

CITY OF BURTON
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 14, 2000, 5:00 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Special Meeting was called to order by Paula Zelenko, Council President, at 5:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brawner, Centilli, Cross, Hammon, Martinbianco, Tinnin and Zelenko.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Charles Smiley; C. Abbey, Personnel Director and C. Ladd, Deputy City Clerk.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: 1. Discussion and Possible Action on the Ratification of Union Contracts.
2. Discussion and Possible Acceptance of the Resignation of Ted Hammon.

PRESENTATION:

Mayor Smiley congratulated Paula Zelenko and Ted Hammon on their successful elections held on August 8, 2000.

Mayor Smiley requested an executive session be held to review the union contracts.

The Mayor said he attended a Mayor's workshop held in Petoskey. He noted that the conference subjects consisted of partnerships, relationships, local votes and they spoke about the upcoming conference on Mackinac Island. He said it is still not too late to sign up for the conference on Mackinac Island.

Mr. Abbey stated he had requests from Council members regarding old contracts and language changes in the new contracts. He has provided this information for the Council, as requested.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Pauline Dargel, 6119 Hugh, spoke concerning the vacancy in office when Council acts on the resignation of Mr. Hammon. She also spoke concerning the previous contracts containing provisions for pregnancy leave, family leave and employee pension.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Moved by Brawner, seconded by Hammon to go into Executive Session for discussion of union contracts.

Mr. Martinbianco asked Mr. Hammon if he felt comfortable going into deliberation in review of such contracts and potential fund transfers with the understanding that you are a lame duck councilman, as he would be sworn into office the next day, as County Commissioner.

Mr. Hammon replied that he is very comfortable going into negotiations and he feels a responsibility to the City, as well as the employees to act on these contracts.

Motion carried 7-0.

Council recessed at 5:12 P.M.

Council reconvened at 7:14 P.M.

Mr. Abbey stated that prior to Council action on the contracts, he would like it understood that for the COAM unit, the figures on the wages have been changed a couple of times. He said we will use the numbers that were negotiated for all the units in wages, which was 0% in the first year, 2.5%, 3% and 2% and whatever that equates to in their numbers, we will use. He said he thinks the figures are wrong for Sergeants and Lieutenants in their base wages.

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Mr. Hammon said that according to both the Parliamentary Procedure and the City Charter, in regards to Item #6 on the agenda, I need to make a motion to abstain, with Council approval.

Moved by Hammon, seconded by Martinbianco that Mr. Hammon be allowed to abstain from voting on Item #6 of the agenda. He said he would make this motion as Item #6 and make Item #6 on the agenda, Item #7. Motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Tinnin stated that she is not in agreement with the SEIU contract. She doesn't agree with the employees being capped in the MERS Pension system. We previously passed a resolution where the City should be capped at 18.66% and I think that should remain. She said she doesn't think that SEIU members are giving up their fair share as the other units are. She said she is also concerned about other language in the contract. She would not be voting for this agreement.

Mr. Martinbianco said because of the perplexity of the proposal for SEIU, he would prefer to see additional language that separates them from the other bargaining units, which have undergone this same analysis. In the past we have always used the SEIU agreement as the precursor of what may occur with the administrative and non-union, non-charter folks. Also, there is not an appropriate dollar figure associated with this particular agreement tonight. However, the Personnel Administrator has indicated an approximate range of that figure. He noted that he would feel more comfortable to research this further.

Mrs. Zelenko read the following letter from Mr. Hammon in regards to his resignation: Due to the results of the August 8th Primary for 3rd District County Commissioner and in accordance to the Burton City Charter, I hereby submit my resignation as Burton City Councilperson. This is to be effective this day, August 14, 2000.

Mayor Smiley thanked Mr. Hammon for his years of service and acknowledged his dedication to his family and the City of Burton. The Mayor noted that over the past 15 years, Mr. Hammon has been involved in this community through various boards, committees and organizations. Mayor Smiley wished Mr. Hammon well as the newly elected County Commissioner and presented him with a key to the City. He said there will be a reception immediately following this meeting.

Mrs. Zelenko said she appreciated everything Mr. Hammon has done for her personally, as a fellow Councilperson, and congratulated him on his election as County Commissioner. She said she is pleased to have someone from Burton to serve in this capacity.

Mayor Smiley asked Mrs. Zelenko to select a representative from the Council to be in charge of their team to help with the Paint for Pride project. Paint for Pride will be held on September 23, 2000.

Mr. Hammon stated that it has been both an honor and a privilege to serve the last 15 years as City Councilman. He said he would cherish the friendships he has made for the rest of his life. Mr. Hammon said along with the many friendships, he has made some enemies, but it there is no way to please everyone all of the time. He noted that he has served under two administrations, but never met a person with a vision like Mayor Smiley. He praised the Mayor for turning this City around. He said he was grateful for being allowed to serve this City for the past 15 years.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION ACTION:

Martinbianco moved and Cross seconded the following motion:

Approve and authorize postponing Item #4, SEIU Agreement and the appropriate dollar transfer until the next regular meeting of August 21, 2000, as an agenda item. Motion failed 3-4 with Brawner, Centilli, Hammon and Zelenko voting no.

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COUNCIL ACTION:

Brawner moved and Centilli seconded the following motion:

1. Approve and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a four-year agreement with COAM, on behalf of the City of Burton. Effective 7-1-2000 thru June 30, 2004.
Motion carried 7-0.

Centilli moved and Brawner seconded the following motion:

2. Approve and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a four-year agreement with POAM, on behalf of the City of Burton. Effective 7-1-2000 thru June 30, 2004.
Motion carried 7-0.

Centilli moved and Martinbianco seconded the following motion:

3. Approve and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a four-year agreement with AFSCME Local 1918, on behalf of the City of Burton. Effective 7-1-2000 thru June 30, 2004.
Motion carried 7-0.

Hammon moved and Centilli seconded the following motion:

4. Approve and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into a four-year agreement with SEIU Local 79, on behalf of the City of Burton. Effective 7-1-2000 thru June 30, 2004.
Motion carried 7-0.

Hammon moved and Centilli seconded the following motion:

5. Approve and authorize the transfer of Funds of \$22,200 from various fund contingencies to salaries and fringes for the 2000-2001 AFSCME contract proposal.
Motion carried 7-0.

Brawner moved and Centilli seconded the following motion:

6. Approve and authorize that Ted Hammon be allowed to abstain from voting on Item #6 of the agenda.
Motion carried 7-0.

Centilli moved and Tinnin seconded the following motion:

7. Approve and authorize the acceptance of the resignation of Ted Hammon from the Burton City Council.
Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

Cheryl M. Ladd, CMC/AAE
Deputy City Clerk

CML

