

City of Bethel Action Memorandum

Action memorandum No.	22-15		
Date action introduced:	May 10, 2022	Introduced by:	City Manager Williams
Date action taken:	May 10, 2022	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied
Confirmed by:	LS		

Action Title: Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter into a Contract with Labor Negotiator to Assist With Collective Bargaining Agreement with City Union; Procurement Waiver

Department/Individual:	Initials:	Remarks:
City Attorney	EMB	
City Clerk	LS	
Finance Director		
City Manager		

Amount of fiscal impact:		Account information:
	\$165 per hour	CA/CM Budgets
	Funds in City Budget.	YES

Summary Statement: This is a request to enter into a contract with a skilled labor relations negotiator familiar with Alaska state labor laws and process. Because of COVID, collective bargaining negotiations between Administration and the City employees' union have been ongoing for much longer than expected or practicable; we need to complete the last contract and enter into a new one, and we need a skilled labor negotiator to keep things moving. There are very few such persons in the state, and collective bargaining is a specialized area of expertise at the intersection of public personnel management and law. It is in the City's best administrative and legal interests to complete collective bargaining quickly and efficiently. Accordingly, the City Attorney and City Manager have located someone that they would like to hire on an hourly basis to assist Administration with collective bargaining. Funds would come from one or both budgets of the City Attorney and City Manager.

Authority and Procurement Waiver: Pursuant to BMC 4.20.230(E), the city manager, city clerk, and or city attorney are exempt from competitive bidding in situations where immediate legal action of a specialized nature is necessary. Additionally, under BMC 4.20.150, the City Manager may waive, in writing, formal bidding when there is insufficient time to comply with waived requirements or doing so is in the best interests of the city. Both the above-referenced Code provisions require a written explanation of the requested waiver. The above summary statement serves as the written explanation required by these Code provisions.