

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, October 11, 2005

Council Chambers

PRESENT: Alds. Casey, Jenkins, Kopischke, Stepaniak – 4

EXCUSED: Ald. Bruderle-Baran

ALSO PRESENT: B. Aldana, Asst. City Atty./Personnel Admin.; Chief D. Redman, Fire; R. Lenski, Deputy Assessor, C. Bennett, Eng. Tech. IV; Lori, Murphy, Mun. Clerk II

Ald. Jenkins as Chair called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Reorganization of the City Assessor's office

Mr. Lenski noted that an additional memo from the Assessor had been given to the aldermen including further information on the issues and addressing some of the items in the Municipal Clerk II memo.

Both Mr. Bennett and Ms. Murphy rebutted the issues raised in the Assessor's memo emphasizing that with the elimination of the clerical position, a number of the clerical duties would be assigned to the appraisers. Ms. Murphy stressed that her duties were necessary and not just something to fill her day as was characterized in the Assessor's memo. Mr. Bennett said that as far as the options Ms. Murphy has, the current union contract is negotiating the bumping rights. Ms. Murphy said she was not informed of the reorganization, but heard about it by mistake. She noted that she does have an assessment technician certification.

Ald. Kopischke said it is always difficult dealing with eliminating a position, reducing hours or changing terms from when the person was hired; however, he felt that unless there is something obviously wrong, a department head needs to organize their office in the way they see fit.

Ald. Casey said that about 3 or 4 years ago the Council charged department heads to deal with ongoing fiscal constraints. He felt they needed to defer to the department heads in terms of how they are going to allocate the limited resources in their departments. He supported the request by the Assessor.

Moved by Ald. Kopischke, seconded by Ald. Stepaniak to recommend approval of the elimination of the Municipal Clerk II position and to reclassify the Appraiser I position to Appraiser III – 4

Ordinance amending Section 2.52.080 of the City Code pertaining to retiree health insurance (for adoption)

Ms. Aldana said the wording that articulates the cost for dependents should be clarified. The ordinance doesn't specify how they will pay their own way. She noted that one option was charging dependents the family rate.

Moved by Ald. Stepaniak, seconded by Ald. Kopischke to recommend adoption of the Ordinance amending Section 2.52.080 of the City Code pertaining to retiree health insurance – 4

Tentative agreement between the City of Wauwatosa and the Wauwatosa Professional Firefighters Association Local 1923

Ms. Aldana said this item was placed on the agenda at the last minute because they were not sure if all the issues were going to be addressed. She could report at this time; however, that they have reached a tentative agreement with Local 1923 with the help of a mediator. The health package is the same as was previously presented to the committee. She noted two points of agreement: 1) they have agreed on the language for prorating time off when on light duty; and 2) they have offered an incentive with regard to the health insurance package taking the form of a \$50 EMT pay increase which will be given to everyone as a unit wide incentive. The agreement will not be ratified until November.

Moved by Ald. Casey, seconded by Ald. Stepaniak to recommend ratifying the contract between the City of Wauwatosa and the Wauwatosa Professional Firefighters Association Local 1923 in concurrence with the staff recommendation – 4

The meeting adjourned at 7: 57 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
City of Wauwatosa

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