

**AGENDA**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING**  
**MONDAY, JULY 7, 2008**  
**(Immediately Following Directors' Meeting)**  
**COUNTY/CITY BUILDING**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

**I. MINUTES**

- \*1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of June 16, 2008.
- \*2. Minutes from City Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of June 16, 2008.
- 3. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Development Services Center - June 23, 2008.

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

- \*1. Internal Liquor Committee Meeting (Eschliman/Spatz/Svoboda)

**OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:**

**III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - To Be Announced**

**IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - To Be Announced**

**V. MISCELLANEOUS -**

- 1. Discussion on the Lincoln Municipal Code books. Do we need all 7 copies for each Council Member. (Requested by Jonathan Cook)
- 2. Discussion of Mayor's Press Releases. (Requested by Ken Svoboda)
- 3. Discussion on the General Council E-Mail Inbox Address. (Requested by Robin Eschliman)
- 4. Update on KFOR. (Requested by Robin Eschliman)

**VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

## **VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS**

1. Mayor Chris & Judy Beutler invite you to Lincoln's Ucle Sam Jam 2008 on Friday, July 4, 2008 at 8:00 p.m. at Oak Lake Park adjacent to the pier - 9:00 p.m., Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra concert - 10:00 p.m., Fireworks - (See Invitation)
2. Public Information Open House-Roadway and Water Main Projects Pre-Construction Open House-Pine Lake Road-84th to 98<sup>th</sup> Streets & 98<sup>th</sup> Street -Old Cheney to Yankee Hill on Thursday, July 10, 2008 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Lincoln Christian School, 5801 South 84th Street (SW corner of 84<sup>th</sup> & Old Cheney) - Elementary Activity Room - (See Invitation)
3. The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Better Business Bureau Integrity Award Luncheon on Wednesday, September 3, 2008 at the Cornhusker Hotel from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - RSVP to Sharon Brodhagen at 476-8822 or by email - (See Invitation)
4. Updowntowners, Inc. July Membership Luncheon on Wednesday, July 16, 2008 from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Lincoln Community Foundation Gardens, 1415 "N" Street - Cost: Members \$12; Guests \$15 - RSVP by July 11<sup>th</sup> to 434-6902 or by email - (See Invitation)

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**\*HELD OVER FROM JUNE 23, 2008.**

**\*\*HELD OVER FROM JUNE 30, 2008.**

**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING  
MONDAY, JULY 7, 2008  
COUNTY/CITY BUILDING  
ROOM 113**

**Present:** Robin Eschliman, Chair  
Doug Emery, Vice Chair  
Jon Camp  
Jonathan Cook (11:34 a.m.)  
John Spatz  
Ken Svoboda (11:36 a.m.)  
Dan Marvin

**Others Present:** Rick Hoppe, Aide to the Mayor  
Denise Pearce, Aide to the Mayor  
Trish Owen, Aide to the Mayor

Chair Eschliman opened the meeting at 11:32 a.m. Location of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act announced.

**I. MINUTES**

- \*1. Minutes from Directors' Meeting of June 16, 2008.
  - \*2. Minutes from City Council Members' "Noon" Meeting of June 16, 2008.
  - 3. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Development Services Center - June 23, 2008.
- Chair Eschliman called for approval of the above minutes. With no corrections the Council approved the minutes by acclamation.

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

**\*1. Internal Liquor Committee Meeting Eschliman/Spatz/Svoboda**

Spatz stated information was given on problem spots, and on admittances to detox. One trend seen is people going into detox who purchased their last drink at a grocery or convenience store.

Marvin asked for update on Responsible Hospitality training. Spatz replied there has been great success and only one restaurant has not complied at this time. Eschliman asked if too soon to determine results, possibly seeing a decrease in violations because of Responsible Hospitality Council training? Spatz thought too soon but results in do show good compliance.

**OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:**

**III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS**

Pearce stated there were no new appointments. Information Services will soon install a link which will include all boards and commissions, people serving, and term expiration dates. Also, continuing with data base update which will be completed shortly.

**IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR**

Hoppe expressed regrets to Council on remarks in the Lincoln Journal Star. He doesn't want to jeopardize the good working relationship with Council. He stated the CIC budget hearing schedule poses problems. The department head is concerned she will not be available. Two options to reschedule. Time agreed upon being the end of the Noon Meeting next Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup>.

**V. MISCELLANEOUS**

### **1. Discussion on the Lincoln Municipal Code Books**

**Requested by Jonathan Cook**

Cook requested discussion as Council receives seven Code Book updates. He doesn't use the paper code as the one on line is current. If a reference copy is needed have a copy for the office. Marvin thought they had previously discussed with Council stating they go on line for information, and to inform the Law Department only one copy necessary.

