

City of Tacoma Civil Service Board MINUTES

Date and Time: November 1, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.
Location: Tacoma Municipal Building Council Chambers
Chair: Beckie Summers
Coordinator: Wendy Hobson

Call to Order:

The Civil Service Board meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers of the Tacoma Municipal Building. Board Members Summers, McKenna, Sexton, Latch and Kielian were present.

Approval of Minutes:

BOARD MEMBER SEXTON MOVED FOR THE BOARD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 4, 2012 MEETING. BOARD MEMBER LATCH SECONDED THE MOTION.

BOARD MEMBER MCKENNA MOTIONED TO AMEND THE MINUTES TO INCLUDE THAT SHOULD THE BOARD NOT HAVE JURISDICTION IN THE MATTER OF JOHN MICHAEL NELSON THEN THE BOARD WOULD HAVE THE OPTION TO HEAR IT AS A COMPLAINT.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS. THE MOTION PASSED APPROVING THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.

Communication for Information/Action: (none)

Action on Matters Still Pending/New Business:

Request for appeal received July 26, 2012 on behalf of John Micheal Nelson, Tacoma Water.

Chair Summers asked if all parties were present, and for the parties to introduce themselves. Chair Summers indicated that at the last meeting, the Board had requested additional information from their Legal Advisor, and that the information was provided to the Board.

Michael Davis, Attorney for the appellant John Micheal Nelson read a letter into the record received from Alice Phillips of IBEW, Local 483.

Paul Goulding, representing the City stated that the City continues to believe that the Civil Service Board does not have jurisdiction and that it was not a disciplinary matter but was purely a compensation issue.

Board Member Latch asked if a lead position is always part of an applied rate or a difference in classification. Labor Negotiator, Tara Schaak stated that there are some bodies of work within the City where lead work is a separate classification but in this case, the lead work is not a separate classification. This application of rate was negotiated and agreed to by the parties, both the union and the City.

Board Member Kielian raised the question that if the Board denies this request for appeal, is there another mechanism for this employee to raise his issue. Mr. Goulding answered yes; they have filed a tort claim based on the reduction in pay. Board Member Kielian added that counsel has advised that this would not fall under the Board's jurisdiction and pursuing the matter further would not be the best use of the Board's time.

BOARD MEMBER KIELIAN MOVED TO DENY THE REQUEST FOR APPEAL OF JOHN MICHEAL NELSON. BOARD MEMBER MCKENNA SECONDED THE MOTION.

Additional discussion on the matter was held between all the parties. Based on information provided, Board Member Kielian called for the question.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN REGARDING THE CALL FOR THE QUESTION: 3 AYES, 1 NAY, 1 ABSTENTION. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN REGARDING THE DENIAL OF THE APPEAL: 3 AYES, 0 NAY, 2 ABSTENTION. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED AND THE REQUEST FOR APPEAL IS DENIED.

Board Member Sexton questioned the letter from Alice Phillips and asked for information from the Board's Legal Advisor. Legal Advisor Jennifer Taylor provided additional information regarding the collective bargaining agreement and the letter from Alice Phillips read into the record. Counsel advised that she heard the letter and her analysis would not change. Based on the explanation provided, Board Member Sexton supports the motion for the denial of the appeal.

Chair Summers added that before going forward, she would like to request a study session on the general process and investigatory powers of this body. The request was made to the Coordinator to schedule a study session for the December meeting.

Consideration of Matters Set for Public Hearing: (none)

Coordinator Report: The new Civil Service Board Coordinator, Wendy Hobson was introduced

Human Resources Director Report and Request:

Joy St. Germain reviewed a list of current extensions have been approved. Parking Enforcement Officer, 12 month extension; Environmental Systems Technician, 12 month extension; Administrative Assistant, 3 month extension; and Office Assistant, 3 month extension

Requests for Extension of Temporary Appointment: Teresa Dent, Human Resources Analyst and Tony Kendall, Field Operations Manager, were present to speak on a request for an extension of temporary appointment as a Meter Reader for Britton Ruby.

BOARD MEMBER SEXTON MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT FOR BRITTON RUBY. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBERS LATCH AND KIELIAN.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS. The motion was approved.

Requests were made for non-competitive appointments for the following employees:
Suzanne Barry and Narnie Rezentes – Senior Computer Operators CSC 0118

Bob Paz, Human Resources Analyst and Michelle Lewis-Hodges, Information Technology Director were present to provide additional information regarding the requests for a waiver of non-competitive appointment for Suzanne Barry and Narnie Resentes as Senior Computer Operator.

BOARD MEMBER KIELIAN MOVED FOR THE BOARD TO APPROVE THE REQUESTS FOR NON-COMPETITIVE APPOINTMENTS FOR SUZANNE BARRY AND NARNIE REZENTES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER SEXTON.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

Requests were made for non-competitive appointments for the following employees:

John Reeves and Karl Berner – Building Inspector, CSC 2101

Bob Paz, Human Resources Analyst and Dan McConaughy, Code Inspection Supervisor, were present to provide information regarding the requests for the non-competitive appointments of John Reeves and Karl Berner, as Building Inspector.

BOARD MEMBER SEXTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE NON-COMPETITIVE APPOINTMENT FOR JOHN REEVES AND KARL BERNER. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER MCKENNA.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

Comments by the Public: (none)


Comments by Board Members: (none)

Adjournment:

As there were no objections, Chair Summers adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:


Beckie Summers
Civil Service Board Chair


Wendy Hobson
Civil Service Coordinator

