

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE **CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: JUNE 3, 2015**

DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

DIRECTOR: DAVID RIGGLEMAN

SUBJECT:

RECOGNITION OF JOHN PONDER FOR HIS WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

Submitted at Meeting Copy of Proclamation for Jon Ponder

Minutes:

COUNCILMAN BARLOW called forward and recognized JOHN PONDER, CEO of HOPE for Prisoners Incorporated, who created this non-profit organization to provide opportunities for ex-offenders. The Councilman also asked the following individuals who strongly support this organization to join him at the podium: MS. BARBARA CEGAYSKIE, Nevada Secretary of State, M.J. MAYNARD, Deputy General Manager of the Regional Transportation Commission, TERRY JOHNSON, Gaming Control Board Member, and ANGELA BROCKINS, Operations Manager for Hope for Prisoners Incorporated.

COUNCILMAN BARLOW stated that MR. PONDER has a strong desire to help ex-offenders and has gained the support of various organizations in his efforts. He is very active in the Las Vegas community and serves in key leadership roles. This program helps individuals struggling to get back into society.

MR. PONDER accepted the Proclamation, a copy of which was submitted as backup, and thanked MAYOR GOODMAN and the Council for all the work they do and their leadership, which has helped make this community what it is. He thanked his fellow supporters for all their work in making HOPE for Prisoners a success, as well as SHERIFF JOSEPH LOMBARDO of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department for forming a partnership with the HOPE organization to help as a community and be successful at helping men and women coming out of the prison system so that they can live in this community. MR. PONDER said that anyone needing services or wishing to make a donation can visit the office.

COUNCILMAN COFFIN stated this is a good program that helps ex-offenders re-enter society, which is important, given that the United States imprisons more people than any other country.