

BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

Committee on City Services & Innovation Technology Kenzie Bok, Chair

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

March 9, 2022

Dear Councilors,

Docket #0272, message and order for your approval an order to reduce the FY22 appropriation for the Reserve for Collective bargaining by Two Million Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred Nine Dollars (\$2,016,409.00) to provide funding for various departments for FY22 increases contained within the collective bargaining agreements between the City of Boston and SENA, and Docket #0273, message and orders for a supplemental appropriation order for various departments for FY22 in the amount of Two Million Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred Nine Dollars (\$2,016,409.00) to cover the FY22 cost items contained within the collective bargaining agreements between the City of Boston and SENA, were sponsored by the Administration, and referred to the Committee on February 16, 2022. The Committee held a public hearing on March 8, 2022.

Summary of Legislation:

Docket #0272 transfers funds from the Collective Bargaining Reserve to various departments, and Docket #0273 authorizes the funding of the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Boston and Salaried Employees of North America (SENA), Local 9158. The parties reached an agreement that covers three years, from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2023, with an estimated cost of \$7,1 million over the three years.

The annual wage increase pattern of this agreement is as follows, to be applied retroactively:

- Effective October 2020 2%
- Effective October 2021 1.5%
 Effective October 2022 20/
- Effective October 2022 2%

The agreement also contains the following language changes/policy modifications:

- Addition of Juneteenth as a recognized holiday
- Agreement that the parties may reopen bargaining for the covered fiscal years should the City agree to a total compensation package for these years with any civilian bargaining unit that is greater than the total compensation package of the current agreement

Information Gathered at the Hearing:

Chief Financial Officer and Collector-Treasurer for the City of Boston Justin Sterritt, Budget Director Jim Williamson, and Director of Labor Relations Tammy Pust testified on behalf of the Administration at the hearing.

Chief Sterritt explained that the two dockets ask for authorization to move money from the FY22 collective bargaining reserve to various departments, in order to fund the recently ratified contract between the City and Salaried Employees of North America (SENA), Local 9158. He noted that this set of appropriations is likely the first of many to come after a bit of a lull in collective bargaining ratifications due to transitions, covid, and contract cycles. He stated that following approval of this appropriation, there will be approximately \$7.9 Million left over in the collective bargaining reserve. It was stated that there are 680 SENA members across thirty departments, which, through the appropriation, will be allocated the specific amounts needed to fund FY22 cost increases, and next year the cost increases will be included in the departments' budgets. Chief Sterritt stated that this contract is both fiscally responsible and responsive to the union.

Recommended Action:

The Chair of the Committee on City Services and Innovation Technology, to which the following was referred:

Docket #0272, message and order for your approval an order to reduce the FY22 appropriation for the Reserve for Collective bargaining by Two Million Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred Nine Dollars (\$2,016,409.00) to provide funding for various departments for FY22 increases contained within the collective bargaining agreements between the City of Boston and SENA, and

Docket #0273, message and orders for a supplemental appropriation order for various departments for FY22 in the amount of Two Million Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred Nine Dollars (\$2,016,409.00) to cover the FY22 cost items contained within the collective bargaining agreements between the City of Boston and SENA,

submits a report recommending that these dockets ought to pass.

Kenzie Bok, Chair Committee on City Services & Innovation Technology