

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE 126783

COUNCIL BILL 120524

AN ORDINANCE relating to City employment; authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between The City of Seattle and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 77; amending Ordinance 126725, which adopted the 2023 budget; changing appropriations to various departments and budget control levels, and from various funds in the Budget; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts; all by a 3/4 vote of the City Council.

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle identified a need to adjust working conditions of certain International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers union members to manage a backlog of over 24,000 electrical meter installations; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 77 entered into negotiations to bargain the impacts of changes to such working conditions and came to an agreement as memorialized in a memorandum of understanding; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. As requested by the Seattle Human Resources Director and recommended by the Mayor, the Mayor is authorized on behalf of The City of Seattle to execute a memorandum of understanding with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 77 substantially in the form attached to this ordinance as Attachment 1 and identified as “Memorandum of Understanding By and Between City of Seattle, Seattle City Light And International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 77.”

Section 2. In order to pay for necessary costs and expenses in 2023, but for which insufficient appropriations were made due to causes that could not reasonably have been

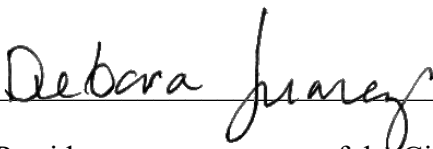
foreseen at the time of the making of the 2023 Budget, appropriations for the following items in the 2023 Budget are increased from the funds shown, as follows:

Item	Fund	Department	Budget Summary Level	Amount
2.1	Light Fund (41000)	City Light	Utility Operations (BO-CL-UTILOPS)	\$472,000
Total				\$472,000


Section 3. Any act consistent with the authority of this ordinance taken prior to its effective date is ratified and confirmed.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.


Passed by a 3/4 vote of all the members of the City Council the 14th day of March, 2023, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 14th day of March, 2023.


President _____ of the City Council

☒ Approved / ☐ returned unsigned / ☐ vetoed this 16th day of March, 2023.


Bruce A. Harrell, Mayor

Filed by me this 16th day of March, 2023.


Elizabeth M. Adkisson, Interim City Clerk

(Seal)

Attachments:
Attachment 1 – Memorandum of Understanding By and Between City of Seattle, Seattle City Light And International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 77

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

By and Between

CITY OF SEATTLE,

SEATTLE CITY LIGHT

and

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL 77

Regarding Technical Metering and Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI)

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is made and entered between the City of Seattle (the "City"), Seattle City Light ("SCL"), and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 77 (the "Union"), (collectively, the "Parties"). The Parties signatory hereto agrees to the following Understanding:

SCL is committed to providing accurate and timely bills to customers. Effective Technical Metering operations is a critical function to meeting this obligation. In 2016, SCL paused disconnection of service for nonpayment when the new billing system was implemented. This disconnect moratorium has been extended for the last two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has resulted in thousands of customers in arrears. When SCL resumes credit related disconnects, the disconnect and reconnect process must be performed in a timely and efficient manner.

SCL has implemented an automated metering infrastructure ("AMI") system and deployed AMI meters to a majority of residential customers in the service territory. These meters have two-way communication capability. This data is captured, and the system is designed to self-resolve some issues and/or generate Field Activities ("FA") that would require a Meter Electrician to respond. Most of those meters allow for remote disconnect and reconnect through a computer application. SCL Customer Operations staff perform account analysis and verification to determine if an account is eligible for services disconnect. SCL has approximately 24,000 meters remaining to install.

SCL will focus the SCL Meter Electricians and other SCL qualified electrical workers to resolve the metering tasks as outlined in the contract by efficiently planning the work, providing overtime opportunities, and will make efforts to fill Meter Electrician vacancies.

Effective June 29, 2022, all meter electrician classification wages shall be increased by 5%.

1. Single Phase 120/240 V, 120/208 V up to 225A Disconnects and Reconnects

- a) Manual Field disconnects and reconnects may be performed by a trained Field Credit Representative. If the meter has a bypass the work will be sent to Technical Metering Operations for disconnect/reconnect.
- b) Remote disconnects and reconnects will be performed by Customer Operations staff.
- c) Efforts will be made to exchange meters in advance or during a disconnect to prevent future manual field disconnects and reconnects.
- d) The provisions of the Electrical Helper Memorandum of Understanding dated October 7, 2022 shall supersede the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding.

2. Commercial Three Phase Service Disconnects and Reconnects

- a) SCL qualified journey level Meter Electrician will perform field disconnect and reconnect for accounts designated as eligible for service interruption by the Customer Operations staff.
- b) Restoration of service after a customer has paid will be priority work.
- c) Remote disconnects and reconnects will be performed by Customer Operations staff – if meter is remote capable.

Stations/Generation Metering

SCL will provide training for all interested Meter Electricians to conduct stations/generation metering work. SCL Meter Electricians assigned to the stations/generation work will be offered all out-of-town stations/generation meter work assignments. If a Meter Electrician assigned to stations/generation work is not able to travel then volunteers will be sought from the list of other qualified and trained meter electricians. Those trained Meter Electricians will be the group selected to fill in when necessary.

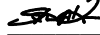
City of Seattle, Seattle City Light:

IBEW Local 77:

By: _____


Bruce Harrell, Mayor

Date Signed: _____

By:  _____

Steve Kovac, Local 77 Business Rep

Date Signed: 01/05/2023

By:  _____

Debra Smith, General Manager/CEO

Date Signed: 01/05/2023

By:  _____

Richard Groff, City Labor Negotiator

Date Signed: 01/05/2023