

## **CONTRACT NEGOTIATION UPDATE**

We had 3 more meetings since the last update (5/24, 5/30 and 6/9) all in the presence of the mediator. The meetings have been more productive and we are still evaluating the costings the City has given us on many items that have to be given up. It is clear that the appointment of the mediator has at the very least made the City negotiate with us differently. I remain cautiously optimistic in achieving a contract that I can bring back to you for ratification. Once again, it would not make sense to list the contractual items being discussed as the value and their worth changes with each meeting. You can be assured however, that I and your board are negotiating with your best interests at hand. We are not discussing overtime banks, additional minutes of work, or the Wittenberg agreement. I believe the mediator is seeing our sincere interests in obtaining a fair settlement, which has always been the case. It is our opinion that it was the City delaying negotiating fairly. Our next scheduled contract meeting with the City is on Friday, June 16, 2006. We will update you accordingly.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding throughout this pain staking process.

Yours truly  
Pete Meringolo