

CITY OF ATLANTA

CITY HALL ATLANTA, GA. 30303

Tel. 522-4463 Area Code 404

IVAN ALLEN, JR., MAYOR

R. EARL LANDERS, Administrative Assistant
MRS. ANN M. MOSES, Executive Secretary
DAN E. SWEAT, JR., Director of Governmental Liaison

June 29, 1966

Mr. Joseph Jacobs, Attorney
Wigwam Building
160 Central Avenue, S. W.
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Jacobs:

I have your letter of June 15. Though I have not been with the City during the whole of the twenty year period you refer to in your letter, my information is that the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees has had a pleasant relationship with the City for a long time and a number of the City employees are members..

The resolving of differences between the City and its employees has not been difficult in the past. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen have always been sympathetic to the salary needs of City employees, as well as to hours, working conditions and other employee benefits.

I am sure you agree that we have made much progress in all areas. The ever present problem of raising sufficient income from public sources to enable the City to pay our employees what we would really like and what they deserve will always be with us.

With the continued cooperation of the City employees and AFSC & ME, AFL-CIO, I am sure we can always make progress. We shall be pleased to continue to work as we have in the past with AFSC & ME, AFL-CIO.

The Civil Service Act is in effect a strong contract between the employees and the City government, the terms of which are

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spelled out in law. Wages, hours, employee benefits, including vacation, sick leave, life insurance, hospitalization insurance and retirement, are set forth in the City Charter or City ordinances adopted by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen under the procedures established by law.

It is my understanding that the Personnel Board and the Personnel Director always have been available to meet with the union's representatives and to receive information concerning employee benefits. They assure me that their relations with representatives of AFSC & ME, AFL-CIO, always have been most cordial and that they will continue to be available to discuss with these representatives any problems that arise in connection with City employees and any employee benefits proposed.

I am sure that the City Personnel Director, Carl Sutherland, will be glad to work with you in the establishment of an orderly procedure to be followed.

The City prefers for the unions to speak for their members in making known to City officials their desires, suggestions and aspirations for the City and their work with it. This information is invaluable in enabling us to intelligently seek to improve the condition of our employees and to go to the public with the proper arguments in favor of increased taxation which continues as you know to be the source of municipal income.

The City Personnel Department is the City's agency for such matters. Of course, the Personnel Board's recommendations will come to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen in matters involving pay and hours of work.

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I appreciate very much your letter and hope that this reply makes sufficiently clear to you the policy of the City.

Sincerely,

Ivan Allen, Jr.
Mayor

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cc: Personnel Board
General Carl Sutherland
Mr. Henry Bowden