I. MINUTES

1. Minutes from Directors’ Meeting of May 1, 2006.
2. Minutes from Council Members’ “Noon” Meeting of May 1, 2006.

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

1. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting (Cook)

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - To Be Announced

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - To Be Announced

V. MISCELLANEOUS -

1. Discussion on request from Lincoln Independent Business Association (LIBA) invites a representative of the City Council to speak (5 to 10 minutes) at our Tuesday, June 20th monthly luncheon. The luncheon will take place at the Downtown Holiday Inn from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - (See Attached Letter)

2. Discussion on request from Community Health Endowment of Lincoln invites a member of the Lincoln City Council to give welcoming remarks (2 to 4 minutes) and assist in the presentation of awards at our 6th Annual Meeting with the Community on Wednesday, June 14th at 3:00 p.m. at The Cornhusker Hotel. - (See Attached Memo)

VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS -

1. Please join us for an evening with Art Linkletter - A celebration of the Seniors Foundation 25th Anniversary on Friday, June 9, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at The Cornhusker Hotel - Tickets $20.00 - Call 441-6179 for tickets - (See Invitation)
2. Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Friday, May 5, 2006 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 2615 “O” Street - Hosted by: Hispanic Community Center; Asian Community & Cultural Center; Nina’s Fashions; Wells Fargo; - RSVP by May 3rd to 434-4163 or by e-mail - (See Invitation-Council received original invitations on 5/1/06)

3. Lincoln Fire & Rescue-Phoenix Award Presentations on Wednesday, May 17, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. at 1st Choice Credit Union, 2500 “N” Street, Lower Level - (See Invitation)

4. Senior Companion Program - 18th Annual Recognition Luncheon on Friday, May 12, 2006 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Lunch served at Noon) at The Knolls, 2201 Old Cheney Road - Cost $15.00 per plate - RSVP by May 5th to 441-7026 or return enclosed card - (See Invitation)

5. NeighborWorks Lincoln - Celebrate the completion of our 20th High School House-on Monday, May 15, 2006 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Recognition of Student Builders at 5:30 p.m. at 205 W. Dawes Avenue - (See Invitation)

6. MADD - 7th Annual “Outstanding Law Enforcement Award” Ceremony on Tuesday, May 23, 2006 at 2:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Downtown, 141 North 9th Street - Reception Following: Dessert Buffet - RSVP to 800-444-6233 - (See Invitation)

7. Lincoln Housing Authority-The house that Rockets Built to celebrate the construction of 3065 “T” Street on Wednesday, May 24, 2006 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Special Program at 5:00 p.m.- (See Invitation)

8. 2006 Mayor’s Arts Awards-28th Annual Celebration on Wednesday, June 14, 2006 at The Lied Center for Performing Arts - 5:30 p.m., Reception (Cash bar) - 6:30 p.m., Dinner - 7:15 p.m., Awards Ceremony - Cost of Dinner $50.00 per person - RSVP by May 26th - (See Invitation)

9. Gridiron Show on Monday, May 22, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. at The Community Playhouse, 2500 South 56th Street - $25.00 per ticket for the show - 489-7529 - (See Invitation)

VIII. ADJOURNMENT
Date: April 27, 2006

To: Mayor Coleen Seng  
   Lincoln City Council  
   Lancaster County Commissioners  
   Lincoln Board of Education

The Lincoln Independent Business Association ("LIBA") would like to invite Mayor Coleen Seng and a representative of the City Council, Lancaster County Commissioners, and Lincoln Board of Education to speak at our June 20, 2006, monthly luncheon. The subject will be City, County and School Board budgets. The luncheon will take place:

Date: June 20, 2006  
Where: Downtown Holiday Inn  
Time: 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.

The purpose of this meeting is to have all four persons speak for 5 to 10 minutes each.

Our hope is that the City Council, County Commissioners and Board of Education would select an elected representative to speak on that body's behalf.

We would ask that the speaker address the following budget topics:

- What budget topics would you like the most public input on;  
- Upcoming meeting dates for budget presentations and hearings;  
- The exact dollar amount collected by the City, County or School System in 2005;  
- The anticipated dollar amount to be collected in 2007, including projected revenue from property tax valuation increases; and  
- How much of the property tax valuation increases does the City, County or School System anticipate using, and how will any additional revenue be spent.

It is our desire to have the Mayor and an elected representative of each referenced body speak for 5-10 minutes. The Board of Directors would provide lunch for any speaker, with thanks and compliments for addressing our group.

Please RSVP to coby@liba.org with the speakers name and photo for our monthly magazine cover. Thank you.

