

25 Austin Firefighters Association to request binding interest arbitration by an
26 impartial panel to settle an impasse regarding the negotiation of a collective
27 bargaining agreement; and

28 **WHEREAS**, that Charter amendment is consistent with the Fire and Police
29 Employee Relations Act and its mandate that alternatives to strikes be
30 “expeditious, effective, and binding”; and

31 **WHEREAS**, the collective bargaining process with the Austin Firefighters
32 Association is scheduled to begin in May 2022; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

33 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

34 In the event that the City and the Austin Firefighters Association reach
35 impasse in the upcoming collective bargaining negotiations and that binding
36 interest arbitration is requested by either party, the City Manager is directed to
37 proceed with the binding interest arbitration process as outlined in Article IX,
38 Section 7 of the City Charter.

39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

40 The City Manager is directed to inform the City Council if there is an
41 impasse in negotiations and if binding interest arbitration is requested by either
42 party in the upcoming collective bargaining negotiations.

43 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

44 While the above steps are expected to lead to an outcome to collective
45 bargaining negotiations that all parties will accept and adopt, the above actions
46 must be taken with whatever agreements are necessary to ensure that the City does
47 not waive any legal rights, claims, or defenses.

48

49 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

50 The City will participate in binding interest arbitration if the parties reach
51 impasse and will be bound by the arbitrators' decision unless the Charter
52 amendment is successfully challenged in Court by action brought by the City or
53 otherwise, and any City challenge in court requires the approval of Council.

54

55 **ADOPTED:** _____, 2022 **ATTEST:** _____

56

Myrna Rios
City Clerk

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67