondence would come into a special e-mail address [which has been set up through I.S.] called CouncilPacket. Every document will be sent in pdf form for placement on the Directors' Agenda. If the item is not an Agenda item, it will be e-mailed directly to Council Members. This will make the Thursday Directors' Agenda smaller,

since pdf files are smaller than scanned documents. They will be searchable, since they are from original files, which will be a nice component of the new system. These files will be more manageable in size. Everyone [Council Members] will only receive a copy of the Agenda -without attachments; then we can go on-line to look at the pages that are of interest. This will offer a huge amount of savings on copying costs. There will be no paper coming into the Council Office from the City Departments. Ms. Ray explained the Departmental Code which the Council Staff was preparing for the Departments to label their pdf files as they send them. The file name would be the Code for that Department and the date in the 00/00/00 format for easy reference in compiling the Agenda attachment.

Mr. Cook continued, noting that this is the beginning [of a changing process] and is in a very rudimentary form. At some point, we might be able to arrange for the pdf document to have, over on the left, a table of contents that can be "clicked" to take the reader directly to that page. This won't be achieved in the two weeks we have to prepare this, but in time we may make the Directors' Agenda more sophisticated electronically.

Mr. Cook continued, noting that that is where the Adobe Acrobat 6.0 comes in [referring to an e-mail noting the cost of upgrading the Council Office to Acrobat Version 6] so that as staff learns, they're learning the latest package. If we go on to add some of these other features to the Directors' Agenda, Version 6 would be the better buy. The Council agreed to have the Staff computers updated to Version 6 Adobe Acrobat Distiller at the costs indicated in the e-mail received from I.S. this morning (See attachment).

Mr. Bowen continued his report, noting the Press Release regarding the Town Hall Meeting to be billed as a City Hall Listening Session. He asked if Council would prefer Monday night after the Council Meeting or the Tuesday night date for this meeting. The Mayor believed it would probably be held at the Auld Rec Center and be scheduled for about two hours. This would allow the citizens to come forward to discuss the Bond Issue, which would be the only issue under consideration at this meeting. The Mayor would chair the meeting and offered this note to Council to let them make the decision as to whether or not they would like to attend.

Mr. Svoboda commented that, if we continue to hear, as we all do, and read the paper on a daily basis, why people voted for or against it, why would we open it up for further discussion when the same people are more than likely to come forward to repeat their comments. This would take up City time for something that we already know - what the pulse of the City is regarding this issue.

Mr. Bowen stated that what has concerned the Mayor is that, by some, there is an impression that City Hall just doesn't listen. Or City Hall just didn't get it. Based on some of the e-mails and some of the telephone calls we've taken, there are misconceptions. Some of the things they believe to be true - aren't. We need to correct some of that mis-perception. That is why we thought it would be valuable to have such a session - so we could find out what people are so mistrustful of; what they think is or isn't being done and whether that perception is correct or not.

Ms. Newman noted that most of the Council Members had attended at least one of the Town Hall Meetings on this issue, with some attending more than one. She asked if Mr. Bowen thought they would find something different after the fact than we did before the fact. She noted that she had only gone to the Northeast Forum and did not know what the impression at the other meetings had been. Mr. Werner, who had attended all of the meetings, noted that the Northeast Meeting had been the most [volatile]. Ms. Newman asked if the Mayor had been at all of the meetings and had stayed to the end of each one to listen to all of the comments. Mr. Bowen indicated that the Mayor had done so, with one exception where she had had to leave one meeting early.

Mr. Svoboda felt they had all heard the voice of the people and thought that perhaps it would be better to come forward with a package of solutions. Mr. Bowen commented that a part of the

discussion we've had is that many of the materials that we used at the Spring meetings would be on display again, because we've heard "why isn't anyone thinking of some of these things", when actually, if they had attended, they would have known that those things had been considered. He reiterated that there are some misconceptions, including the use of the wheel tax, that need to be corrected.

Mr. Werner commented that there will be a Town Hall Meeting - you're just asking us if we would prefer it be held on Monday or Tuesday. After a bit more discussion, that was affirmed as correct. Council agreed that Monday, September 27th, at 7:30 p.m. at the Auld Recreation Center would be their choice.

V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Noted Without Significant Comment

VI. MISCELLANEOUS - None

VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS -

JON CAMP - Mr. Camp noted that he had included in the Directors' Agenda materials several articles on some tension that San Diego is experiencing right now. He would really like to see the City of Lincoln address what is happening on our Police and Fire Fighters Pension, because over the last six years it has dropped 23.3 million dollars. Mr. Werner noted that Council would be receiving a report in December. Mr. Werner added that they could have a pre-council on that issue as well. Mr. Bowen noted that there will be a budget update sometime before the end of the calendar year and that would be a great time to bring this up. Mr. Werner asked if the report hadn't been done through August 31st. Mr. Bowen noted that that is correct. Mr. Werner asked Mr. Camp if he would like to have a pre-council on that issue. Mr. Camp answered that they should wait to see what the report has to say. He just wanted to be acting constructively on it because he thought it was an emerging liability situation and one that needs to be addressed.

JONATHAN COOK - Mr. Cook commented that, regarding the Directors' Agenda and it's revision plan, during that revision we could re-arrange the actual order of the Agenda Items. This was agreed to by the Council Members. [This change will have to be implemented very quickly because the order on the agenda will be the basis of the Departmental Codes being created for use in the new system of pdf files being sent by Departments for the Directors' Agenda].

GLENN FRIENDT - No Further Comments

ANNETTE McROY - No Further Comments

PATTE NEWMAN - Ms. Newman asked if the Chair could, on behalf of the whole Council, answer a specific letter (which all the Council Members had received regarding a request for recognition for an Anniversary Celebration of a local African-American church)? It was agreed that Mr. Werner would prepare a letter and indicate therein that the Council would have a representative at the ceremony to represent the City in that celebration.

KEN SVOBODA - Mr. Svoboda requested a Council Retreat to discuss a Council Office Five Year Plan which would cover how we as Council Members see the direction we want the Council moving in; what direction we see our office moving, including office staffing - all of these components of the Council Office operations. When you compare Lincoln and Omaha's Council offices - there are huge differences. That probably holds about the same by comparison when you compare cities of our size and what their Council Staffs do. Mr. Werner commented that he felt that was a good idea. The Council Members agreed that it would be a good idea to sit down together to discuss Council activities, what we do, how we do it and what and where changes should be made - and put together a Five Year Comp Plan for Council Office Operations. It was decided that Mr. Werner as Chair and Mr. Svoboda as Vice-Chair would make a decision as to when to hold this proposed half-day meeting one afternoon sometime after the election on November 2nd.

TERRY WERNER - Mr. Werner asked his colleagues if they had a problem with his handling of the comments session during consideration of the Patriot Act legislation. He wondered if he should have offered more than one opportunity for each of the Council Members to comment prior to the vote on that issue. It was discussed and determined that if the legislation is under discussion, more than one opportunity for each Council Member would be appropriate; if the remarks during the comment period were merely a reading of a formal statement or a speech on the Council Member's position concerning the legislation, one opportunity would suffice. It was agreed that this would be determined on a meeting-by-meeting basis.

MARK BOWEN - No Further Comments

ANN HARRELL - No Further Comments

CORRIE KIELTY - No Further Comments

DANA ROPER - No Further Comments

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately 12.02 p.m.

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