



Responsible Employer Ordinance Monitoring Committee

36 Court Street

Springfield, MA 01108

<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

Regular Meeting

~ Minutes ~

Maureen Vear

Tuesday, October 2, 2018

2:00 PM

City Hall -- Room 200

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order on October 2, 2018 at City Hall Room 200, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA 01103.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Melvin A. Edwards	Chairperson	Present	
Timothy C. Allen	Ward 7 Councilor	Present	
Patrick Sullivan		Present	
Lindsay B. Hackett	Management Analyst	Present	
Fiore Grassetti		Present	

II. Public Portion

1. Accept minutes of the September 25, 2018 meeting

VOTED: To accept the minutes of the September 25, 2018 meeting.

Motion carried by voting in favor Members Mr. Grassetti, Ms. Hackett and Mr. Sullivan.

III. Discussion of REO Policies

1. Continued review and discussion of REO changes and updates

In opening of the meeting Mr. Edwards expressed his concerns with Theo Theocles, Deputy Director of Procurement, being in his position with Procurement Department and as an Attorney representing the REO in the redrafting of the Ordinance. He feels this is a conflict.

Mr. Sullivan stated he disagrees with Mr. Edwards and he has no issue with that. He feels Mr. Theocles works within the Department of Procurement and knows the ins and outs of both sides.

Ms. Hackett stated that it is the responsibility of the 5 committee members to create the new ordinance. It's not being created solely by Theo.

Mr. Theocles commented on Mr. Edwards statement, he stated he respects and appreciated his opinion. Mr. Theocles continued to say that this is not a Procurement Department, Law Department or a Union ordinance. He does not believe it is a conflict of interest.

Mr. Grassetti addressed the threshold dollar amount, he would like to see it at no more than \$500,000.00. Mr. Edwards said that \$250,000.00 is too low and that 1,000,000.00 is too high.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to set the threshold at \$1,000,000.00. Ms. Hackett seconded it.

VOTING: YES were Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Hackett and Mr. Allen. Voting NO was Mr. Edwards and Mr. Grassetti.

Mr. Swan agreed with the \$1,000,000.00 threshold. He feels if it needs to be revisited it certainly can be. Ms. Button agreed as well.

Mr. Edwards supports hiring a clerical worker for compliance Office. He stated if the work is too much for the current two people he would support the creation of another position. He feels the staffing level is not in line for what is being asked of the compliance office from REO committee.

Mr. Theocles expressed the inclusion of compliance examples for contractors would be beneficial for them to be compliant and successful. This would be upfront in the ordinance.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion and Mr. Allen Seconded it.

VOTING: YES were Mr. Edwards, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Allen, Ms. Hackett and Mr. Grassetti.

2. Report from Compliance Unit

Mr. Swan stated that his department is in the developing stages. They have 2 people currently in the Compliance Department.

Ms. Button stated the REO Committee doesn't understand the work and time involved. She continued to say that the goal is to work with Contractors and Sub-Contractors to improve/increase the numbers. The object is to create a good relationship and be able to work together.

3. Public Speak out - 10 Minutes

The Committee heard from Dan Mulcahy from the Sheet Metal Union. He stated that he filed a complaint with the Attorney General's office and the office of Inspector General in reference to 2 projects. The Senior Center in reference to prevailing wage and the Culinary Building in reference to building permits.

The Committee heard from Lisa Clausson from Carpenter Union. She made a recommendation to add suggestions to Contractors as to how they can better comply and be more compliant.

In closing Mr. Edwards stated the objective is to balance the REO committee and the commitment to do the best for the taxpayers of the City. Creation of the Ordinance and present it to the Committee of the whole of the City Council for approval.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2018 @ 2:00PM.

VOTED: To adjourn

Motion carried by voting in favor Mr. Edwards, Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Grassetti.

The Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary