

**AGENDA**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2006**  
**(Immediately Following Directors' Meeting)**  
**COUNTY/CITY BUILDING**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

**I. MINUTES**

1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of December 4, 2006.
2. Minutes from City Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of December 4, 2006.
3. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: 2007 LES Budget - November 13, 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 - NONE**

**VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS -**

1. The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Country Christmas for Cedar Youth Services on Sunday, December 10, 2006 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Uncle Ron's Wild West Saloon, 340 W. Cornhusker Hwy - (See Invitation)
2. Lincoln Police Department Northeast Team Station -Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of our new Team Station on Tuesday, December 19, 2006 at 2:30 p.m.- Tour to follow ceremony with Open House from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.- (See Invitation)

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2006**  
**(Immediately Following Directors' Meeting)**  
**COUNTY/CITY BUILDING**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

**Council Members Present:** Patte Newman, Chair; Dan Marvin, Vice-Chair; Jonathan Cook, Robin Eschliman, Annette McRoy, Ken Svoboda, Jon Camp.

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

Location Announcement of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act: A Copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is Located on the Wall at the Rear of this Room

**I. MINUTES**

1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of December 4, 2006.
2. Minutes from City Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of December 4, 2006.
3. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: 2007 LES Budget - November 13, 2006.

Chair Patte Newman, 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 we had a discussion of building a new Aging Center in Kahoa Park and would be approximately \$3 million. They would raise money for it, they might be closing the other two Northeast Community Centers/Aging Centers if this were to open. The question for the Parks Board was is this an appropriate place to be looking at it and we felt it was a little premature to really know. But, we did give them a go ahead to at least put together some plans to see how it might fit in the park. They will bring those back to us and we will see if that makes sense but this is something that needs to involve the neighbors and those who are using the existing Aging facilities. They felt there was a real need for additional Aging facility in northeast Lincoln.

The Parks Board with me abstained in the vote passed a request to the Council to allow alcoholic beverages in certain park areas. This would include Pinewood Bowl for up to four events a year; the Auld Recreation Center, Easterday Recreation Center, and the Prairie Building at Pioneers Park Nature

Center these three would be for any events such as wedding receptions, etc. They feel this would bring in some additional income because they will rent those facilities more often. In addition for fund-raising purposes for the Parks & Recreation Department there could be alcohol at Hazel Abel Park, Stransky Park, Sunken Gardens, Antelope Rose Garden, and at Pioneers Park Nature Center for only special events. The plan with Pinewood Bowl is to bring in concerts that could not otherwise be possible if we don't serve alcohol. But, the last time this came before the Council I reminded them that it was a 7-0 vote to not allow alcohol at Pioneers Park and Pinewood Bowl. Now maybe things have changed, maybe the community has become more comfortable with it I don't know but that will be coming before us so be prepared. Ms. Eschliman asked what is the trend in other cities? Mr. Cook stated we did not discuss it. Ann Harrell indicated she will ask Lynn Johnson (Parks & Recreation Director) to have that information before it comes to Council.

Ms. Newman mentioned to Ann (Harrell) the other information that might be interesting to have is on 'July Jam' downtown, what the discussion was prior to allowing alcohol sales in their area or anything else around Pershing Auditorium. Ms. Harrell stated she will get that information for them. Ms. Newman noted it would be nice to have that information ahead of time instead of being surprised at the public hearing and having to delay something because that information is exempt.

Placement of the Law Enforcement Memorial on Centennial Mall, I think most of you are aware that's not going to be located at Centennial Mall it is going to Grand Island.

We elected new officers, Susan Rodenburg is now the Chair of the Parks Board, and Karen Hand is the Vice-Chair. Previously, Sue Quambusch was Chair and she did a great job.

The Parks Board is having a special meeting in January regarding the Antelope Valley Project on Wednesday, January 10, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. at the "F" Street Community Center.

**OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS: - NONE**

### **III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS -**

#### **RICK HOPPE -**

Rick Hoppe stated on their Agenda today they have a reappointment and an appointment for the Community Forestry Advisory Board, and a reappointment of Ken Svoboda to the District Energy Corporation.

Next week, we have a lot of appointments including our new Lincoln Electric System appointees which will take place January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007; two reappointments to the Women's Commission; and a new appointment to the Lincoln Area Agency on Aging Advisory Board. Mr. Hoppe noted I'm trying to get ahead as far as I can so whom ever or what ever entity replaces me for appointments does not have to deal with it for a couple of months. Mr. Marvin commented Rick (Hoppe) next week will be your last time before the Council. Mr. Hoppe replied yes.

### **IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR -**

#### **MARK BOWEN -**

Mark Bowen reminded Council on Wednesday is the Budget Forecast Meeting at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Cook commented he is unable to attend.

For your information next Monday the Mayor invited the current State Senators and the Lincoln Delegation to attend the beginning of the City Council Meeting. For the presentations and thank them for their years of service and the things they have done for us in the past and in this past session in particular.

Last week we talked about the LPED supplemental funds and you saw the amendment, if there's any questions Bruce Bohrer will be here. No one had intended to testify but if you have questions let me know. Mr. Cook commented the actual thing on our agenda today is just to move the money, there's no amendment. Mr. Bowen stated the motion is to transfer the money to the accounts, so we can prepare to write a check when need be but it also authorizes the Mayor to complete the amendment for the contract.

**ANN HARRELL - NO COMMENTS**

**DANA ROPER, City Attorney - NO COMMENTS**

## V. MISCELLANEOUS -

Ms. Newman commented to Mr. Marvin under “Miscellaneous” do you want to talk about Rickey Meyer. Mr. Marvin stated Mr. Meyer wanted to know if we were going to do anything additional after appearing and I told him I did not think we were going to use our investigatory powers into his situation. I talk to Patte (Newman) about writing a letter inform him of our decision not to do that and I didn’t know if any Council member thought that they wanted to investigate Mr. Meyer’s situation. No comments from Council at this time. Mr. Marvin commented does that mean you do want to investigate. I don’t want to send a letter to Mr. Meyer on behalf of the Chair and Vice-Chair saying no we are not likely to do any more investigating into your matter after careful review of your situation, we regret to inform you that we are unable to consider this a Council matter all indications direct us to inform you of this decision not to pursue it any further. Ms. Newman commented you’re comfortable with us signing this letter and sending it to Mr. Meyer. Mr. Svoboda responded no I’m not, I don’t know that we need to, he has been asking individual Council members, he has talked with me I think daily for the last three or four weeks or so and at my office and I disagree. I told him the problem was a Capital Humane Society issue, I keep asking him what is it that he wants and he keep asking for resignations from two Animal Control individuals. Most recently now he is asking for a public apology from Dr. Dart on television and I don’t feel that the Health Department/Animal Control did anything wrong. There were 146 cats, he tried to identify two of them out of 146 cats it’s kind of difficult to identify two when the majority of them or probably all looked alike anyway there were no tags or anything on the cats and if the Capital Humane Society had issue with it and then the public apology would come from them. But, I seen very abusive and physical threatening letters from Mr. Meyer to Bob Downey, Dr. Bruce Dart, Jim Weverka and I don’t know that continuing the conversation and debate by sending him a letter is going to stop it. Mr. Svoboda commented that’s my opinion only. Ms. Newman commented I have had quite a few phone calls as well. Mr. Svoboda commented we normally don’t do letters of this nature representing the entire Council, if you wanted to sign it for yourself or Dan (Marvin) as the Vice-Chair that is entirely up to you but I would not want to be signing it. Mr. Camp commented I’ve had numerous phone calls from Mr. Meyer, I’m not sure if there’s a legal process Dana (Roper) that he can follow. Dana Roper responded no, he needs to deal with the Capital Humane Society and whatever legal counsel he is given on how to deal with them. Mr. Cook asked if the City Attorney should send a letter stating this is the Capital Humane Society matter this is not a City matter the City considers this closed. Mr. Svoboda stated there was thousands and thousands of public dollars spent on removing 146 cats and identifying them out of his home, citations were issued, if we keep throwing more money at it by having the City Attorney’s Office write letters. It’s find Patte if you want to send him a letter as the Council chair, I don’t have a problem with that at all but I certainly want to make it understood that we are not apologizing for anything. Mr. Marvin and Ms. Newman commented that’s not the intent. Mr. Svoboda responded because that’s what he is asking for. Mr. Marvin commented Mr. Meyer asked for us to use our investigatory powers and I don’t sense that this body is going to

do that. Ms. Newman, Mr. Cook, and Ms. McRoy agreed with Mr. Marvin. Mr. Camp stated Dana (Roper) lets say this case is done, lets say another case arose where someone is violating the city ordinance having to many animals. Would we follow the same procedures have we learned something from this or is this proper procedure. Mr. Roper replied I guess that we would follow the same procedures, I will check and see but I don't know of anything different that we would do. We've got way to many cats in a location the only way we can deal with it is to go in and reduce the number and put them in good homes and I think some were so far gone they had to be euthanized and then we started prosecuting, I think we would do the same thing again. Mr. Camp commented I guess he ended up not getting charged with many but I think we still prosecuted. Mr. Roper stated oh yes, prosecuted and convicted, we did what we needed to do and was appropriate under the circumstance. Mr. Camp commented well the public just ought to know if they violate the rules on the number of animals they are in violation. Ms. Newman stated I can certainly write a letter on my own behalf.

**VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**JON CAMP - NO COMMENTS**

**JONATHAN COOK - NO COMMENTS**

**ROBIN ESCHLIMAN - NO COMMENTS**

**DAN MARVIN - NO COMMENTS**

**ANNETTE McROY - NO COMMENTS**

**PATTE NEWMAN - NO COMMENTS**

**KEN SVOBODA - NO COMMENTS**

**VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS - Listed on the Attend Sheet for December 11th.**

**VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately at 11:50 a.m.**

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