

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE  
WHOLE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA,  
ILLINOIS HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2014 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF  
CITY HALL**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Ebersohl called the Executive Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City Council of the City of Columbia, Illinois to order at 8:55 p.m.

Upon Roll Call, the following members were:

Present: Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp and Mayor Hutchinson.

Absent: None.

Quorum Present.

Administrative Staff Present: City Administrator Al Hudzik, Chief of Police and EMS Director Joe Edwards, Interim EMS Chief Shannon Bound (left at 9:43 p.m.) and Accounting/Clerical Assistant Sandra Garmer.

Guests Present: None.

**II. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Ebersohl stated the Executive Session was called to (i) receive an update on EMS negotiations; (ii) discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body; and (iii) discuss the purchase or lease of real property for use by the city.

**EMS Negotiations Update**

City Administrator Al Hudzik distributed documentation to the Committee Members as follows: (i) worksheets entitled (a) "Vacation Benefits per CBAs/Personnel Code" showing the current vacation days received by city employees per their CBAs or the city's personnel code vs. that requested by AFSCME/EMS during ongoing negotiations, and with a suggested counteroffer for the Committee Members to consider; and (b) EMS Wages Information – May 1, 2009 thru September 23, 2013" (which worksheet had been distributed to the Committee Members at an earlier meeting during AFSCME/EMS negotiations) showing the wages paid to EMS full-time employees and paid volunteers during those time frames, as well as the initial wage increases requested at the beginning of the negotiations; and (ii) a document entitled "Bereavement Time Off per CBAs/Personnel Code" showing the current bereavement leave received by city employees per their CBAs or the city's personnel code – the city is still awaiting the latest bereavement request from AFSCME/EMS representatives. Hudzik then reviewed

his notes from the most recent negotiating session (i.e., August 8<sup>th</sup>), as well as each of the documents distributed, and recommended counter-offers the city could make pertaining to the vacation time requested (as shown on the first worksheet) and paid volunteer wages (per the recommendation of Interim EMS Chief Bound). During Hudzik's review, all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions. City negotiating representatives received guidance from the Committee Members on counter-offers to be made at the September 5, 2014 negotiating session.

**Discussion on the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employees**

**Discussion on the Purchase or Lease of Real Property for use by the City**

City Administrator Al Hudzik briefly reviewed the property appraisals on the Upchurch property, as prepared by DJ Howard & Associates, Inc. The appraised value of the northern tract of land was \$180,000 and the appraised value of the southern tract was \$135,000 vs. the \$600,000 request for each parcel received from Upchurch (see minutes of the July 14<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting). A general discussion on the appraisals occurred during which all in attendance were given the opportunity to make comments, ask questions and express their opinions – a comment was made concerning the process used by DJ Howard & Associates to arrive at the appraised values shown on the appraisals. City staff was ordered to forward copies of the appraisals to Upchurch and await their

response before additional action is taken to try to identify a source of funding for the purchase the property(ies), if an agreed upon price is reached.

III. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:**

It was moved by Alderman Huch and seconded by Alderman Agne to adjourn the Executive Session of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Monday, August 25, 2014 at 10:34 p.m. Upon Roll Call vote, Chairman Ebersohl and Aldermen Agne, Niemietz, Roessler, Huch, Mathews, Reis and Holtkamp voted yea. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Gene Ebersohl

GENE EBERSOHL, Chairman  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes Taken By:

Sandra Garner

SANDRA GARMER, Accounting/Clerical Assistant

Albert G. Hudzik

ALBERT G. HUDZIK, City Administrator