Ps. Susan Gourley
Memorandum

To:       Members of the Lincoln City Council
From:     Lori Seibel, Executive Director
Date:     05-03-06
Re:       Annual Meeting with the Community

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Community Health Endowment (CHE), I am pleased to invite you to attend our Sixth Annual Meeting with the Community on June 14, 2006, 3:00 pm, at the Cornhusker Hotel. This will be an opportunity for CHE to review the activities of the past year in a special video presentation, release our Annual Report, present our Community Horizon Award, and announce the children/youth winners of Lincoln's Health Challenge. Each member of the City Council will be receiving a personal invitation to our Annual Meeting in the near future.

The purpose of this memo is to invite a member of the Lincoln City Council to give welcoming remarks (2-4 minutes) and assist in the presentation of awards. Others who will provide welcoming remarks at the Annual Meeting include Mayor Coleen Seng and CHE President Janet Coleman.

I will be in touch with staff in the City Council Office soon regarding representation from the City Council. Thank you for your willingness to consider this invitation and we look forward to seeing you on June 14, 2006.
Council Members Present: Ken Svoboda, Chair; Patte Newman, Vice-Chair; Jonathan Cook, Dan Marvin, Robin Eschliman, Jon Camp (arrived late), Annette McRoy.

Others Present: Mark Bowen, Ann Harrell, Rick Hoppe (arrived late), Mayor’s Office; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Tammy Grammer, City Council Staff; Karl Fredrickson, Public Works & Utilities Director; Lynn Johnson, Parks & Recreation Director; and Deena Winter, Lincoln Journal Star Representative.

I. MINUTES

1. Minutes from Directors’ Meeting of May 1, 2006.
2. Minutes from Council Members’ “Noon” Meeting of May 1, 2006.

Chair Ken Svoboda, by acclamation of the Chair, approved the minutes. No objections were offered.

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

1. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting (Cook) — Mr. Cook reported the first item was a presentation of the potential Southwest Wastewater Treatment Facility locations which are all around Wilderness Park. He held up a map and went over it. The only ones still in the running are four areas and right now they are not leaning toward any particular location, there is a lot of evaluation that needs to be done. We will probably hear a lot about this because the Friends of Wilderness Park are very concerned about it and they want a location as far north as possible. With all of these they would use the very latest technology for odor control and treatment that basically they think the water that would be discharged through the Salt Creek would be very clean. Mr. Marvin commented he’s guessing that the Wilderness Park people would be worried about the habitat. Mr. Cook stated that’s the primary thing. Mr. Marvin commented so what’s the experience and maybe Karl Fredrickson (Public Works & Utilities Director) could speak on it about the Northeast Treatment Plant or Theresa Plant on what’s the impact. Karl Fredrickson stated as far as he knows manageable, we’re all within our permitting requirements at this date from a (inaudible) habitat. There has been studies done in Wilderness Park and at the Northeast Treatment Plant. Lynn Johnson (Parks & Recreation Director) stated the other thing that they are worried about is the potential increase flows and the analyses the Public Works staff have done indicated that on an average daily basis have generated about 2% (inaudible). Mr. Fredrickson stated another concern is
pharmacological, Tylenol reaching the stream, cosmetics, things that are not really controlled today. By the time we build an actual treatment plant 20-25 years from now technology will change as well as the permit regulations. Ann Harrell mentioned members of the Mayor’s Environmental Advisory Committee took a tour of the Theresa Street Plant last Thursday because this has been an issue that has been on their agendas. One of the things they thought was interesting seeing was the water flowing into the pipe to go out into the creek which was very clear, and if anyone has an interest in going we can arrange it. Ms. McRoy asked how soon will this come before us? Ms. Harrell responded maybe later this year. Mr. Fredrickson indicated we would like to try to get it sited this summer and then we need to identify the financing. Nobody wants any of these in their backyard and as the City continues to grow and pressure to develop we would like to be there first and then let the people who develop be aware. Mr. Cook asked if Council approval will be in the form of a Comp. Plan amendment as to the site? Mr. responded yes.

Mr. Cook reported we again discussed the land from Glenn and Inez Herbert. We turned it down previously because the Parks Board had been unhappy with the offer that they had made. This time they have come back with a better offer to donate the land provide $45,000 for any kind of improvements for a trail, a bridge, and so on to connect the park to the residential area. Also donate $5,000 for endowment that will not produce enough money to maintain for all the maintenance of the park. But, given the up-front money for improvements and so on the Parks Board felt this was a much better deal and voted to approve it, so this will come before Council very soon.

We also discussed the 10th Street & Van Dorn safety project which led to the request for delay so we could discuss some alternatives. The Parks Board is very open to discussing a variety of alternatives. Mr. Cook mentioned these discussions went on so long that we did not get to the other items golf, budget, Rose Garden, etc. so we will have to revisit those items.

