MINUTES
MEETING OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
Date: Thursday, January 18, 2011 – 5:00 p.m., in the Hall of Fame Room, City Hall.

Personnel: Members Present: Sonny Swagstu (vc), Paul Lawrence, Eric Hohol. Members Excused: Greg Jenson.

Others Present: Attorney Tom Crone, Mayor Donna Olson, City Clerk Kelly Michaels, Finance Director Laurie Sullivan, Public Works Director Karl Manthe, Gary Anderson, Lisa Aide, Chip Vike, Phil Linnerud, John Udsteuen.

Call to Order: Chairperson Sonny Swagstu noted there was a quorum present of Personnel Committee and the meeting was called to order at 5:20 pm.

CLOSED SESSION:
Motion by Swagstu, second by Hohol to enter into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Swagstu, Hohol, Lawrence. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion by Hohol, second by Lawrence to enter into open session to meet with the WPPA-CEA and local union stewards for the purpose of discussion and to exchange initial proposals reference the CEA Reopener. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

Introductions were made and Attorney Crone indicated they would make the formal exchange of proposals pursuant to the limited subject matter in the reopener.

Attorney Crone indicated the City's proposal included no changes in wages, no reduction in work week, no layoffs and 5 furlough days. He indicated he was presenting the furlough days as directed by the Council, however for all practical purposes he acknowledged no other unit included furloughs so that may be a non-issue.

Gary Anderson presented the union's proposal which detailed an across the board wage rate increase of 2.4867% effective 1/1/2011 and 1.6176% effective 7/1/2011. It was noted that this increase was reflective of the recently settled contract for the utilities. He noted they have had a cooperative history dating back to 2006 in which they have consistently settled for less than averages with comparable cities.

Attorney Crone acknowledged the statement but indicated the lower percentage was tied to differences in their health insurance plan. Crone noted that regrettably the City of Stoughton has been at the bottom of economic development and growth scale for many years and as such is unable to afford these wage increases.

Both sides indicated they were at an impasse as neither side was willing to give concessions to their original proposals. Attorney Crone indicated the next step would be to move towards mediation & arbitration.

Motion by Lawrence, second by Hohol to enter back into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Hohol, Lawrence, Swagstu. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion by Lawrence, second by Hohol to adjourn the meeting in closed session. Motion carried 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Michaels
City Clerk/Personnel Director