

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,
ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, MAY 13, 2019 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ebersohl called the Executive Session of the Committee of the Whole of the City Council of Columbia, Illinois to order at 7:40 P.M. Upon roll call vote, the following were:

Present: Chairman Ebersohl and Committee Members - Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Huch, Holtkamp, and Riddle. Mayor Hutchinson was also present.

Quorum present.

Administrative Staff present: City Clerk Wes Hoeffken, Interim City Administrator Al Hudzik, City Attorney Terry Bruckert, Chief of Police Jerry Paul, Deputy Chief of Police Jason Donjon, and Deputy Clerk Kelly Mathews

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)

Chairman Ebersohl stated the Executive Session was called to discuss collective bargaining negotiations as permitted under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2).

A. Telecommunicators Bargaining Unit Contract

Chief Paul distributed and updated the proposed Bargaining Unit Contract submitted by the Illinois FOP Labor Council. Chief Paul and Interim City Administrator Al Hudzik updated the Committee Members on the items tentatively agreed upon or withdrawn by the Telecommunicators Unit and further discussed the follow issues:

- Section 15.1 (Sick Leave) requests compliance with the Employee Sick Leave Act (820 ILCS 191-10(b)) as it applies to sick leave coverage for persons other than the employee. Tentative agreement was reached to grant sick leave coverage up to 36 hours per year for the employee's spouse, child(ren) and parent(s).
- Section 17.2 (Post-Employment Health Insurance) requests a VEBA (Voluntary Employee Benefit Account) type account to be funded by unused benefit time at the time of separation. Tentative agreement was reached on a post employment health insurance account administered pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code. Research is still ongoing on the structure of this account.
- Appendix A (Wage Rates/Differentials) requests pay increases for all telecommunicator positions. Tentative agreement was reached for a 2.75% raise each year for three years.

B. Police Department Bargaining Unit Contract

Chief Paul distributed and updated the proposed Bargaining Unit Contract submitted by the Illinois FOP Labor Council. Chief Paul and Mr. Hudzik updated the Committee Members on the items tentatively agreed upon or withdrawn by the Patrol Officers Unit and further discussed the following issues:

- Appendix A – Section 1 requests pay increases. Tentative agreement was reached for a 2.75% raise each year for three years with the officers withdrawing their requests for increases in pay for overtime, compensatory time, longevity, sergeant’s pay, and Field Training Officer’s pay.
- Section 35.5 (Officer-Involved Shootings) requests adherence to existing Illinois state statutes. Tentative agreement was reached to use a SAMSHA standard of testing or a hospital; the City also proposed language pertaining to drug and alcohol testing of an officer involved in an Officer Involved Shooting.
- Section 29.1 Vision Care. This item was initially withdrawn by the Officer’s Unit but they requested that it be included again.
- Section 29.2 (Post-Employment Health Insurance) requests a VEBA (Voluntary Employee Benefit Account) type account to be funded by unused benefit time at the time of separation. Tentative agreement was reached on a post employment health insurance account administered pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code. Research is still ongoing on the structure of this account.
- Section 34.7 (Residency) requests an increase in the distance an officer can live from the city limits. Officers unit wants to continue discussing this issue. No member of the Committee of the Whole indicated the current residency language should be changed.


Interim City Administrator Al Hudzik informed the Committee Members of an item discussed with the Telecommunicators Unit that was not discussed earlier in this meeting concerning the inability of employees to receive sick leave or vacation time off during their first year on the job. There was a brief discussion regarding this issue, which applies to all new hires of the City, pertaining to employees being able to start accruing vacation and sick time beginning their first week worked rather than having to wait a year.

III. ADJOURNMENT


MOTION:

It was moved by Alderman Agne and seconded by Alderman Niemietz, to adjourn the Executive Session of the Committee of the Whole committee meeting of Monday, May 13, 2019 at 8:10 P.M. Upon voice vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Huch, Holtkamp and Riddle voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Minutes Taken By:



GENE EBERSOHL, Chairman
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE



KELLY MATHEWS, Deputy Clerk