

City of Stevens Point Meeting Minutes

Personnel Committee

Monday, July 13, 2009, 6:14 p.m.

Lincoln Center, 1519 Water St.

Present: Chairperson Molski; Alderpersons Brooks, Moore, Heart, Walther

Also Present: Mayor Halverson; C/T Schlice; City Attorney Molepske; Clerk Moe; Alderpersons Slowinski, Mallison, O'Meara, Trzebiatowski, Stroik; Assessor Siebers; Chief Ruder; Directors Gardner, Schrader, Morris; Airport Manager Wheeler; Transit Manager Lemke; GIS/Construction Mgr. Lemke; Interim DPW Saunders; Superintendent of Streets Laidlaw; Assistant to Mayor Pazdernik; Dave Glodowski; Jim Metke; Mike Mead; Michael Mangan; Bob Woehr; Celia Check; Gene Kemmeter - Portage County Gazette; Human Resource Manager Jakusz

Chairman Molski called the meeting to order.

Index of these minutes:

1. Discussion and possible action on amendment to Administrative Policy 3.02, #7 Long Term Military Leave.
2. Discussion of amendment to City Ordinance to reflect residency requirement upon successful completion of probationary period for department heads.
3. Adjourn into closed session (approximately 6:25 p.m.) pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1) (f) [considering medical histories of specific persons which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories] for consideration of a request for extension of leave of absence without pay.
4. Reconvene into open session (approximately 10 minutes after adjourning into closed session) for action on the request for extension of leave of absence without pay.
5. Adjournment.

1. Discussion and possible action on amendment to Administrative Policy 3.02, #7 Long Term Military Leave. Policy|Memo

Human Resource Manager Jakusz advised that this amendment would allow those employees called up to active duty who report for such duty on or before December 31, 2009 the ability to continue benefits such as health insurance, life insurance and income continuation insurance without subjecting them to the COBRA rules and regulations. Mayor Halverson voiced his support of the amendment as a means of supporting military personnel and their families.

Aldersperson Moore moved to approve the amendment to Administrative Policy 3.02, #7; Alderman Walther seconded. Ayes all, nays none. Motion carried.

2. Discussion of amendment to City Ordinance to reflect residency requirement upon successful completion of probationary period for department heads. Memo

City Attorney Molepske indicated that the current City Ordinance requires that Department Heads, among others reside in the City of Stevens Point. However, Mayors have historically made appointments of Interim Directors to individuals who are not residents of the City of Stevens Point to fill a vacancy for a period of time while recruiting takes place to find a person to fill the vacancy on a more permanent basis. City Attorney is suggesting that the Ordinance 3.37 be amended to reflect that practice. He stated that he also recommends amending the ordinance to allow a newly hired employee 6 months after successful completion of their employment probationary period to obtain City residency.

By making this amendment it would alleviate an issue if a newly hired department head does not make probation.

Aldersperson Moore questioned how this would impact appointments made by the Police & Fire Commission. Attorney Molepske replied that ours is an optional powers Police & Fire Commission; there are only a handful of communities in the state of Wisconsin that have optional powers Police & Fire Commissions. They have the authority to appoint an individual to a position on an interim basis or on a more permanent basis. However, after successful completion of probationary status, a Chief, for example, would be required to attain City residency within 6 months.

Aldersperson Heart questioned how long an "interim" status could continue. Human Resource Manager Jakusz responded that in the present case with Interim DPW, when the request came before the Personnel Committee, the Mayor's memo indicated, "... until a permanent director is hired and/or restructuring occurs."

Bob Woehr suggestion that the Committee study Ordinance 3.37 very closely; the ordinance doesn't include the newly created Director position or the Director of Water & Wastewater.

Mayor Halverson stated that the newly created Director falls under the purview of the Police and Fire Commission and the he believes a subsection of City Ordinance 3.37 references "department heads" which would encompass the Director of Water & Wastewater.

This was a non-action item.

3. Aldersperson Brooks Moved to adjourn into closed session (6:32 p.m.) pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1) (f) [considering medical histories of specific persons which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories] for consideration of a request for extension of leave of absence without pay, Aldersperson Moore seconded. Policy | Memo
Roll Call: Molski, Heart, Brooks, Moore, Walther
Ayes all; nays none. Motion carried.

4. Motion by Aldersperson Molski, to reconvene into open session (6:48 p.m.) for action on the request for extension of leave of absence without pay, second by Aldersperson Moore.

Roll call: Molski, Heart, Brooks, Moore, Walther

Ayes all; nays none. Motion carried.

Aldersperson Molski moved to deny the request for extension of a leave of absence without pay; aldersperson Walther seconded. Ayes all; nays none. Motion carried.

5. Adjournment - 6:50 p.m.

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