

From: Jess Thill <thill.jess@gmail.com>
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To: ZZ City Clerk External; ZZ Council Members
Subject: F & P Agenda item feedback

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Hello, council members!

I'm writing with a comment about Item #21-1037 on tonight's Finance and Personnel committee agenda, which concerns wage adjustments for part-time, seasonal, and casual employees. It's hard not to notice when looking at the list that the majority of these positions pay well under the widely recognized livable wage of \$15/hour.

The City of La Crosse should be a model employer, setting an example for other employers in the city and making sure that its employees are paid enough to meet their economic needs. Adequately compensating employees should be at the top of our priorities, especially in a pandemic economy where low wage jobs often go unfilled. Without part-time and seasonal employees, our city's capacity to meet the needs of its residents is diminished and an undue burden is placed on existing staff.

I hope that you will consider this agenda item as an opportunity to reflect on what it would take for our city to implement a \$15/hour wage floor for its employees. I believe such a commitment would align with the council's established priorities and ensure that our departments have adequate staff to fulfill their missions.

Thank you for your time.

Jessica Thill
1417 Mississippi St
La Crosse WI 54601
608-792-5920