



Cranston Police Department Retirees Association

33 Highwood Terrace

Cranston, RI 02920

Date: March 19, 2013

Call to Order: Pres. Pete Sepe called meeting to order at 1900 Hrs.

Salute to the Flag

Previous Minutes: Waived for this meeting

Treasurers Report: Waived for this meeting

New Business:

1. Pres. Sepe, for time constraints, asked Attorney Jim Keleher (JK) to speak at the beginning of the meeting. Att. JK is representing the Fire department in their contract issues with the city. He will speak to the current state of affairs regarding the contract. JK spoke about the case going forward and that we would most likely win the initial case against the city. He also mentioned that the city can fight the case over 'Overwhelming Safety'. Could possibly lose in Supreme Court. JK went over the current proposal by the city, 10 year COLA freeze, every other year option. A "Friendly Suit of the Court" would be filed. If an agreement is reached, we could end up with the every other year COLA and full COLA for the widows.
2. Al Correntte asked about the city having any other options, raise taxes???? JK believes the mayor would counter that he has no other way out, cannot raise taxes to get out of this issue.
3. Bill Morretti asked about the ARC being funded. JK said under a reached agreement, the city would HAVE TO fund the ARC.

4. Jim Ignasher asked if an actuary study has been done to show option 2 would work. JK said the actuary study would not be needed that the Friendly suit would mandate the ARC be funded.
5. John Bell asked if the mayor was open to option 2 (every other year COLA). JK, yes.
6. Jim Ignasher asked the time frame. JK said at the March 25<sup>th</sup> city council meeting the ordinance would be passed to suspend our COLA. JK would file law suit. Believes it would be approx 3-4 months.
7. Moretti asked what happens if the other group ( Pat Sullivan) goes to court to fight no COLA suspension. JK said if they win, they get the COLA and we would get Option 2.
8. Correntte: Mentioned that if not everyone wants option 2, those people can opt out and file on their own.
9. Ignasher: What happens after 2 years they come back to get our longevity?
  - a. Paul Valletta (Fire Dept) said our contract is still in effect, they cannot take that from us.
10. Mike Daily: Has any Class action suit been filed yet? JK, no, nothing to fight yet.
  - a. Paul Valletta spoke about how he has the majority of fire retirees and widows.
11. Sperlangano: Why not just sue for our contract rights. JK, Pat is right but feels we would lose in Supreme Court because this decision would affect all other cities.
12. Joe Fillion: Can mayor just pass ordinance for option 2? JK, no, must go to court.
13. Mike Daily: Who is Jim Keleher representing at this time?
  - a. Pres. Sepe spoke and said at this time, he is only rep. the fire side. He is here tonight to provide information.

Attorney Keleher concluded his time with no more questions.

#### Other New Business

14. Web Site.
  - a. Pres Sepe spoke about getting a web site up for members. Mark Sepe to provide information at next meeting.
15. Pres. Sepe said that Fred Morse is stepping down at Treas.
  - a. Auggie Comella made a motion to switch Mark Sepe from Sect. to Treas. and Trudy Fitta to Sect. Motion passed.
16. Vincent McAtteer made presentation regarding pension. See attached.

#### Old Business

None.

Next Meeting

TBD

Meeting adjourned at 2045 Hrs.