



AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2007

SUBJECT:
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL. NO SUBJECT MAY BE DISCUSSED UNLESS IT IS A SUBJECT ON THE AGENDA AND IS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, COME TO THE PODIUM AND GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE DURATION OF DISCUSSION ON ANY SINGLE SUBJECT, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED

Minutes:

In response to MAYOR GOODMAN'S query, two homeless individuals raised their hands seeking assistance.

AL HESSER, retired Veteran/City resident, commented on his appearance in court addressing alleged threats made to MAYOR GOODMAN. He believed one should never use the legal process to haul someone into court, and the Mayor violated his right to freedom of speech. MR. HESSER will pursue the federal courts in seeking monetary damages for what he believed to be ridiculous charges made by MAYOR GOODMAN.

JOE MAVIGLIA updated the Council on his mission towards affordable mobile home housing. He has made contact with the administrator of the prison system and has been able to secure a construction company. He was pleased that people have listened to him, as he started participating and not complaining at the City Council meetings. These mobile homes will be offered to ex-felons and allow them the opportunity to build equity, having a six-month period for option to buy. He has had a problem with space and is working with the GATES program.

FRED stated he appeared before Council two weeks ago, homeless, but has since received assistance from the Council. Although he is still homeless, he is employed. He wanted to speak up and let the homeless people know that assistance is available and thanked the Council from the bottom of his heart. MAYOR GOODMAN thanked him for returning and informing Council and the homeless. The Mayor urged FRED to continue working with those individuals assisting him and looked forward to him not being homeless.

RASHAND JOSHUA COLLINS, homeless and youth advocate, voiced concerns in the city of Las Vegas, such as the luring of young individuals into drinking and what the penalty should be, such as jail time. He felt this activity is a greater crime than someone being arrested for sleeping outside or digging in a dumpster. He believed the need is to promote morality and pleaded for assistance. He stressed there is a great need to encourage the youths, the next generation, and avoid them from being pulled into these kinds of deception. He noted that the book of Revelations should be read, as it entails many warnings to be considered.

RICKY HOOPER voiced his frustration with the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) and the busdrivers, as well as other entities, when seeking assistance or information. He

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continues to get the runaround. MAYOR GOODMAN questioned if a handicap booklet existed for the handicap/disabled. MAYOR GOODMAN suggested he speak with JACOB SNOW, Director of RTC, and asked the City Manager to forward the contact number to MR. HOOPER.

PAMELA LOONEY was displeased at the way the police department has been handling her complaints. She believes there are individuals stalking her and has been assaulted by a gang member, GREG OLIVER. She also believed that one of her daughters has been assaulted as well. She is not currently employed but has a degree and does not desire to remain homeless or continue to be cited for sleeping in bathrooms. She felt that her filed reports are not being addressed and sought assistance from the Council. MAYOR GOODMAN informed MS. LOONEY that the Council does not have jurisdiction over the police department; he advised her to contact the Civilian Review Board to seek relief and/or to file a complaint.

JOHN BROWN, homeless advocate, congratulated COUNCILMAN WEEKLY on his next endeavor. MR. BROWN expressed the importance of individuals having identification and would like to see some of the homeless acquire theirs. It is easier for the locals to obtain a Nevada ID, but for the out-of-state individuals who have lost their ID, it is difficult to obtain another one. He currently purchases day passes and would like RTC to give him some that are not dated. He asked for a contact person to assist him with his request. MAYOR GOODMAN suggested he speak with one of the City representatives present who is currently assisting the homeless.

ROBERT JOHNSTON, evangelist for Jesus Christ, became homeless in October due to an auto accident and financial hardship. He moved from Massachusetts and was pleased about the direction he received regarding assistance. He felt that more advertisement should be done regarding programs and assistance to the homeless, as his opinion of MAYOR GOODMAN has changed. He agreed that Metro is hard on the homeless and there needs to be a stronger compassion for the homeless. MAYOR GOODMAN believed that the best form of communication to the homeless is the homeless advocates, as they have an established degree of trust. He urged MR. JOHNSTON to invite them to these City Council meetings where assistance is offered.

AL GALLEGOS, citizen of Las Vegas, commented on two individuals in the audience who received a notice from Code Enforcement. The individuals had been waiting all day and when contacting this department (229-6615), there was not an employee present who spoke Spanish. Some citizens contact him for assistance, but he was frustrated that there are insufficient Spanish speaking employees in various departments to assist these individuals.

DOROTHY BARNES, Las Vegas resident, stated she may be relocating. She voiced her ongoing concerns with individuals using her name on the program. She is pursuing a class action law suit and hoped that those individuals will stop the illegal activity. She thanked Council and everyone for listening to her during public comment.

Adjourned 5:09 p.m.

City of Las Vegas

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