

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, July 8, 2013 - 6:59 p.m.
Lincoln Center ~ 1519 Water Street

PRESENT: Chairperson O'Meara; Alderpersons Slowinski, Moore, Patton,
Phillips

OTHERS

PRESENT: Mayor Halverson; C/T Ladick; Clerk Moe; Attorney Beveridge;
Alderpersons Suomi, Doxtator, M. Stroik, R. Stroik,
Trzebiatowski; Wiza; Directors Schatschneider,
Ostrowski, Schrader; Assistant Chief Skibba; Sharon Patoka;
Sandy Kratzke; Barb Jacob; Gene Kemmeter ~ Portage
County Gazette; Brandi Makuski ~ SPCT; Chris Jones ~ SPJ;
Larry Lee ~ WSAU; Human Resource Manager Jakusz

Chairman O'Meara called the meeting to order.

1. Discussion and possible action on the City Assessor's Office and re-filling the Assessor position.

Alderman Moore stated that he would like the City to go back to the way it was previously. He feels that contracting for Assessor services left the remaining staff overburdened and too long of time gaps waiting for direction from the contractor.

Alderman Phillips stated that we would like to see options available to the City. He'd like to know the cost for contracting versus having an internal position. He feels it would be helpful to get input from comparable communities who do contract out to see how it's going and to find out what works and what doesn't.

Mayor Halverson replied that we can go to as many like communities as possible that contract out and maintain office staff. We would contact Wisconsin Rapids and also see if there are university towns that have a similar arrangement. We will try to get folks here to address the Committee or get written comments regarding their perspective on contracting.

If the City decides to contract out things such as work load and more "face time", phone and e-mail contact with the contractor will have to be reviewed. We need a contract provider who can provide support for inquiries. We want to improve on what we've just come off of.

Additional measures could be built in such as LTE support or moving/re-assigning other City staff to assist.

Alderman Moore moved to postpone action until further information can be provided; Alderman Phillips seconded. Ayes all, nays none. Motion carried.

2. Discussion and possible action on guidelines relating to Domestic Partnership Coverage on the City's High Deductible Health Plan.

Reference was made to the cover memo for this item from City Attorney Beveridge as well as the documents included in the packet.

Alderman Patton questioned whether a definition of a domestic partner should be added in the area with the other definitions. City Attorney Beveridge responded that this is identified in the Affidavit section. Attorney Beveridge added that we could require the signatures on the affidavit be notarized.

Alderman Moore suggested clarification of the last sentence under the "eligibility" section and the premium section.

Comptroller/Treasurer Ladick stated that he recommends striking #7 on the affidavit form.

He stated that although we don't want people joining the health plan unnecessarily, he feels the tax implication to the employee of approximately \$3,700 will curb this.

City Attorney Beveridge stated that if the Committee doesn't wish to strike #7 on the affidavit form, another option would be to add the word "family" in front of coverage.

Alderman Phillips asked what the worst case scenario as far as cost for coverage would be. Comptroller/Treasurer Ladick replied that if all 41 of the current single plans on the high deductible health plan enrolled, 41 plans X \$13,219 would be \$520,000 to \$550,000. Again, due to the increase in deductible for a family plan versus single plan being \$1,500 and the tax implications, he doesn't foresee many employees with a single plan adding a domestic partner to the coverage.

Alderman Phillips moved to wait for further modifications and additional measures to the documents; Chairperson O'Meara seconded.

Barb Jacob voiced her opinion that those seeking coverage for a domestic partner be treated as much the same as married couples to avoid law suits. She stated that the Committee is trying to make it different than what was initially intended.

Action on motion: ayes 4; nays 1 (Alderman Slowinski). Motion carried.

3. Adjournment.

Alderman Moore moved to adjourn; Chairperson O'Meara seconded. Ayes
all, nays none. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.