

**RESOLUTION NO. 20081016-039**

**WHEREAS**, "meet and confer" practices are interest-based negotiations in which neither the employer nor the employee is mandated to meet or to come to an agreement, and

**WHEREAS**, municipalities around the state have accepted the practice of "meet and confer" so that employees may negotiate and reach agreements with their employers on issues concerning wages, hours, terms, and conditions of employment, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin has accepted "meet and confer" practices for the purposes of successfully negotiating Fire, Police, and EMS personnel contracts in the past, and

**WHEREAS**, non-civil service City of Austin employees should be afforded the same right to select a bargaining agent to negotiate and represent their members as their civil service counterparts, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Austin has supported "meet and confer" legislation for non-civil service City of Austin employees as recently as the previous legislative session in 2007, and

**WHEREAS**, the 81<sup>st</sup> Legislature will be in session beginning January 13, 2009, and an interest has been expressed to again file legislation that will allow non-civil service municipal employees to "meet and confer" with the City of Austin, and

**WHEREAS**, chances of passing “meet and confer” legislation increases greatly with the filing of a bill that is agreed to by all parties and filed prior to the legislative session; and

**WHEREAS**, November 10, 2008, is the first day that a bill may be pre-filed in advance of the 81<sup>st</sup> Legislature, and

**WHEREAS**, the Council finds that it is in the best interest of all parties involved to begin discussions about legislation that is agreed to by all parties immediately, **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

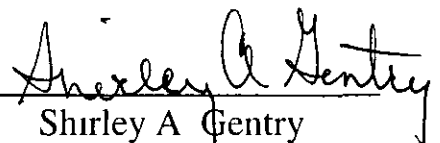
That the City Council supports the passage of certain “meet and confer” pieces of legislation covering City of Austin non-civil service employees.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That the City Manager is directed to meet with all appropriate stakeholders and legislators to work toward creating “meet and confer” legislation that is agreed to by all parties prior to the statutory pre-filing period so that legislation may be filed as soon as is practicable

**ADOPTED:** October 16, 2008

**ATTEST:**

  
Shirley A. Gentry  
City Clerk