

**Evanston City Council  
Closed Session Minutes  
Aldermanic Library  
Monday, August 14, 2006**

PRESENT: Aldermen Moran, Tisdahl, Rainey, Wollin, Jean-Baptiste, Wynne, Bernstein and Holmes

ABSENT: Aldermen Hansen

STAFF: Judith Aiello, Julia Carroll, Herb Hill and Dennis Nilsson

GUEST: Ron Kramer, Seyfarth & Shaw

PRESIDING: Mayor Lorraine H. Morton

START: 10:45 p.m.

Alderman Bernstein moved that Council convene into Closed Session for the purpose of considering collective bargaining and minutes pursuant to 5 Illinois Compiled Statutes 120/2 ( c ) ( 2 ) and (21).

Roll call. Voting aye – Moran, Tisdahl, Rainey, Wollin, Jean-Baptiste, Wynne, Bernstein and Holmes. Voting nay – none. Motion carried. (8-0).

**Minutes**

Closed Session Minutes of May 8, 2006 and June 12, 2006 were accepted without change.

**Agreement with Teamsters**

City Manager Julia Carroll reported that the City and the union had reached agreement on a labor contract which was ready for Council approval. She introduced Ron Kramer, attorney with Seyfarth Shaw who represented the City at the bargaining table with staff. Pertinent points were covered in a memo.

In response to Mayor Morton's question on what is good about this contract, Ms. Carroll reported the good news was they are breaking new territory with language that allows change through a committee process. Most of the time they have to bargain over every little pointed, but that is not the case with this. The other important factor is that the City got the union to raise their employee health insurance contributions higher, but not as high as AFSCME members and non-union employees, but it is a significant step. Right behind this they have the firefighters' contract coming up and they only pay about \$95 a month for their family health insurance while others pay up to \$195. Staff will need the support of Council when they get to that contract. Evanston is competitive with the market place and in the middle of the pack regarding salary, compensation and benefits.

Mr. Kramer pointed out that not only did the union agree to a change in health insurance from their separate health insurance plan, which saves the City money but to establish the Medical Insurance Cost Containment Committee. The City's goal was to put them on the same plan as everyone else and get more flexibility to change plans. These were major issues. They got a lot of flack for changes from their members. Essentially it is a give back for them with some increases down the road.

Ms. Carroll said the Police Sergeants held out until the Teamsters settled which sets them up for the ability to work with the firefighters. Once they have these three contracts settled staff will look at the cost structure of health insurance.

At 10:50 p.m. Alderman Bernstein moved that Council reconvene into Open Session. Seconded by Alderman Tisdahl. Motion carried. No nays.

Mary P. Morris,  
City Clerk