



APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH RENNE PUBLIC LAW GROUP LLP

City Council Meeting
March 3, 2020

Amy Reeve, Human Resources Director
Jeff Berk, Chief Assistant City Attorney

Background

- ❖ Renne Public Law Group LLP (RPLG) (formerly Renne Sloan Holtzman and Sakai), has been providing legal services to the Human Resources Department since 2016.
- ❖ The City is currently involved in negotiations with all bargaining groups. The City has used representatives from RPLG to assist in negotiations, and other labor and employment matters, and recommends continuing to retain outside legal services with a firm that has particular expertise in this area of the law as well as continuity with a firm that has thorough knowledge of the City's policies and procedures.

Analysis

- ❖ Given the complexity of legal issues in connection with labor negotiations and employment matters, the Human Resources Department and the City Attorney's Office recommend that the Council approve a new Professional Services Agreement with RPLG, which has significant experience working with City staff and labor in negotiations. This experience is particularly helpful since all Memorandum of Understandings are up June 30, 2020. An RFP for these legal services is expected to be conducted before the next round of labor negotiations.

Analysis

- ❖ The City is making a strong effort to keep outside legal costs as low as possible by relying more heavily on staff from HR and the City Attorney's Office. However, it is anticipated that there will be a need for the expertise of outside counsel.
- ❖ This Professional Services Agreement is to provide continued legal advice and support related to labor negotiations and other employment law services, consistent with the Scope of Services.

Recommendation

It is recommended by the Human Resources Department and City Attorney's Office that Council, by resolution, approve a Professional Services Agreements with Renne Public Law Group LLP for specialized labor relations and employment law services in an amount of \$250,000.

QUESTIONS?