

PBAB 2/17/22 Minutes:

Present: Amara Dunn, James McCorkle, Andrew Spink

Absent: Evelyn Buisch, Robert MacClean, Councilor Gaglianese, Chief Passalacqua

February 17, 2022

6 PM via Zoom.

Andrew Spink took minutes in Robert MacClean's absence.

The group decided not to review budget academy slides while missing two members. We will discuss this next time.

Discussions of union contract.

AD: Let's give the absent members a chance to weigh in on the union contract by email.

AD: Section 8.3 discussion. Does adding 2nd 3rd and 4th officers to an assigned shift affect any recommendations the board would make about staffing? And also, are there other ways to do scheduling?

JM: The Ontario County Sheriff report talked about shifts.

AD: So it's possible the Geneva Police Department DCJS study will talk about shifts as well.

AS and AD: What does the proposed change to Article 8.3 mean? Language is unclear.

AS: The increases in Article 4 are (2% and 2.5%) are less than inflation. For example, Social Security cola increase was 5.9%, but also if the union is willing to agree to this, then that's not something I'm too worried about.

JM: Many places in Geneva such as HWS have not been good about keeping up with inflation either, though we don't know how high the raises of other unions are?

AD: Should there be parity with other unions?

AS: I'm also curious what raises were for other unions

AD: I'm also curious what raises were in prior contracts

AS: Do the scheduling changes in 8.3 have some relationship to holidays being prorated in 10.1? Does the fact that vacation days can be prorated have an effect on scheduling?

AD: What is the HRA? Is that a benefit that was costing the city money that is no longer provided?

JM: Sounds like the things we have questions about are 1) health provisions, 2) clarification of the schedule (what is required in the contract), 3) cost of living, and 4) time off and paid holidays?

JM: Does the full union contract have a grievance section?

AD: As the full union contract publicly available?

AS: It's possible the full union contract was publicly available by the court through the PRB litigation but would need to check.

AS: The union contract is probably FOIL-able if we can't get it.

Discussion on FOIL and Legal/Settlement Expenses:

AS: Speaking of FOIL, Robert was previously interesting in knowing amounts of settlement amounts. Can we FOIL this?

JM: Where does settlement money come out of?

AS: Quick look at Public Officers Law 87 would not seem to prohibit turning over data on number of settlements and how much? Just no personal identifying information, or other protected law enforcement information (e.g. FOIL can't disclose confidential source or investigative technique, etc.) that doesn't seem to apply

AD: Do we need to vote on whether to ask Erica how much is paid in litigation settlements?

AS: Might be a good idea to vote since it seems like a sensitive topic the chief declined to talk about.

JM: Seems like good idea to wait voting on this to give absent members a chance to be heard on whether to ask Erica for litigation settlement amounts.

JM: It's a good idea to request info on A) where legal expenses incurred by GPD are found in city budget, B) can city provide aggregate of annual legal expenses, and C) and average number of settlements. Also, what is the grievance section of the contract?

Other business:

AS: Should we email the group our thoughts on the contract? And give them a date to respond?

AD: Andrew, please send out minutes, so we can let the absent members know our thoughts on the contract.

AD: It makes more sense to get monthly expense reports rather than up to day.

AD: Is there a deputy comptroller and can we still ask someone those things? The deputy comptroller is Kelly Doeblin when I looked it up.

AD: We decided to talk about the budget academy slides next month.

AD: Next time let's go over 2021 expenditures, and should there be new or renamed line items for some expenses? Let's make a list for next time.

JM: Maybe we could invite Kelly Doeblin to attend next meeting?

AD: Inviting her seems like a good idea.

JM: I'm part of Shade Tree Committee and was given the impression that the city has more money coming in, but not clear where from.

AD: Let's talk about how the budget reflects our values.

JM: Yes, we should discuss how can we apply aspirational goals to police department.

AD: I'm curious on status of having a new alternate. We should recommend that we think a new alternate get appointed.

AD: I want to track down the full text of budget justification for 2022. I also want to get an org chart with names penciled in. We have a list of employees and an org chart, but we need to see which names fill which positions. We need a sense of who is doing what.

AD: Why do we have 4 police chaplains on org chart?

JM and AS: Are the chaplains actually GPD regular officers designated as chaplains or local clergy who are not employees who are designated for that purpose?

AD: Is there anyone doing "evidence and property control" for the GPD? The org chart makes it look like no one is.

Conclusion:

AD: To summarize, Andrew will email the minutes and our questions about the contract to absent members and get their thoughts on the contract? Give them a week to respond if they have any thoughts/comments on the contract.

AD: Next meeting 3/17. Are we in person? Not sure yet.

Adjourned.