



CITY OF WAUWATOSA
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SPECIAL EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

Committee Room #2

PRESENT: Alds. Berdan, Donegan, Organ, Walsh

EXCUSED: Ald. Ewerdt

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Didier; Alds. Birschel, McBride, Meaux, Nikcevich, Wilson, Wilke; J. Archambo, City Admin.; A. Kesner, City Atty.; B. Aldana, Asst. City Atty./HR Dir.

Ald. Donegan as chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of proposed contract for Economic Development Director

Mr. Archambo reported that they have gone through the process of trying to fill the Economic Development Director position and in so doing they have reviewed a number of consulting firms and finally picked Voorhees and Assoc. as the firm that would aid the city in the search. He noted that Heidi Voorhees was in attendance.

Ald. Donegan clarified that the Council will not be approving the candidate; they will be approving the contract. They are not considering candidates at this time. There has already been an exhaustive search done that has resulted in a proposed candidate. He stressed that he will be supporting this process.

Mr. Archambo commented that they had received approximately 109 resumes and with the assistance of Ms. Voorhees and a number of individual and group stakeholders they were able to bring the number down to 48 and then five. The final five were interviewed by two panels: 1) an internal panel comprised of four department directors including the Director of Finance, Assistant City Attorney, the Director of Public Works, the Executive Director of the Business Improvement District, and one of the former Wauwatosa Economic Development Corporation Executive Directors; and 2) an external panel comprised of subject experts including the Community Development Director, former Alderman Robert Dennik, Mr. Bob Simi, Ald. Wilson, and two other people with economic development expertise. They asked some prescribed questions and shared their reactions to the candidates.

Mr. Archambo noted that it took about two weeks to negotiate the proposed contract. The current candidate stood above all the others and the ultimate decision was made in a collaborative effort.

Ald. Donegan commented that constituents are concerned about the salary which is really only about \$3,000 more than the candidate is currently making. Mr. Archambo responded to a question about relocation help saying that the candidate will be getting a relocation allowance of \$5,000.

Ms. Aldana suggested convening into closed session. Ald. Donegan felt that the entire discussion should be in open session. Mr. Kesner felt that there could be a more candid discussion if the meeting were conducted in closed session. Ald. Donegan strongly disagreed.

Moved by Ald. Organ, seconded by Ald. Berdan to convene into closed session per Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(c): considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; and 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. Vote on the motion was Ayes: 3, Noes: 1 (Donegan)

The committee convened into closed session at 7:16 p.m.

Moved by Ald. Organ, seconded by Ald. Walsh to reconvene into open session – 4

The committee reconvened into open session at 7:56 p.m.

Ald. Donegan commented that he was disappointed that the committee went into closed session and the public could not hear the committee's entire discussion.

Moved by Ald. Organ, seconded by Ald. Berdan to recommend approval of the employment contract for the new Economic Development Director – 4

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
City of Wauwatosa

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