

MEETING DATE/TYPE: VOTING MEETING 7-9-19

DEPARTMENT: City Attorney

AGENDA ITEM: Retention of Outside Legal Counsel to Provide General Legal Services not to exceed \$50,000.00.

Approved By: Michael Lamar, City Manager

Item Summary

Approval of this item will allow retention of the Magnum Wall Stoops and Warden law firm in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 to provide general legal services on an as-needed basis during the City Attorney's military deployment. Prescott City Code Section 2-9-6 authorizes the City Attorney to retain outside legal counsel if in the determination of the City Attorney, the outside representation would be in the best interests of the City. However, outside counsel cannot be retained by the City Attorney without the consent of the City Council.

Background

The City Attorney is scheduled to deploy with the U.S. military for a significant portion of FY20. In lieu of bringing on a full-time person to cover during the City Attorney's absence, the Legal Department recommends retaining an outside law firm to provide general legal services on an as-needed basis. This is the most cost effective method to continue to provide timely, useable and necessary legal advice from the Legal Department. The Magnum Wall Stoops and Warden law firm (MWSW) has long-time experience providing municipal law services to various cities and towns across northern Arizona. Approval of this item will allow the Legal Department to reach out to MWSW on an as-needed basis in a cost effective manner. All contact with MWSW will be through the Legal Department (i.e. versus directly from operational departments) to manage costs and to coordinate efforts.

Financial Impact

Approval of this agreement is not to exceed \$50,000.00 and can be paid out of salary savings from the Department during the City Attorney's military deployment absence.

Attachments

1. MWSW Law Firm Agreement

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Recommended Action: Approve Retention of Mangum Wall Stoops & Warden law firm in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.