

**THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO
HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE
WED., MAY 13, 2009**

This meeting of the Health & Safety Committee of Kent City Council was called to order on Wed., May 13, 2009, by John Kuhar, Chair, at 8:52 p.m. Chair Kuhar explained the only item on the agenda dealt with the mutual aid agreement with Kent State University.

PRESENT: MR. AMRHEIN, MR. DELEONE, MR. FERRARA, MR. HAWKSLEY, MR. KUHAR, MS. SHAFFER, MR. TURNER, MS. WALLACH, AND MR. WILSON

ALSO PRESENT: J. FENDER; MAYOR; D. RULLER, CITY MANAGER; J. SILVER, LAW DIRECTOR; W. LILICH, SAFETY DIR.; AND L. COPLEY, CLERK OF COUNCIL

Dave Ruller, City Manger, explained it was time to renew the mutual aid agreement with Kent State University, and introduced **William Lillich, Safety Director**, at this time. Mr. Lillich said there are no substantial changes in the agreement, and it is for four more years.

Mr. Hawksley asked why it calls for emergency police services, adding it appears we go whenever the University needs the City, and vice versa. Mr. Lillich said it has to be an emergency. He said it would not cover traffic control for a big event.

There were no further questions, nor audience comments at this time.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH KENT STATE UNIVERSITY.

Motion made by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Hawksley, and carried by a voice vote of 7-0-1, with Mr. Kuhar abstaining.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION, PRIOR TO THE CONCLUSION OF THIS MEETING, TO DISCUSS EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION.

Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. Turner.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Turner, Mr. Hawksley, Mr. DeLeone, Ms. Wallach, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Kuhar, Mr. Amrhein, and Mr. Ferrara. The motion carried by a voice vote of 8-0.

Hearing no further business before this Committee, Chair Kuhar recessed this meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Following Executive Session, Chair Kuhar reconvened this meeting at 9:21 p.m.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL COMPENSATION PLAN.

Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. Hawksley.

Ms. Wallach asked if they remove Article 20, Section 2. **MR. FERRARA'S MOTION WAS TO AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL COMPENSATION PLAN, EXCEPT FOR ARTICLE 20, SECTION 2, AND MR. HAWKSLEY, SECONDER AGREED.**

The motion carried by a voice vote of 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED CHANGE TO ARTICLE 20, SECTION 2.

Motion made by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Hawksley.

Ms. Wallach said she would vote against this, as she wanted to freeze the wages of those employees in the plan.

MOTION TO AMEND TO REVERSE THE PERCENTAGES, WITH 2.5% IN YEAR 1, 2.75% IN YEAR 2,

AND 3% IN YEAR 3.

Motion made by Mr. Kuhar, seconded by Mr. Turner.

Mr. Ferrara and Mayor Fender spoke against the motion. Mr. Turner suggested they should have started this fight with the first union contract.

The motion failed by a hand count of 1-7.

There was more discussion on the original motion at this time. Mr. Kuhar said he saw both sides, adding he agreed with Ms. Wallach, but also agreed with the morale issue.

Ms. Wallach spoke against the motion. She said that everyone is working 60 hours per week, and she could not support the motion. Mr. Kuhar said he might abstain, as he did not know what to do.

Ms. Shaffer said she also was going back and forth. She said she wanted enthusiasm, but questioned whether this could be done through merit raises.

Mr. DeLeone called the question at this time.

The motion carried by a hand count of 6-2, with Mr. Kuhar and Ms. Wallach abstaining.

Hearing no further business before this motion, Chair Kuhar adjourned this meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Linda M. Copley, Clerk of Council

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

- 1) **TO AUTHORIZE THE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH KENT STATE UNIVERSITY**
- 2) **TO AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL COMPENSATION PLAN.**