

Minutes
General Counsel Commission
May 13, 2014

LOCATION: Municipal Building Room 208

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Councilwoman Mary Bartolotta, Chair
Councilman Gerald Daley
Councilman Carl Chisem
Councilman Sebastian Giuliano
Councilwoman Deborah Kleckowski

STAFF PRESENT: Brig Smith, General Counsel
Kathleen Morey, Director of Human Resources

PUBLIC PRESENT: Christine Bourne, President Local #466, Wayne
Bartolotta, Director of Central Communications, Daniel
Drew, Mayor, Robert Kronenberger, Acting Fire Chief,
Steven LaRosa, Battalion Chief and Public Works
Director William Russo.

A. Meeting Called to Order by Councilman Daley

The regular monthly meeting was called to order by Councilwoman Bartolotta at 7:01 p.m. A motion was made by Councilman Daley to move agenda items 2 and 3 before item 1. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

B. Public Comment

Christine Bourne spoke in favor of the recommended appointments of Robert Kronenberger and Steven LaRosa to the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief positions, respectively. Ms. Bourne also spoke to agenda item D (1), the Civilian Dispatcher Trainer position. Ms. Bourne was not in favor of this position being approved at this time arguing, that while the union was notified about this position, she was unaware that there is new licensing requirements. She added that there had been no impact bargaining with union. There being no further comment, the public hearing was closed at 7:06 p.m.

C. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting of April 8, 2014 were approved, with a correction noted by Councilman Giuliano to change the reference of Michiel Wackers to "Mr." instead of "Ms." The motion made by Councilwoman Kleckowski was seconded by Councilman Giuliano and approved as amended by unanimous vote.

D. New Business

1. Vetting of Robert Kronenberger, candidate for Fire Chief.
2. Vetting of Steven LaRosa, Candidate for Deputy Fire Chief.
Mayor Daniel Drew introduced the candidates to the Commissioners and stated that these are brave and dedicated firefighters and administrators. Both of these men give of themselves and are scholars in their own right. After the Mayor's closing remarks, a brief question and

answer period with candidates proceeded. There being no further questions, Councilwoman Bartolotta asked for a motion. Councilman Giuliano made the motion to approve moving these appointments forward to the Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Daley and passed by unanimous vote.

3. Civilian Dispatcher Trainer –

General Counsel Smith stated that it was unclear what impact had to be bargained, and that even if there were an impact, any bargaining would occur after Council consideration, not before. Councilwoman Bartolotta asked about the certification requirements for the position. Director Bartolotta gave a brief history of the position, stating that the proposed changes to the job description will make it more reflective of the department's needs in today's environment. Councilman Daley made a motion to move for approval to the Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Giuliano and passed by unanimous vote.

4. Ordinance: Chapter 262, Removal of Snow on Sidewalks and fine, Section 262-19:

Director Russo gave a brief explanation as to why there is need to make the changes to the ordinance, due to on-going problems with property owners who do not shovel their sidewalks after snow storms. After a brief discussion, Councilman Daley made a motion to approve and forward to Council. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Kleckowski and passed by unanimous vote.

E. Old Business:

Update on Job Classification Study: General Counsel Smith advised that there were two proposals received and the City reviewed both and we are in the process of checking on references. It was stated that there has been no appropriation granted as of yet. This item will be placed on next month's agenda for further update and discussion.

F. Other:

1. Vacancy Report – the vacancy report dated 5/13/14 was reviewed. No action required.
2. Legal Bills – there were none to review.
3. Sick Leave Banks – brief discussion concerning union sick leave banks. As of now only Fire has adopted one, and the City does have a very liberal policy for advancing sick leave for those in need. No action required.

G. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Daley, seconded by Councilman Giuliano, and carried unanimously.