

Town Of Brandon Contract Negotiation Minutes 2/21/18

Attends Devon Fuller, Seth Hopkins, Tracy Wyman, Brian Coolidge, Dave Atherton, Connie Pell, Fred Coburn, Mike Dennis, Chris Kilmer, Joshua Massey, Richard Nickclaw, Lisa Kenyon

4:30 Meeting called to order by Mr. Hopkins

Mr. Hopkins asked for public comment, there was none

Mr. Hopkins asked to clarify Union negotiations team. Mr. Kilmer indicated that the team consisted of himself, Fred Coburn, Mike Dennis, Dave Butterfield and Joshua Massey. Mr. Hopkins then wanted to clarify that during caucus only members of each negotiation team would be allowed to caucus. Mr. Kilmer confirmed that this was correct.

Mr. Hopkins brought to the union's attention that the main issue of concern to the town was health insurance and that he was disappointed that the counter offer received from that union did not make much of a change in the health insurance coverage. Mr. Kilmer stated that though the insurance had not changed much the union had made concession for health insurance near the end of 2017. At this point it was determined that the town should caucus to review the union's offer.

4:50 Motion by Brian Coolidge/ Tracy Wyman to find that premature general public knowledge of upcoming negotiations with AFSCME will clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage by disclosing the Town's negotiation strategies. Motion passed 3-0

Motion to go into Executive Session 1VSA 313-A1 to caucus about proposal exchange by Brian Coolidge/Tracy Wyman
Passed 3-0

5:05 Motion to come out of executive session Coolidge 2nd Wyman
Passed 3-0

Mr. Kilmer union has new offer but first would like to review union's full proposal. Tentative agreements were reached on all requests by the union except section 401A concerning a 1.5% pay increase for two employees and 503B concerning insurance. At this point the union made the offer of, employees that choose the platinum insurance plan would increase their contributions from 10% to 15% the first year 17.5% the second year and 20% the third year. Employees that choose the gold insurance plan would contribute 10% year one 15% year two and 17.5% in year three.

5:28 Motion by Brian Coolidge/ Tracy Wyman to find that premature general public knowledge of upcoming negotiations with AFSCME will clearly place the Town at a

substantial disadvantage by disclosing the Town's negotiation strategies. Motion passed 3-0

Motion to go into Executive Session 1VSA 313-A1 to caucus about proposal exchange by Brian Coolidge/Tracy Wyman
Passed 3-0

5:42 Motion to come out of executive session Wyman 2nd Coolidge
Passed 3-0

Mr. Hopkins explained that getting off the platinum insurance plan was a must and gave the union the town's counter offer, employee contribution to the gold embedded plan would be 10% year one 12.5% year two and 15% year three. Mr. Hopkins also indicated that the town was not interested in paying the 1.5% increase in the 401A request.

6:03 Motion by Brian Coolidge/ Tracy Wyman to find that premature general public knowledge of upcoming negotiations with AFSCME will clearly place the Town at a substantial disadvantage by disclosing the Town's negotiation strategies. Motion passed 3-0

Motion to go into Executive Session 1VSA 313-A1 to caucus about proposal exchange by Brian Coolidge/Tracy Wyman
Passed 3-0

6:22 Motion to leave executive session Coolidge 2nd Wyman
Passed 3-0

Mr. Kilmer representing the Brandon Vermont employees of AFSCME said his team would agree to the town offer of, Gold embedded MVP insurance plan with employee contributions of 10% year one 12.5% year two and 15% year three. Mr. Kilmer, Ms. Pell and Mr. Atherton will complete the writing of the contract at which it will be brought to the full union members to be ratified. At this point it is the understanding of the people present that a tentative 3 year contract between the Town of Brandon and it's union employees has been reached.

6:32 Motion to adjourn Wyman 2nd Coolidge
Passed 3-0