

# G.R.E.I.U. News Flyer #1

## **HOW IMPORTANT IS YOUR JOB TO YOU???** **DO YOU WANT TO KEEP IT???**

The GREIU will be stepping up its efforts to inform our members and the public. There will be informational marches and flyers to help educate the public about the City of Grand Rapids' current "Employee Blaming" campaign. This campaign places the financial stability of this city on the cost of our health care and retirement benefits. What is not being made clear to the public is the needless spending on "Green" ideas, over use of expensive consulting firms, the creation and upgrade of supervisory positions, and various other needless spending. All this at the expense of customer service, our jobs, and our benefits. This needless spending is more important than our jobs as stated by Mayor Heartwell in the following quote:

*Mayor Heartwell's quote on Mlive.com written by Mr. Jim Harger dated September 29, 2010*

***"It doesn't matter if it's low-hanging fruit or a big ticket item, it's someone's job or department we're talking about," he said. "It's going to take some courage on the part of commissioners."***

Everyone has heard how the City wants to increase our contributions to our health care and pension. Below are some of the other things the City wants from GREIU members. After reading these you will understand why it is so important that we STAND UNITED. When there is a membership meeting, informational march or a city commission meeting that we ask for your attendance at please attend and STAND UNITED with your union brothers and sisters. We are all important and deserve to be treated fairly and with respect. Below is the language the City would like in our contract.

- **SEASONAL EMPLOYEES:** *"It is expressly understood that nothing contained in this Agreement will limit the right of Management to hire seasonal employees....."*
- **SUBCONTRACTING:** *"Management shall have the right to contract and subcontract work. No permanent position will be abolished through subcontracting without giving the Union thirty (30) days advance notice."*
- **NORMAL WORK WEEK AND WORK DAY:** *"Nothing contained herein shall be construed to guarantee of any particular number of hours of work or pay per day or per week, and the City reserves the right to change the normal workweek and normal workday whenever it determines that operating conditions warrant such changes." ".....it will advise the Union of the change at least 14 calendar days in advance of its effective date....."*
- **WORKERS COMPENSATION SUPPLEMENT:** Delete workers compensation supplement.
- **WAGES:** The City wants to take back the 2.5% wage increase that was received in 2010 and not authorize any future wage increases for the length of the new contract.

These are just some of the changes...there are more which the City wants...watch for info in future mailings.

If you would like more information on GREIU and receive current updates on Union activities, please "like" us on Facebook. Simply search Grand Rapids Employees Independent Union to find our page. Also, check out our website at [www.greiu.org](http://www.greiu.org)

**Fact to remember: The City has cut over 25% of positions which equals over 250 GREIU jobs since 2000.**

**NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:15 p.m. – 917 Bridge Street NW**

