

**AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 15, 2006
COUNTY/CITY BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

I. MINUTES

1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of May 8, 2006.
2. Minutes from Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of May 8, 2006.
3. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - Executive Session - RE: Potential Litigation - May 8, 2006.

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

1. Public Building Commission (Camp/Cook)
2. Multicultural Advisory Committee (McRoy)
3. Board of Health Meeting (Svoboda) - **CANCELLED**

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - To Be Announced

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - To Be Announced

V. MISCELLANEOUS - NONE

VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS -

1. Spring 2006 Lincoln Police Department Academy Graduation & Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, May 31, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at The Cornhusker Hotel, Grand Ballroom - Reception Following - (See Invitation)
2. The Capital Humane Society Board of Directors-20th Annual Animal Awareness Dinner on Thursday, May 25, 2006 at The Holiday Inn Downtown, 141 North 9th Street - 6:00 p.m., Cash Bar - 6:00 p.m., Silent Auction Begins - 6:45 p.m., Dinner - Dinner \$25.00 - RSVP by May 19th - (See Invitation)

3. The Lincoln Pride Committee 2006 - Annual GLBT Event on Saturday, June 3, 2006 - at 18th & "N" Streets from Noon to 10:00 p.m. - We are also inviting you to take advantage of the opportunity to speak to your constituents for a few minutes from our stage prior to 6:00 p.m. - RSVP - (See Invitation)
4. Transforming Long-Term Care-The Green House Project at Tabitha Housewarming Celebration on Friday, May 19, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon -47th & "J" Streets (508 S. 47th Street) - (See Invitation)

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 15, 2006
COUNTY/CITY BUILDING
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Council Members Present: Ken Svoboda, Chair; Patte Newman, Vice-Chair; Jonathan Cook, Dan Marvin, Robin Eschliman (arrived late), Jon Camp, Annette McRoy.

Others Present: Mark Bowen, Rick Hoppe, Mayor's Office; Dana Roper, City Attorney; Tammy Grammer, City Council Staff; and Deena Winter, Lincoln Journal Star Representative.

I. MINUTES

1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of May 8, 2006.
2. Minutes from Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of May 8, 2006.
3. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - Executive Session - RE: Potential Litigation - May 8, 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. **Public Building Commission** (Camp/Cook) — Mr. Cook reported had some changes to the Health Department contract again as we do every month. There was a mistake made by the architect and additional costs are being accrued as a result to the mistake of \$6,000. Nemaha Landscape has been chosen for the landscape contract they were the low bidder, it's about \$94,000 the Parks Department will over see it. Somebody miss wired the electrical panel which caused maybe \$30,000 in damage which is covered by the electrical contractors insurance.

The Arts Program, we did go ahead with getting bids on a rail system for putting up artwork in the County/City Building and this is something Diane Gonzolas & Barb Baier are working on. It could cost \$1,500 to \$1,800 but it's not going to be paid by taxpayers it will be money that is donated. We still need to work out some changes to the Arts Policy and so before we go forward on purchasing we will look at it to make sure we are comfortable with it. Mr. Camp added there is some real concern on the Public Building Commission's standard that it's a public corridor and we are going to set the policy up front so that we are protected. Otherwise, it will be hard not to allow it.

Regarding Managed Properties, we talked about conceal carry. We are going to do some research on the policy to see if the Council passes an ordinance that covers all public buildings. There is an interest in doing this, but there was a question about other weapons that some how gets passed detectors there's really no law to deal with it. So, we need to check to see what kind of authority the Building Commission has vs. what the Council might have to pass to control access or weapons being brought into public buildings such as the Hall of Justice Building.

We approved a change to the 911 door policy and an addition of video surveillance cameras. We toured the Hall of Justice Building to look at all the locations for video cameras and approved that plan, it was a well attended tour. The 911 door policy that we approved was to allow department heads to choose which employees should have access and once they choose those employees they need to go through a background check and have fingerprint taken. There will be a metric radar at the 911 door which is not very expensive, and so with the additional equipment there was a higher comfort level with allowing greater access to that door. So, he hopes this addresses what some of them may have heard about which is a lot of employees who work in the Hall of Justice Building were very upset that they were denied access to the 911 door.

The Lincoln Arts Council wanted to display artwork in the County/City Building for two weeks but we decided their notice to us came too late. They needed to know at this meeting because they were updating a flyer for the newspaper that had to be printed and we were not ready for that yet. Once we get this policy developed for artwork it might be a little easier but we were kind of caught off guard because it was not something on our agenda. Also it was going to be artwork that would have been on the floor which meant that we needed Building & Safety to review it.

The County Board may be changing their meeting times to 9:30 a.m. on a trial basis but they could go back, they are going to see how that works out. So, at this point they are doing this which means the Public Building Commission meetings may have to move to 1:00 p.m. on those days.

Regarding the Court House Plaza status, we have had lots of discussions on how to remodel and who to move because we want to consolidate the Personnel Department on 2nd floor, relocate Emergency Management, put the Public Defender in Court House Plaza and we want to put Community Corrections in the 900 "J" Building. These have to be served by DEC which means expansion and expansion, we saw some various drawings, got some cost estimates and those estimates were may be higher than we were comfortable with. We could demolish 900 J instead which might be cheaper than remodeling it and adding an addition, and we still have to consider the 3rd floor of the County/City Building and with these costs we have to give serious consideration again. The 233 Building where the Police Department used to be we might consider that as a location for the Emergency Operation Center

and Community Corrections instead of going to 900 “J” Building could potentially go into the new jail and that would be something the County Board needs to look at. Ultimately, the 911 Center and the Emergency Operation want to go out to Jensen Park where one of our towers is located but that is a number of years off. So, we need to figure out how to juggle these uses and given these costs it is difficult, so at this point we are still open to any kind of changes.

