

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Telephone: (716) 286-4310

October 26, 2018

The City Council
Niagara Falls, New York

RE: The 2019 – 2024 Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Niagara Falls and the Uniformed Firefighters Association, Local 714 (Extension of Impact/Staffing Agreement, with Concessions)

Council Members:

Attached please find the proposed 2019 – 2024 Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Niagara Falls and the Uniformed Firefighters Association, Local 714 (“Union”), relative to staffing and temporary financial concessions. The proposed agreement is a five (5) year extension of the parties’ current agreement relative to minimum staffing requirements in the Niagara Falls Fire Department. The original agreement, ratified on October 21, 2004, and subsequently extended by the parties on November 20, 2006, October 22, 2009 and October 18, 2013, respectively, requires the City to incrementally increase the number of on-duty firefighters to twenty-seven (27) as of January 1, 2019. The proposed agreement before you will defer the increase of staffing through the end of the proposed agreement; specifically, the staffing is to be maintained at a level of twenty-five (25) firefighters per shift through December 31, 2019 and twenty-six (26) firefighters per shift through the remainder of the agreement.

Additionally, the Union is cognizant of the financial difficulties which the City faces in the upcoming budget year due to the absence of casino funds. Accordingly, the Union has agreed to provide temporary financial assistance to the City in the form of concessions related to certain contractually guaranteed benefits which its membership currently enjoy. In return for the Union’s efforts in assisting the City with balancing the budget, the City will agree to maintain safe and consistent staffing within the Fire Department during the life of this agreement.

The staffing and concession requirements in the proposed agreement will maintain departmental staffing continuity and has been approved and recommended by the Fire Chief.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute the same?

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL A. DYSTER
Mayor

Kennedy_____ Scott_____ Tompkins_____ Voccio_____ Touma_____