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS: - Ms. Eschliman reported on Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development (LPED) Meeting. They are in the process of the nation wide search for a replacement Director and hope to have someone picked out and selected later this summer.

Mr. Svoboda reported on the Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission I-80 Meeting. Marvin Krout, the Mayor and Karl Fredrickson did an outstanding job presenting for the City of Lincoln and we had a really good turn out. We had a bus tour at 4:00 p.m., we drove through Waverly, Gretna, Ashland and up and down I-80 to get a feel for what it is and what different cities are doing as it relates to their different developments and how they do their developments and those individuals from those communities were doing the presentations. We had our full meeting at 7:00 p.m. which is when the Mayor opened with discussion about how Lincoln does our development; and turned it over to Marvin Krout who gave more descriptive information; and then Karl Fredrickson talked about where the East Beltway might meet I-80 because that’s what we are more involved with is the I-80 and its corridor as opposed to the rest of the
development. We were challenged again on whether there would be an allowance for non-voting alternate members to sit at the table which we already have 19 sitting around the table. There was no motion made at this one and so we hope that puts it to rest, we have already voted on it once that if you’re a non-voting member you don’t sit at the table. This all came about when the Ashland Lake issue came up, Ashland says that they were not specifically involved in the committee though they voted, and we have it on record what Ashland’s vote was to appoint Ron Melby and Brenda Gunn as the First Class City representatives. But, now because of the Ashland issue they feel like they should be at the table even though they would be in the non-voting just so that they can participate in discussions. They will and can be allowed to sit on all of the various subcommittees that we have which we have four now. We will have a meeting in June, but it will mainly be a committee structure meeting and not much of a formal meeting for the rest of us.

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - [Rick Hoppe absent at this time.] Mark Bowen stated nothing new to report.

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR -

MARK BOWEN -

Mark Bowen commented he was just reading Robin’s memo regarding budget. It will be helpful when you come to your meeting on the 17th or 19th with the Mayor to talk about budget items, but he has not responded to Debbie’s (Engstrom) request for a time. Mr. Svoboda asked if there is a possibility that we might be able to do a budget style retreat where some of the information the Mayor laid out to us individually could be discussed just the income stream right now? Mr. Bowen replied we are not prepared to deal with that yet because we do not have a final budget yet.

ANN HARRELL - NO FURTHER COMMENTS

DANA ROPER, City Attorney - NO FURTHER COMMENTS
V. MISCELLANEOUS -

1. Discussion on request from Lincoln Independent Business Association (LIBA) invites a representative of the City Council to speak (5 to 10 minutes) at our Tuesday, June 20th monthly luncheon. The luncheon will take place at the Downtown Holiday Inn from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. — After a brief discussion, it was decided that Dan Marvin would be the City Council representative speaking at this event.

2. Discussion on request from Community Health Endowment of Lincoln invites a member of the Lincoln City Council to give welcoming remarks (2 to 4 minutes) and assist in the presentation of awards at our 6th Annual Meeting with the Community on Wednesday, June 14th at 3:00 p.m. at The Cornhusker Hotel. — Mr. Svoboda stated he thinks this has always been the Chair, he did it last year. Ms. Newman commented she will check her schedule again, she thought there might be a conflict. Mr. Svoboda commented okay or you can appoint somebody else. Ms. Newman stated okay.

VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS -

KEN SVOBODA -

Mr. Svoboda commented as of the open meetings after July 13th if it is not specifically listed as an agenda item, we will not be able to talk about it. Mr. Svoboda noted committee reports we can do. But, he thinks Dana (Roper) is going to have to give us an update as to exactly what it is we will or will not be able to do. Dana Roper (City Attorney) stated I don’t think it really changes how we do business. Mr. Svoboda commented I was challenged quite vocally last week at the I-80 Innovation Zone Commission meeting about the public open meeting laws as it was passed by the Legislature and seemed to have a verbatim as to what we will and will not be able to do. I would not allow a gentleman to talk because we already had public comment and I said sorry public comments are over. Mr. Roper read ‘the changes simply deal with closed session that the subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to go into an executive session, and the entire motion and the vote of each member holding the closed session shall be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes then the presiding officer immediately prior to the closed session shall restate on record the limitation and the subject matter of the closed session; and Agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of matters to be considered at the meeting which all they have done there is add sufficiently descriptive; and then you have to post the open meetings law in the room. Mr. Roper commented so it really does not effect dramatically how we do business. Mr. Svoboda noted the committee reports would be different, the public open meeting laws would be for actionable items. Mr. Roper stated correct.
ROBIN ESCHLIMAN

