

**CITY OF ALTOONA, WI**  
**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 16, 2008**

**(I) Call Meeting to Order**

Mayor Tom Meyer called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. held in the Council Chambers at Altoona City Hall.

**(II) Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Meyer led the Common Council and others in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**(III) Roll Call**

The City Clerk called the roll. Council Persons William Spangler, Brendan Pratt, Dale Stuber, Ray Henning, Colleen Weber and Red Hanks were present. Also present: Mayor Tom Meyer, Attorney Ryan Schuetz, City Administrator Mike Golat, Finance Director Jon Pfeilsticker, Police Chief and Fire Chief Todd Chaney and City Clerk Cindy Bauer.

**(IV) Citizen Participation Period**

There being no Citizen Participation, motion by Henning/Stuber to close Citizen Participation Period.  
**Motion carried.**

**(V)(1) Consider requiring non-represented City of Altoona employees to pay a portion of their insurance benefits effective January 1, 2009.**

City Administrator Mike Golat explained that his employment contract requires him to pay a portion (5%) of health insurance and dental insurance; the same applies to Pfeilsticker and Walter. Golat said at that time the city was going to move toward requiring a share of the premiums paid by the employees. The current union contracts such as the Police Department agreed to pay 3% in 2008, 4% in 2009 and 5% in 2010. During the budget review this year, Golat asked the Mayor how they should address the non-represented employees. The mayor suggested 4% in 2009 and 5% in 2010. A portion of their dental insurance was also suggested to be paid for by the employee. Golat said that would be a savings of \$5,000 in 2008 and possibly \$6,000 in 2009. Golat said we needed direction tonight because there is open enrollment for health insurance until October 24. This would give employees an opportunity to switch providers. Golat said for 2008 Group Health was the lowest bidder; for 2009 it will be Health Traditions. Discussion followed.

Todd Chaney commented that his contract is an ongoing contract; it doesn't lapse. Chaney felt he should have been told ahead of time as a courtesy of any suggested changes.

Council Member Pratt commented on the compensation study that will be taking place. Pratt said if we are going to make changes in the non-union, it should be done as a package, not just a change in the health insurance or individual contracts; everyone should have the same City benefit package, same medical, same vacation, etc.

Golat mentioned that the Attorney's office is in the process of updating the City's Personnel Manual.

Finance Director Pfeilsticker explained the current health insurance bids and the portion of employee share.

Council Member Henning commented that everyone should be equal on the payments towards the insurance premium.

Council Member Weber commented that she supports the proposed changes, but the way it's been handled should have been done differently.

Council Member Hanks felt that we are also moving in the right direction with the proposed changes but we should look at some of the non-represented contracts.

Motion by Spangler/Hanks to require non-represented City of Altoona non-contracted employees to pay a portion of their health and dental insurance benefits effective January 1, 2009 being 4% of lowest offered premium in 2009 and 5% in 2010. Roll call vote 6-ayes, Spangler, Hanks, Weber, Pratt, Henning, Stuber, 0-nays. **Motion carried 6-0.**

**(V)(2) Consider convening in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats 19.85 (1)(e) A. River Prairie Developer's Agreement.**

Motion by Henning/Stuber to convene in closed session at 5:55 p.m. pursuant to Wis. Stats 19.85 (1)(e) A. River Prairie Developer's Agreement. Roll call vote, 6-ayes, Henning, Stuber, Hanks, Weber, Spangler, Pratt, 0-nays. **Motion carried 6-0.**

**(V)(3) Motion to reconvene to open session for the purpose of discussion on the matters entertained in closed session.**

Motion by Spangler/Hanks to reconvene in open session at 6:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussion on the matters entertained in closed session. **Motion carried.**

No action reported out.

**(VI) Miscellaneous Business and Communications**

Golat mentioned that he had a meeting with the well contractor. Golat updated the Council regarding the recent problems with well #7. Golat said we are also having problems with water leaks around the City and trying to get all the patches done.

**(VII) Adjournment.**

Motion by Spangler/Weber to adjourn at 6:15 p.m. **Motion carried.**

Minutes submitted by  
Cindy Bauer, City Clerk