

The City of Atlanta has asked, and has received, from the Fulton County Superior Court an injunction ordering Atlanta firemen to fulfill their obligation to the city and to return to work.

We sincerely hope that All Atlanta Firemen and the unions representing them will not only honor this injunction by returning to work immediately, but will fulfill their obligation to the city by staying on the job without any further court action. We hope it will not be necessary to take any further action in connection with the court injunction.

At this meeting of representatives of the Atlanta firemen's unions, I am making available the various city officials who have an area of responsibility in this action. They include Alderman Knight, Chairman of the Board of Firemasters, Alderman Farris, Chairman of the Finance Committee, ^{Chief C. H. Hilderbrand} General Carl Sutherland, Personnel Director, Mr. John Dougherty, Associate City Attorney, Mr. Charles Davis, City Comptroller, and myself.

It is our hope that orderly discussions of the problems you raise can be carried on through these groups without any further disruption of work, or the necessity for the ~~city to seek~~ further court action.

In addition to the Civil Service Act of the City of Atlanta, which guarantees protection to all of its employees, the Personnel Board of the City, which carries out this act, and the Board of Firemasters which is available to you at its regular ~~meetings~~ and on special meetings, I will be glad to ~~attempt~~ to take the following action to assist in solving this dilemma:

1. Inform you that under the Budget Act of the City of Atlanta the city cannot make an adjustment in wages after the budget has been approved and adopted, or after March 31st of the calendar year, ~~unless~~ ~~new sources of revenue are found.~~

2. To make available the Public Administration Service officials who are making a study of the salaries of city employees, so that you can give them full information as to your feelings concerning firemen's salaries; and, subject to their agreement and findings, they can be included in their report to be submitted to the city this fall.

3. Recommend to the Board of Aldermen at their next meeting on June 20th, and ask for immediate passage of an ordinance establishing a 56 hour work week effective January 1, 1967.

4. Further, ask the Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. Farris, to instruct the City Comptroller to completely review the budget of the City of Atlanta at the end of its six months period, ending the 30th of this month, to determine if any surplus funds have been accumulated from other sources that could be used for the purpose of commencing the implementation of the 56 hour work week on October 1st of this year. If such funds are available, we will ask the Board of Aldermen to approve an amendment to their ordinance, making the 56 hour work week effective as of that date.

Ivan Allen, Jr.

Mayor of Atlanta

June 8, 1966