

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,  
ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2009 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF CITY HALL**

---

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hutchinson called the Executive Session of the City Council of Columbia, Illinois to order at 8:05 PM.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

<b>Ebersohl</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent	<b>Row</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
<b>Agne</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent	<b>Hejna</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
<b>Niemietz</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent	<b>Oberkfell</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
<b>Unnerstall</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent	<b>Stumpf</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent

Quorum Present.

**Administrative Staff Present:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Clerk Wes Hoeffken	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Administrator Al Hudzik
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Attorney Tom Adams (left at 8:29 PM)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief of Police Joe Edwards (arrived at 8:29 PM)
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Inspector Al Holden	<input type="checkbox"/> City Treasurer Bob Naumann
<input type="checkbox"/> City Engineer Ron Williams	<input type="checkbox"/> Director of Economic Development Paul Ellis
<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Chief Mike Roediger	<input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Chief of Police Jerry Paul
<input type="checkbox"/> Deputy CEMS Director Ken Buss	<input type="checkbox"/> Accounting Manager Linda Sharp
<input type="checkbox"/> Labor Attorney Mark Weisman	

**II. STATED PURPOSE**

Mayor Hutchinson stated the Executive Session was called to discuss possible litigation, the EEOC Age and Gender Discrimination Complaint, a personnel issue and collective bargaining issues.

**A. EEOC Age and Gender Discrimination Complaint**

B. Officer Suedkamp Retirement

C. FOP Bargaining Unit Contract Negotiations

Mr. Hudzik distributed paperwork for the two FOP contracts. Alderman Ebersohl stated he has been involved in several contract negotiations and the employer is always represented by an attorney and inquired if Mr. Weisman would be present for contract negotiations. Alderman Unnerstall stated both sides want what is best and the School Board has not had attorneys present for their negotiations. Alderman Agne inquired if the representative for the bargaining unit is an attorney. Mr. Hudzik stated no. Alderman Niemietz stated that while they are not attorneys, that is all they do and are experts in contract negotiations. Alderman Niemietz added that Mr. Weisman also knows the history associated with past contracts. Alderman Agne stated that without legal representation the City runs the risk of the contract costing the City dearly.

Alderman Row inquired as to what Mr. Hudzik was requesting. Mr. Hudzik stated he needs to know who will be authorized by the Council to enter into negotiations with the FOP and enter into the Ground Rules Agreement. Mayor Hutchinson inquired what the cost would be to bring Mr. Weisman up to speed if the City needs to hire him. Mayor Hutchinson also asked what the Council will do if it takes longer than 60 days to negotiate the contract, since Mr. Hudzik's appointment may expire before contract negotiations are finalized. Alderman Row stated the City should go into the first session and see what the FOP is requesting. Mr. Hudzik stated that Mr. Weisman's involvement, if any, would be on an only as needed basis, with Council approval. Alderman Oberkfell inquired if Mr. Hudzik can continue to serve in office until the negotiations are completed, if negotiations extend beyond 60 days.

Alderman Unnerstall stated it would be wise to walk through the documents to understand what is important in the contracts, but the City needs to go into the first session and just listen. Mr. Hudzik stated the City needs to go into the first session with something to offer. Chief Edwards provided a summary of what typically transpires during the initial session. Chief Edwards then recommended the City proceed with the changes highlighted in the distributed documents. Alderman Row stated that if Mr. Hudzik and Chief Edwards felt comfortable with the proposed changes, then the Council should proceed accordingly.

Chief Edwards then reviewed the telecommunicator's current agreement.

Mr. Hudzik stated this would be an appropriate time to switch the Lincoln's birthday holiday with Presidents Day.

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the Council in Executive Session, Mayor Hutchinson asked for a motion to return to the Regular Session of the City Council at 9:54.

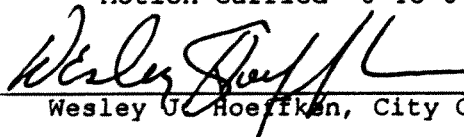
**MOTION:**

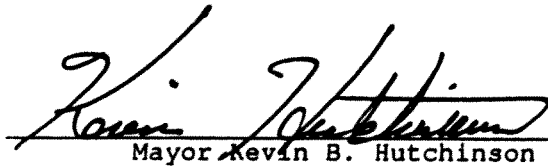
It was moved and seconded to adjourn the Executive Session of the City Council Meeting held Monday, March 2, 2009 at 9:54 PM.

Moved by: Row    Second: Agne    Vote: Roll Call

Ebersohl	Yea	Unnerstall	Yea	Oberkfell	Yea
Agne	Yea	Row	Yea	Stumpf	Yea
Niemietz	Yea	Hejna	Yea		

Motion Carried 8 To 0

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wesley U. Hoeffken, City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Kevin B. Hutchinson