



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, March 01, 2011

Study Session

Item -1

Discussion Concerning Commission of Industrial Relations (CIR)

Staff Contact: Brenda Sutherland

Council Agenda Memo

From: Brenda Sutherland, Human Resources Director

Meeting: March 1, 2011

Subject: Discussion Concerning Commission of Industrial Relations

Item #'s: 1

Presenter(s): Brenda Sutherland, Human Resources Director

Background

Seventy-four percent of all regular status employees at the City of Grand Island are represented by a union. Currently there are seven labor agreements in force. Employees are represented by the following unions; AFSCME, Local 251, (American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO). This group represents employees in the Streets and Parks departments. The IAFF, Local 647, (International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO, CLC) represents employees in the Fire department. The FOP, Lodge No. 24 (Fraternal Order of Police) represents sworn employees in the Police department. IBEW, Local 1597 (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO) has four labor agreements and represents employees in the Utilities and Finance departments, the Wastewater Treatment Plant and a group called Service Clerical that has employees who work at various departments throughout the City.

All seven labor agreements are ready to be negotiated this spring as they will all terminate at midnight on September 30, 2011.

Discussion

As negotiations are getting ready to commence, a review of the Commission of Industrial Relations (CIR) to provide information to the City Council and citizens is timely. We will review the CIR's history, purpose, and powers to create a better understanding of the CIR and how it will play a part in upcoming labor negotiations.

In addition, we will discuss the following bills; LB 397, LB 482, LB 555, LB 564, LB 619, LB 623, LB 624, LB 664, and CA 29. They are currently before the State Legislature and are focused on CIR reform.

Conclusion

This item is presented to the City Council in a Study Session to allow for any questions to be answered and to create a greater understanding of the CIR.