

# KPU



Your Community, Your Utility

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# 15b(1)

## TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Karl R. Amylon, General Manager

DATE: February 27, 2020

RE: **Request for Executive Session – Discussion of Negotiation Strategies Relative to the City’s Request to Reopen the Current Collective Bargaining Agreements between the City of Ketchikan and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1547 to Address Issues Associated with Journeyman Lineman Retention and the I.B.E.W. Retirement Plan Contribution Rates**

At its meeting of August 22, 2019, the City Council directed my office to advise the I.B.E.W, Local 1547 Assistant Business Manager of the City’s request to reopen the current collective bargaining agreements between the City of Ketchikan and the International Brotherhood of Electric Workers, Local 1547 to address issues associated with Journeyman Lineman retention and the I.B.E.W. retirement plan contribution rates.

By separate report [see agenda statement 7b(1)], my office is recommending that the City increase the hourly premium incentive for Journeyman Lineman positions from \$8.50 to \$15.25 as a means of partially addressing retention and retirement concerns. My office is also recommending that the City Council authorize staff to begin early negotiations of new General Government and KPU collective bargaining agreements to replace those that expire December 31, 2020. Prior to formal consideration of these issues, the City Council may wish to further discuss this matter in executive session. If the City Council elects to increase the hourly premium incentive and begin early negotiations of new collective bargaining agreements without further discussion, the executive session will not be required.

A motion has been prepared for City Council consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the City Council adopt the motion declaring that consistent with the General Manager’s memorandum dated February 27, 2020 it is in the best interest of the City to discuss the status of the City’s request to reopen the current collective bargaining agreements between the City of Ketchikan and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1547 to address issues associated with Journeyman Lineman retention and the I.B.E.W. employer/employee retirement plan contribution rates in executive session; in accordance with that finding, the City Council go into executive session in accordance with KMC 2.04.025(a)(1) to discuss said negotiations and the auxiliary items described in the General Manager’s memorandum which matters include the need to discuss subjects the knowledge of which would have an adverse impact upon the finances of the City and upon the City’s ability to negotiate favorable labor settlements.

**Recommended Motion:** I move that the City Council declare that consistent with the General Manager's memorandum dated February 27, 2020 it is in the best interest of the City to discuss the status of the City's request to reopen the current collective bargaining agreements between the City of Ketchikan and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1547 to address issues associated with Journeyman Lineman retention and the I.B.E.W. employer/employee retirement plan contribution rates in executive session; in accordance with that finding, the City Council go into executive session in accordance with KMC 2.04.025(a)(1) to discuss said negotiations and the auxiliary items described in the General Manager's memorandum which matters include the need to discuss subjects the knowledge of which would have an adverse impact upon the finances of the City and upon the City's ability to negotiate favorable labor settlements.