

MILWAUKIE CITY COUNCIL
OAK LODGE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD
October 11, 1983
7 p.m.

MILWAUKIE SENIOR CENTER

WORK SESSION

A meeting of the Milwaukie City Council and the Board of Directors of Oak Lodge Fire District # 51 was held on October 11, 1983 to discuss a proposed intergovernmental agreement for fire services. The following members of the Milwaukie City Council were present:

Mayor Joy Burgess Mike Richmond
Ron Kinsella Don Graf

Absent:

Roger Hall

Members of the Oak Lodge Board of Directors present:

Michael Kearney, Chairman
Nancy Thornton
Glen Parker
Mal Bolen

Absent:

Lewis Johnson

Also present:

John Watts, Attorney - Oak Lodge
Bill Mills, Fire Chief, Oak Lodge
Dick Bailey, Fire Chief, Milwaukie
Laurie Perkin, Secretary, Milwaukie

Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order and invited comments or questions from the Council and the Board. Kinsella asked what affect a "measure #3" would have on the proposal. Kearney said that if a tax limitation measure like Measure # 3 were to pass, the district would lose 1/3 of their personnel, that under this proposal the reductions would be less devastating. Bailey said the present figures show Milwaukie would be affected similarly. He said that the total number of reductions under this proposal would be approximately one half as much. Kinsella asked what would happen if one jurisdiction did not pass its budget. Kearney said any budget would have a better chance of passing if the citizens were shown that this agreement was cost effective.

There was discussion on the possibility of the agreement not working out and what the effects would be. Watts said the wording regarding termination "without cause" was included so that either body would have the right to terminate without the burden of proof.

Richmond asked about putting the proposed agreement on the ballot and whether the annexation study the City of Milwaukie is involved in now would have an affect on the agreement.

Kearney said it was important to separate the issue of annexation from the discussion of this agreement, that the primary concern was what was best for the two fire districts.

Parker said how this proposal was handled with the public will determine its success, that if the issue of annexation is involved, there would be strong opposition.

Mayor Burgess said she wanted it made clear that the annexation issue was not initiated by the City of Milwaukie, that Don Broetje of the Oak Lodge Community Council approached the City Council with a request for information on cost of services.

Graf asked why, if a tax limitation measure would result in a 1/3 cut in personnel under the present system, would it not result in 1/3 cut under the proposed agreement.

Bailey said because the organizational structure is more flexible under the agreement and through "economies of scale" there would be less redundancy.

Comments from audience

Bill Hupp asked whether this issue would be on the ballot.

There was discussion on how to get information about the agreement to the public. Kearney said the Oak Lodge Board would have two or three informational meetings with people in the Oak Lodge area, after which he suggested meeting again with the Milwaukie Council. After this, he said, it could be decided whether or not the proposal should be placed on the ballot.

John Ayre had questions on the Broetje request. Mayor Burgess said that Broetje had come before the Council in July and asked that Milwaukie provide information on costs of services, that the Oak Lodge Council was interested in a comparison of costs for annexation and costs for incorporation. She said the Council then decided to ask Cogan & Associates to do a feasibility study.

There was discussion on the budget. Bailey said the Chiefs would prepare a budget which would have to be approved by both budget committees. There was further discussion on the budget, personnel costs and arbitration.

Graf expressed concern over the "trickle down" effect the wage increases for the firefighters would have on personnel costs in other areas of the city.

There was further discussion on publicity. Thornton suggested flyers be distributed for the informational meetings. Bailey said a copy of the Fire Stop proposal would be available at the fire stations, library and Willamette Manor. Kinsella suggested sending copies to the Key Communicators.

There was discussion on the civil service system. Bailey said the proposed district would have a traditional civil service system but would not include a grievance procedure, that this would be handled through collective bargaining.

The meeting was recessed at 8:10 p.m.
The meeting reconvened at 8:20

There was further discussion on publicity, flyers, schedule of meetings and preparation of a brochure. It was the consensus of the group that the proposal deserved further consideration and that each group would meet individually to discuss changes in the agreement before meeting again. The Oak Lodge Board decided to discuss this issue at their regular meeting on October 24. The City Council will discuss a meeting schedule at their regular meeting on October 18. The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Mayor Joy Burgess

Laurie Perkin, Secretary