### **2. Discussion of Mayor's Press Releases**

**Requested by Ken Svoboda**

Svoboda stated numerous press releases seem to go to media before Council. Notable was when four Council Members met with the Mayor and heard of an economic stimulus package but a press release had gone out with media and participants notified. Council could have received, or told it was to be proposed. When our office receives a news advisory Grammer forwards. If a press release determines to put in the packet, or forward. Want to understand the flow of releases to Council Members and protocol.

Camp added it feels like the eleventh hour syndrome. The Mayor told us about the \$600,000 and it would pay down the storm water bonds. Discussion on having constituents and organizations know information before Council is informed.

Hoppe stated how he believes the Mayor's office does a reasonable job contacting Council, and that the Mayor wants input from the public but not eliminating the Council. Also, thought Council was aware of money which the Mayor will pursue to pay down the storm water bonds.

Camp learned the storm water bonds are not paid down and understood the \$600,000 is being put into the General Obligations Fund for use next year. Hoppe replied perhaps the Mayor mis-spoke, and if a communications error can work out. Council did not send a message to use for the Haymarket, and didn't say use for a stimulus package. Not teamwork but a backwards approach.

Hoppe thought example a little out of context. There is a concern with feeling we can't talk to constituent groups without getting Council approval. Discussion continued on communication and delivery of releases.

Svoboda asked for this topic to be put on the agenda to discuss protocol. He asked if a way a press release could be emailed to Council immediately, at the same time, or in advance, in order to have before the media calls? To give Council Members a heads up. Your protocol on how to do. Hoppe stated a press conference release usually handed out at that time, not in advance. The advisory says we plan to hold the press conference. If asking if we get to you in a more timely fashion we will endeavor to do.

Svoboda said with public records laws, could a confidential note be sent to Council as to what may be discussed? Want a mechanism. The fear would be the Mayor and Chamber representatives meet and specifically say, we haven't involved the Council yet so please keep quiet. We're the elected body but the Chamber knows first. Hoppe replied we need to work on this so Council feels better informed. But difficult for the Mayor to give up prerogatives with all the constituent groups.

Camp asked on the \$600,000, why not be direct? Think maybe we need another meeting with the Mayor. Emery commented a newspaper article stated Camp was tired of eleventh hour meetings and the Mayor probably read it. Don't believe we need another meeting.

### **3. Discussion on General Council E-Mail Address**

**Requested by Robin Eschliman**

Eschliman stated Council does receive emails individually, not general email. Wonder if forwarded

to the proper City person, or not? We can eliminate doubt if we eliminate the general council email. If contacted through a general inbox, think responses will be sent.

Cook said there are two ways, [council@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:council@lincoln.ne.gov) and on the web page they write comments stating who to go to. Eschliman stated on [council@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:council@lincoln.ne.gov) Council doesn't receive until Monday and then photocopies. Marvin thought those go directly into the Directors Packet, and believe people send in comments, not action items. Camp commented with the Council address IS can set up to automatically go to all Council Members.

Spatz stated if feedback wanted they have a link. Camp said need to make sure it's public record. Cook added there's two ways to record. More public is Grammer putting on the Directors Agenda. The other, into a City email address, through a City server, and gets backed up. On file but not easily accessible. Judge Hendry said the first is good and the second would look at. Cook said if [Council@lincoln.ne.gov](mailto:Council@lincoln.ne.gov) changes could forward to all but also go in the Directors packet for public record. The addendum is not printed and Grammer could leave off emails if forwarded to us.

Part of Eschliman's concern is a chance correspondence won't be seen. But if everyone agrees will keep the same. Camp said the flip side is duplicate email. Cook added Grammer sometimes sends duplicates, but don't know if there would be a better way to handle.

#### **4. Update on KFOR**

**Requested by Robin Eschliman**

Eschliman stated KFOR wants short interviews, and a little more informal than the previous person indicated. Camp commented 10 minutes. Eschliman added it could be done on a cell phone and no need to drive to their location. Members asked for an updated date list.

### **VI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Marvin Stated next week Item #41, on today's agenda, will come as a resolution, next week. Want information and believes the resolution would ask the audit board to go through the various cash balances and determine whether the cash balance is sufficient to provide for, greater or less than, and to produce a report, explaining where the cash balances are. So some issues we could possibly pro-actively pursue. First, the Council should be aware of the cash balances and whether they're meeting the levels appropriate. Secondly, there's an interest in the public. If asking the public to consider proposed property tax increases, etc., we should determine all saving account balances making sure we're not saving and asking for property tax increases at the same time. A public perception issue we can address at the same time. He stated he also doesn't like the term, one-time money, because we ask our departments to be frugal and not spend, with the money accumulating, we declare it as one time money. But accumulated through many departments. Eschliman stated everyone has to remember it is the people's money.

Spatz	No comments
Cook	No comments
Camp	No comments
Svoboda	No comments
Emery	No comments
Eschliman	No comments

### **VII. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS**

See invitation list.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Eschliman adjourned the meeting at 12:12 p.m.

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