

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS --- EXECUTIVE SESSIONS  
DECEMBER 15, 2016

PRESENT: Commissioners Peter Cross, Demetrius Atsalis, Dennis Sullivan and Victor Skende

ABSENT: Commissioner Laura Cronin

b. Chairman Cross opened the Executive Session with discussion of the compensation for Dean Melanson as Acting Chief of the Department. Sullivan referred to the By Law that sets the starting salary of the Chief at 1.6 times that of the Step III firefighter. The By Law gives the Board of Commissioners the option of starting the Chief at 1.8 times the Step III firefighter. Concern was expressed that Melanson not lose any compensation, salary or benefits, while serving as Active Chief. Deputy Melanson was asked to join the meeting. After further discussion and negotiation, Acting Chief Melanson's salary was set at 1.8 times that of the Step III firefighter with no loss of benefits currently accrued and to receive time and a half for overtime duty, effective 8 January 2017.

Deputy Melanson agreed to the compensation package and Commissioners Cross, Atsalis, Sullivan, and Skende voted affirmatively.

a. Chairman Cross informed the Commissioners present that Union President Dalmau had spoken with him and that his membership is prepared to open negotiations. The current contract with Firefighters Union 2172 expires June 30, 2017. The Union is eager to reach an amicable agreement. Cross expressed his desire to reach agreement expeditiously. Sullivan recapped some of the past negotiation sessions. It was his feeling that things could become heated when attorneys become involved. The Board members felt that it was in everyone's best interest to resolve any issues internally if possible. Cross will begin to open dialogue with Dalmau and inform Board of progress.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor Skende  
Clerk