

Jim Williams
President, AFSCME Local 369

April 1, 2008

Dear Mr. Williams,

I recently received copies of the correspondence between you and Mr. Fraser regarding the context of conversations between me and some city utility department employees during a pre-arranged staff meeting at the Wheeler Center. From this correspondence, I understand that there is a concern that my comments were criticisms directed toward the city employees with whom I met as a group and individually.

Let me assure you, at no time were any of my comments directed towards any city staff. I understand and take full responsibility that my words may have been hasty and unfortunately not very eloquent, and that my rhetorical statements were easily perceived to be criticisms. For that I profusely apologize to anyone, present or not, who felt that I was critical of their performance. I certainly did not come to meet the staff that morning to criticize anyone, but only to introduce myself as a Council member and review the trucks that had been proposed for replacement. I am well aware of the hard work and effort that the crews put in, especially this winter, and I am very appreciative of their contributions to the City.

I also want to note that I was speaking only on my own behalf. I was not speaking for any of the other Council members, or the Council as a whole. Once again, my intent was only to introduce myself to the staff while I was there to review the vehicles.

I appreciate the time you took to meet with me last night to discuss this matter. If at any time, you have questions or concerns about my support for the city employees you represent, please do not hesitate to contact me at 834-4811.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Stephen Kunselman,
Councilmember, Ward 3

CC: City Council