

Court of Common Council

CITY OF HARTFORD
550 MAIN STREET
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06103

LIVING WAGE TASK FORCE MEETING

SUMMARY

The Living Wage Task Force held its fifth meeting on Tuesday, September 09, 2008 at 5:00 PM in the Council Chambers. The meeting was attended by the following representatives:

Councilwoman rJo Winch, Chair	Len Nalencz
Councilperson Luis Cotto, Co-Chair	Rochelle Palache
Earl Baskerville	Renaee Reese
Juan Hernandez	

Councilwoman Winch welcomed everyone. She went over the last meeting minutes which was a Public Hearing conducted by the Living Wage Task Force.

As a result of this meeting, the Living Wage Task Force will make six recommendations to move to the full Council. The following are listed below:

Item 1 – **Wage Level** - Increase the living wage from 110% to 120% of the federal poverty wage level.

Item 2 – **Scope** - Expand living wage requirements to all city contracts. Require living wage for all workers, not just service positions. Clearly specify the requirements for employees of contractors of the Hartford Board of Education. Expand requirements for City of Hartford and Board of Education employees. Lower the floor for contractual amounts from \$50,000 to \$20,000 and provide provisions for small businesses to include those with 15 or more employees.

Item 3 – **Health Benefits** – Increase the wage differential for those with no health benefits to an amount that makes it beneficial for the employer to pay the higher rate. Also, make note that this could be superseded by bargaining unit's contractual agreements.

Item 4 - **Job Opportunities for City Residents and Minorities** – Make an amendment that provides the school bus company to provide health care. Encourage contractee to create incentives to train city residents.

Item 5 – **Enforcement** – Establish a private right of action, require certified payroll quarterly, and increase fines to \$500 per day for infraction for companies whose contract is \$500,000 or more.

Item 6 – **Ensure ongoing assessment** – Appoint members to the Hartford Commission on Workplace Rights and amend their responsibilities to include reporting to Council and Mayor on outcomes as a result of the city residents working under the provisions of the Living Wage Ordinance.

Seven members of the Living Wage Task Force were present and voted unanimously to send all recommendations to council for approval.

Sincerely,

rJo Winch
Councilwoman
Chair, Living Wage Task Force