2. **Multicultural Advisory Committee** (McRoy) — Meeting Postponed to tomorrow (Tuesday, May 16th) at 3:30 p.m.
3. **Board of Health Meeting** (Svoboda) - **CANCELLED** - Mr. Svoboda noted meeting was cancelled because of Election Day and no agenda items.

OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS: - NONE

III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS -

RICK HOPPE -

Rick Hoppe handed out a memo to Council regarding Boards and Commissions upcoming appointments and went over it. For May, have some reappointments by Executive Order for the Mayor’s Committee for International Friendship. Next week Council will vote on appointing Wendy Francis to the Human Rights Commission, she’s replacing Carmy Anthony; and appointment for Robin Eschliman to the Railroad Transportation Safety District to replace Mr. Cook in June. Also, they have some for the Personnel Board; Cable Advisory Board; Aging Advisory Council; Housing Authority Board; Charter Revision Commission in July; and still clearing up a couple of Resignations for the Women’s Commission and the EMS Board of Directors. *[Copy of Memo on file in the City Council Office.]*

IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR -

MARK BOWEN -

Mark Bowen handed out a memo regarding the FY-2006-07 Budget. Mr. Bowen stated this memo from the Mayor was commenting to the memo Robin Eschliman gave you last week on budget issues. *[See Attachment ‘A’]*

Mr. Bowen noted Council has their budget meetings with the Mayor later this week.
ANN HARRELL - ABSENT

RICK HOPPE - NO FURTHER COMMENTS

DANA ROPER, City Attorney - NO FURTHER COMMENTS

V. MISCELLANEOUS - NONE

VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

JON CAMP - NO COMMENTS

JONATHAN COOK -

Mr. Cook commented anybody have a problem with the new seating arrangement, if not we will go ahead with it today. No objections to it.

ROBIN ESCHLIMAN - NO COMMENTS

DAN MARVIN - NO COMMENTS

ANNETTE McROY -

Ms. McRoy commented FYI, she will be gone next week.

PATTE NEWMAN -

Ms. Newman stated to Dana Roper that she read the new open meetings law which goes into effect the middle of July. Dana Roper replied that's correct, July 13th and we will post the current laws. We have taken a copy of the new law to the Mayor's Office and they're going to have their art people see if they can come up with something that's not massive because we are going to have to have it for various places, so we're going to have to have some mobile ones aside from our permanent display. Mr. Roper stated also the Chair of the meeting has to announce at the beginning of the meeting where the open meetings law is posted.

KEN SVOBODA - NO COMMENTS

VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Listed on the Attend Sheet for May 15th.

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately at 11:51 a.m.

cm051506/tjg

May 12, 2006
TO - Councilperson Eschliman
FROM - Mayor Coleen J. Seng *CJS*
RE - FY2006-07 Budget



CITY OF LINCOLN
NEBRASKA

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I read your May 8, 2006 memo to the City Council outlining your thoughts about next year's city budget. It is good to know that you have been contemplating the city budget since our last small group discussion. You have correctly characterized it as one of our key duties as elected officials, each year.

There are a few points I want you to keep in mind. On June 26, 2006, I will present a balanced budget to the City Council for consideration. The gap will be closed. In closing the gap I intend to incorporate many of the Council's individual spending reduction priorities and proposals to increase revenues. At that point, it will be the option of the City Council to agree or propose modifications to the city budget I propose.

Under your heading "Decreasing Expenses," keep in mind that the city budget is about specifics. As Council members know from our discussions last January and again in our small groups, I have been asking each of you to identify specific spending reduction priorities. Many Council members provided an indication of individual priorities. Unfortunately, many of these were actually additional expenditures. If there is consensus among the Council on specific types of spending reductions I will be pleased to hear it.

As you consider priorities, it is important to move from general comments about spending to targeting specific budget items. As the budget is assembled to determine spending, it will be itemized, not generalized. I welcome the Council's opinions and am willing to try to incorporate those spending reductions. The more specific the suggested cut, the more helpful the suggestion. More generalized suggestions are worthy of considerations as they affect future budgets, but are less helpful to the task at hand with this annual budget.

Your reference to the health insurance policy deductibles and co-pays already is being addressed in the proposed budget to reduce costs. I am pleased to read that you intend to be supportive of those changes. Please recall that the current budget included an actual reduction in the cost of health care insurance from the previous year and capped the potential increase for the coming year. The current year savings in health care expenses has allowed the City to start from an already lower cost. The City is negotiating with the health insurer about ways to reduce costs to help close the budget gap.

Similarly, under your heading "Increasing Income," more specific suggestions would be helpful. The sales tax base has been narrowed by state action, which has reduced revenue. Please focus comments about increasing income to provide as much specific detail as possible. The budget office will need specific proposals in order to project how much revenue could be generated from any suggestions you have to increase revenue.

I am glad you support efforts to promote the "L" Factor and market Lincoln. It is something I do every day. You have heard me at LPED and public meetings calling on everyone to promote the "L" Factor. We are our own best sales force to market our community to recruit business and foster a climate that encourages job creation through optimism and positive comments. Positive promotion produces results. According to State reports, the Lincoln area is among the fastest growing tax bases in the state. The property tax base is growing at a solid pace and more jobs have been added in the community.

cc: City Council members

