

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,
ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2012 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM
OF CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gene Ebersohl called the Executive Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:30 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch (arrived at 8:03 p.m.), Mathews and Reis and Mayor Hutchinson.

Absent: Alderman Piazza.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, City Engineer Ron Williams, City Attorney Terry Bruckert, City Labor Attorney Mark Weisman, Chief of Police & EMS Director Joe Edwards and Accounting/Clerical Assistant Sandy Garmer.

Guests Present: None.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Ebersohl stated the Executive Session was called to (i) receive an update on litigation currently pending against the city; (ii) discuss collective bargaining negotiations and employee wages; and (iii) discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employee(s) of the city.

Pending Litigation Update/Discussion

(A) Columbia Crossing , LLC Pending Litigation Settlement Options

City Attorney Terry Bruckert informed the Committee Members that he had spoken to Traci Pupillo, legal counsel for Columbia Crossing, LLC, pertaining to the city's proposed Inducement Resolution, and that Traci indicated said document is being still being reviewed. Terry stated he planned to keep in touch with Ms. Pupillo in an effort to settle this litigation.

(B) City of Columbia, Illinois v. Jarrod Pochynok (No. 11-LM-84)

City Attorney Terry Bruckert reviewed a document entitled "Release of All Claims" wherein Jarrod Pochynok has agreed to pay the city \$7,500 to settle this litigation contingent upon the city agreeing to execute said "Release of All Claims" form – it was Terry's recommendation that the council agree to the settlement offer. It was the general consensus of the Committee Members that the proper documentation be presented at the

next city council meeting to settle this litigation as recommended by City Attorney Bruckert.

Collective Bargaining Negotiations and Employee Wages Discussion

City Administrator Hudzik, Police Chief Edwards and Labor Attorney Weisman addressed the council concerning the most recent counter-proposals received from the FOP – Officers and FOP – Telecommunicators Units at the negotiating sessions held on August 21, 2012 (which documents had been previously distributed to the Committee Members). Each item of each unit's counter-proposals was reviewed and responses were recommended for all items with the exception of the wages/health insurance participation rates issues. City Engineer Williams and City Administrator Hudzik then addressed the Committee Members on the most recent counter-proposals received from the USW/DOPW employees at the negotiating session held on August 23, 2012 (which documents had been previously distributed to the Committee Members). Each counter-proposal was reviewed and Williams made his recommendations for all items with the exception of the wages/health insurance participation rates issues. During the employee group presentations, general discussions were held wherein all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions on how the city should respond to each item reviewed – the Committee Members gave guidance to the Department Heads and Labor Attorney on the responses to be given (on behalf of the city) at each employee group's next negotiating session. City Administrator Hudzik then distributed and reviewed worksheets containing information detailing the difference in health insurance premiums to be paid by city employees during the three (3) years of the collective bargaining agreements based upon the proposal made by the city vs. the amounts offered by the FOP – Officers' and Telecommunicators' Units (at the 08/21/12 negotiating sessions) (NOTE: the USW/DOPW employees did not offer to pay any increased health insurance premiums); two (2) different worksheets were presented – one assuming a annual premium increase during the next two years, and one assuming a annual premium increase during the next two years. During Hudzik's presentation, all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions. The Committee Members then gave guidance to the Department Heads and Labor Attorney on the responses to be given (on behalf of the city) at each employee group's next negotiating session pertaining to the wages/health insurance participation rates issues.

Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employee(s) of the City Discussion

Police Chief and EMS Director Joe Edwards informed the Committee Members that he feels the EMS Department needs a full-time chief to properly manage that department – he asked that the Committee Members give consideration to hiring EMS part-time employee Shannon Bound as the EMS Chief. During Joe's presentation, all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions, which included

III. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Reis and seconded by Alderman Roessler to adjourn the Executive Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Monday, September 10, 2012 at 9:48 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Mathews and Reis voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

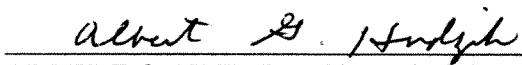


GENE EBERSOHL, Chairman
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes Taken By:



SANDRA GARMER, Accounting/Clerical Assistant



ALBERT G. HUDZIK, City Administrator