

City of Rock Springs)
County of Sweetwater)
State of Wyoming)

City Council met in special session on March 14, 2019. Mayor Timothy A. Kaumo called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. Members present included Councilors Rob Zotti, Keaton West, Jeannie Demas, Glennise Wendorf, Billy Shalata, and David Tate. Councilors David Halter and Tim Savage were absent from the meeting. IAFF Local 1499 representatives present included Luke Geffre, Amy Warne, Van Welsh, and Rob Miller. Department heads present included Matt McBurnett, Jim Wamsley, and David Lansang. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

NEGOTIATION MEETING

Members of International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1499 and the Governing Body of the City of Rock Springs to continue the negotiation process for the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the IAFF Local 1499 and the City of Rock Springs

Councilor Shalata stated that the IAFF Local 1499 Executive Board was going to go back to membership with the counter-offer stated on March 7, 2019, which was a 1.8% cost of living adjustment and a 1.5% range movement. Luke Geffre, president of IAFF Local 1499 stated that it was taken to membership, and another counter-offer has been presented of a 1.8% cost of living adjustment and a 3% range movement.

Mr. Geffre stated that their counter-offer is in line with the 7 year period that came out of arbitration years ago, so it is in the IAFF Local 1499 Collective Bargaining Contract. Councilor Zotti stated that in this Contract, there is a provision for economic times and to allow for this to happen as the budget allows. He included that the Governing Body's intent is to get everyone to the top of their pay band, in time. Councilor Shalata asked how many firefighters the range movement would affect, and Mr. Geffre replied that there are 15 employees who are eligible.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilor Zotti, seconded by Councilor Wendorf to move into Executive Session at 5:14 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

RECONVENE

Moved by Councilor Wendorf, seconded by Councilor Demas to reconvene at 5:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Shalata stated that counter-offer was reviewed and discussed, and the City's counter-offer is a 1.8% cost of living adjustment and a 1.8% range movement. It was stated that the IAFF Local 1499 sets the tempo for the entire City, and this counter-offer will cost the City a total of \$385,000 when including UMWA and non-bargaining employees. Councilor Shalata asked that the Executive Board take this counter-offer back to their membership.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilor Zotti, Seconded by Councilor Demas to move into Executive Session at 5:37 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

RECONVENE

Moved by Councilor West, seconded by Councilor Zotti to reconvene at 5:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Geffre announced that they have discussed the counter-offer by the City of a 1.8% cost of living adjustment and a 1.8% range movement, and that they are choosing to stand with their offer of a 1.8% cost of living adjustment and a 3% range movement. He included that the Executive Board is hoping to maintain the value of their positions due to inflation. He also included that wage studies recommend an average of a 5% range movement annually and that arbitration settled at 3%, in order to move wages up within 7 years. Councilor Shalata stated that insurance and pension increases were absorbed by the City, which added up to 4%. Discussion ensued regarding the budget, surrounding areas, and employees.

Councilor Shalata stated that one adjustment to the counter-offer has been offered by Mayor Kaumo, which is a 1.8% cost of living adjustment and a 2% range movement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Councilor Wendorf, Seconded by Councilor Tate to move into Executive Session at 6:07 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

RECONVENE

Moved by Councilor Tate, seconded by Councilor Wendorf to reconvene at 6:21 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Geffre stated that the Executive Board is agreeing to take the City's counter-offer of a 1.8% cost of living adjustment and a 2% range movement back to their membership, and that it will be put to a full Union vote, which will allow for 14 consecutive days for voting.

The next negotiation meeting was set for March 21, 2019 at 5:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

By: _____
Council President

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor