

CITY OF WAUWATOSA
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EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Council Chambers

PRESENT: Aids. Krill, Maher, Meaux, Purins, Stepaniak – 5

ALSO PRESENT: J. Archambo, City Admin.; A. Kesner, City Atty.; B. Aldana, Asst. City Atty./Personnel Admin.

Ald. Purins as chair called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

Consulting contract for the Assessor's office

Ms. Aldana noted the information that was given to the committee on what has been done internally regarding consulting contracts. She also added a survey showing to what extent other municipalities contract out for assessor services.

The committee discussed the merits of creating a policy to address the hiring of retired staff. One of the concerns was that the committee should avoid setting a precedent. They also asked if hiring retired staff is a good policy.

Ms. Aldana said the circumstances that would have to be addressed in order to create a policy would be so varied that it would be difficult to formulate. The question is what is in the city's best interest. Mr. Archambo said that at the managerial level contracting out would be rare. It would be more typical to contract out at the level of occasionally bringing back a retired public works employee for example.

Some committee members thought a policy wasn't necessary. They felt that judging whether a proposal of this type was in the city's best interests was the criteria to use. They felt that city staff could best determine that. They were looking for guidance from city staff to determine if there are driving forces that make this type of contract desirable and how it would benefit the city.

One of the concerns expressed was that the city would be contracting with an individual and not a firm. There was a question of liability issues. There was more of a comfort level contracting out with a firm that does this type of work.

Committee members also discussed the possibility of having to restructure the department and how to handle personnel changes within that restructuring.

Mr. Kesner stressed that a consulting agreement with a former employee would be treated like any other professional services agreement. The person would have to have some type of liability insurance. The person they contract with would also have to create their own business.

Moved by Ald. Maher, seconded by Ald. Krill to convene into closed session per Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e): Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive bargaining reasons require a closed session, and may reconvene into open session – 5

The committee convened into closed session at 7:47 p.m.

Moved by Ald. Krill, seconded by Ald. Stepaniak to authorize staff to negotiate a professional services contract for consulting services in the Assessor's office – 5

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
City of Wauwatosa

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