Ms. Eschliman stated she would like to talk about the budget, some of the news that we received a couple weeks ago was kind of surprising and she has really been thinking about it. But, one thing that she wants to say, it has been about a year since Dan (Marvin) and I came on the Council and she just wants to tell all of them how much she has enjoyed working with all of them. She has enjoyed the attempts of consensus building that we have made to work on things and what she really believes more than anything she is absolutely convinced after getting to know all of them this is a group of people who are very honest and absolutely dedicated to this job. I think we can work through it, and I think there’s some things that she has sensed over the last few months that we definitely agree on and I think it would be helpful to the Mayor if we sort of gave her some directions. Noting, she also would like to bring two or three of these ideas up again next week and maybe vote on giving the Mayor some general or even some specific direction on some of these issues. Ms. Eschliman went over her memo with Council. Afterwards, she indicated that she would like to talk about Items #1 & #2 next week and see if we can come up with some sort of a consensus. Mr. Svoboda commented to Tammy Grammer on the “Noon” Agenda for next week under ‘Miscellaneous’-Budget Discussion. Ms. Grammer stated okay. Ms. McRoy stated on that subject, if we are going to discuss Items #1 & #2 can we request Don Taute (Personnel Director) to attend the “Noon” Meeting because those are personnel issues. Mr. Svoboda replied yes, and asked Ms. Grammer to invite Don Taute to attend the meeting next week. [See Attachment ‘A’]

DAN MARVIN - NO FURTHER COMMENTS

ANNETTE McROY - NO FURTHER COMMENTS

PATTE NEWMAN - NO FURTHER COMMENTS

VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Listed on the Attend Sheet for May 8th.

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately at 12:01 p.m.

cm050806/tjg
To: the Mayor and City Council  
From: Robin Eschliman  

Now that we know that are faced with an $8 to $10 million budget deficit, I would like for the Council to make a solid plan for dealing with the deficit and making recommendations to the Mayor. There are a number of issues which I believe we can achieve unanimous consensus on, based on conversations that we have had in the past. I remember reading about budget woes in the newspaper in past years would not like to see the discussions go as some of them have. I think we can come to some conclusions in a smooth manner.

DECREASING EXPENSES

1. I believe that that Council is united in the opinion that merit pay needs to be merited, and that it hasn't been. Merit pay represents over $1 million of our budget. The Council and the Mayor need to have a serious discussion about severely curtailing spending in this area, encouraging department heads to limit who receives it to those who have gone above and beyond their peers or who are innovative in bringing income into our city, and setting more strict guidelines on how it can be used.

2. We all know that deductibles are going up for health care everywhere. Benefits are a huge cost, and I know that we can all agree that employees will need to share more of the burden, just like their working peers everywhere else.

3. We have some excellent suggestions from the EMS committee to improve efficiencies in ambulance service. We need to urge quick implementation.

4. We need to resolve the M Class issue economically and with finality.

5. We need to do a better job of encouraging multiple bidding in order to get the best prices for the city. We need to encourage bidding of more vendors, particularly local vendors.

6. Department heads should be recognized and rewarded for making true cuts that gain efficiencies. However, for a department head to "offer on the altar" cuts that will frighten the public which that department head does not really intend to make, is behavior that should not be tolerated.

7. We need guiding principles for how to evaluate budget needs. For every cut we consider, we need to ask 3 questions:  
   a. If we cut it, will our city lose income?  
   b. If we cut it, will it cost our city money in the long run?  
   c. If we cut it, perhaps it will make some people unhappy, but might the city save money without incurring a loss of income or deferring expenses?
INCREASING INCOME

1. We need to acknowledge that raising taxes is the last option that the public is willing to tolerate.

2. We can be champions of economic growth for the city in the following ways:
   a. Encouraging citizens to invite family members to vacation in Lincoln this summer, thus increasing tourism
   b. Encouraging citizens to invite family members who own businesses in other cities to relocate to Lincoln
   c. Encouraging a campaign of businesses to buy more business products in Lincoln
   d. Encouraging department heads to negotiate lowest prices with Lincoln companies and keep business in Lincoln
   e. Supporting projects which generate sales tax or higher property tax for our city

FINAL COMMENTS

Week after week we consider a variety of issues. Some of them are large issues and very time consuming. Others are more routine. But the budget is not just one of our issues. The budget is our job! If we can’t deliver to the taxpayers something better than an $8 million deficit, they will find someone who can.

The individuals on this City Council are some of the most honest, hardworking, and sincere people I have ever met. We love our city and believe it is the best place in the state to live. We have also done a very good job of building consensus in the last year. I believe this Council has the unique ability, perhaps the best ability of any in the last several years, to accomplish this.