

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE CITY OF CHEYENNE**

Office of City Clerk

February 20, 2015

The Governing Body of the City of Cheyenne convened in a special meeting on this date beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers for the purpose of collective labor bargaining with Cheyenne Professional Fire Fighters, International Association of Fire Fighters (I.A.F.F.), Local No. 279. Present were: COUNCIL MEMBERS - Mr. Brown, Mr. Johnson, Dr. Rinne, Mr. Roybal, Mr. Shanor, Mr. Valdez and Ms. Williams. Absent: Mayor Rick Kaysen, Mr. Cook and Mr. Luna. Also present were: Carol Intlekofer, City Clerk; Dan White, City Attorney, and Lois Huff, City Treasurer. In the absence of Mayor Kaysen, Council President Rinne chaired the meeting. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Council President Rinne advised that any executive session of the governing body held during the meeting was pursuant to authority allowed by Wyoming Statute § 16-4-405 (a) (x) of the Public Meetings Act.

Dan White, City Attorney and spokesperson for the governing body for negotiation purposes, outlined the City's proposal for next year's agreement with Local No. 279. Mr. White reviewed the sections contained in the proposed City contract, noting a re-ordering structure of the sections from last year's contract. Review included: Substantive changes; new or revised sections; editing and clarification changes, and changes made due to the Fire Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations, as revised in June 2014. Mr. White also noted and reviewed sections that are included in the current agreement but are not included in the City's proposal for the new agreement.

Jonathon Bertsch, President, I.A.F.F. Local No. 279, requested a recess to enable Local representatives to confer on the City's proposal as presented by Mr. White. Following a brief recess, Council President Rinne reconvened the special meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Mr. Bertsch advised of a clerical error involving two pages contained in Section 25, Classification of Employment and Basic Wages, of the Local's proposed contract, and distributed corrected pages. Mr. Bertsch then outlined the Local's proposed contract, noting he would not be reviewing many unchanged areas, which are contained in the existing contract, but would be reviewing the 10 sections noted in the cover sheet previously provided with the Local's proposal. He indicated he would also be commenting briefly on the section titled Holidays. Mr. Bertsch expressed his belief that making extensive changes to the format of past agreements may be detrimental and that past formats have worked well. Mr. Bertsch, with assistance by Kevin Reddy, Vice-President, I.A.F.F. Local No. 279, presented the Local's proposal involving the sections he previously noted. Review included: Changes made in certain sections due to the Local's proposed two year agreement term; substantive changes; revision of sections that will differ from current contract wording, and suggested clarifications. During his comments, Mr. Bertsch distributed a graph chart titled "Calls, Members, Area, & Population of Cheyenne".

Mr. White suggested the governing body meet in executive session for initial discussion on the union's proposal. Mr. Brown moved to meet in executive session, seconded by Mr. Shanor. Motion

carried. Voting “yes” -- all members of the governing body present. Council President Rinne asked Mr. White to identify City staff requested to be present at the executive session in addition to the governing body. [City Clerk note: Audio recording of the meeting was stopped; Executive session convened at 7:18 p.m. in the City Council administrative office]

Following conclusion of the executive session, Council President Rinne reconvened the special meeting at 8:31 p.m. Mr. White stated he had been directed by the governing body to present its response to the initial offering by the union; advised his comments would pertain to sections contained in the City’s proposed agreement, and indicated that “tentative agreement” for a number of sections might be reached between the parties. He stated the reason for the words “tentative agreement” is that the present intention of the governing body is to negotiate the new agreement in a “package” format and not on a section-by-section basis, and explained that different combinations of members providing a quorum of the governing body are attending different negotiation meetings. He added that after he describes the governing body’s position, it is likely that union representatives will want to caucus on the matters presented, and at that time potentially the current meeting could be adjourned. Mr. White reviewed the governing body’s position on several sections contained within the City’s proposal as related to certain sections of the Local’s proposal and its position presented earlier in the meeting.

Mr. Bertsch expressed appreciation for the offers brought forward and noted his agreement to conclude the current meeting. David Evans, attorney representing I.A.F.F. Local No. 279, made statements pertaining to the Ground Rule indicating how arbitration would be handled under “governing law”, and stated the Local does not believe the Ground Rule wording obviated the requirement to utilize the American Arbitration Association as the vehicle to select an arbitrator.

Council President Rinne advised the purpose of the special meeting had been met, and there being no further business previously noted for the special meeting, adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Submitted by,

Carol Intlekofer, MMC
City Clerk

This notice is available in alternative, accessible formats upon request.

Published: Wyoming Tribune-Eagle
February 27, 2015