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| **OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL** | | |
| WILLIAM BISHOP, AIA  PRESIDENT  COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 2  OFFICE (904) 630-1392  FAX (904) 630-2906  E-MAIL: wbishop@coj.net | June 25, 2013  5:00 p.m. | 117 West Duval Street  SUITE 425  JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA  32202 |

**Meeting Minutes for City Council Executive Committee**

**On Tuesday, June 21, 2013**

**Topic:** Interview of Candidates and Recommendation Engagement of Independent Legislative Counsel

**Location:** Conference Room A, 117 West Duval St. Suite 425

**In Attendance:** Council Members Bill Bishop, Bill Gulliford, John Crescimbeni, Kimberly Daniels, Robin Lumb, and Jim Love; Cheryl Brown, Director/Council Secretary; Kirk Sherman Council Auditor’s Office; Paige Johnston – Office of General Counsel; Pearce Taylor, Intern EOC; Jeff Clements, Chief Council Research, Kevin Meerschaert, WJCT. Robert Friedman, Holland & Knight; T. William Glocker, Balch; and G. Thomas Harper, Harper & Gerlach.

**Meeting Convened:**  9:00 a.m.

Council President Bishop opened the meeting to allow the Executive Committee to review the three (3) finalist resumes voted on during the June 19, 2013 meeting prior to starting the interview process of for the prospective applicants for the Independent Legislative Counsel job engagement. The overview of the purpose of the meeting was to complete the interview process and make a recommendation for the procuring of services of an Independent Legislative Counsel as authorized under Ordinance 2013-367 and Section 7.201 of the Charter. The approved legislation appropriates $75,000 from the Special Council Operating Contingency fund for the purpose of hiring a City Council legislative counsel to advise on legislative matters and supplement services provided by the Office of General Counsel. The bill waives the Ordinance Code provision governing the procedure for hiring outside counsel to allow the Council’s

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Executive Committee to search for and select a proposed counsel and prepare an engagement letter to be approved by the full Council.

Council President Bishop informed the Council Executive Committee that a packet was provided by the Director/Council Secretary of the three (3) finalists. The packet contains meeting notice, applicant listing with interview times, letter confirmation letters for each finalist, agenda, job announcement, and Ordinance 2013-367.

Interview Schedule:

Friday, June 21, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m. Robert Friedman, Esq.

Holland & Knight

Friday, June 21, 2013 @ 10:00 a.m. T. William Glocker, Esq.

Robin Reynolds Blank, Balch & Bingham, LLP

Friday, June 21, 2013 @ 11:00 a.m. G. Thomas Harper

Harper & Gerlach

Mr. Friedman’s interview began at 9:35 am with Council President Bishop introducing the Executive Committee and informing Mr. Friedman of the primary point of contact as the Council makes its leadership transition on July 1, 2013. Each Executive Committee Member poised questions and made statements as to the importance of having knowledge of the 30 year plan, state and tax law experience in pension matters and being abreast of municipal legislative process. Additionally, the discussion continued as the Executive Committee Members stressed the importance of the ability to review the legislation before the Council and to provide insight as to current and future guidance in the impact of the legislation. Mr. Friedman provided insight into his experience, the Holland & Knight Firm expertize, in the fields of compliance, labor law, pension, etc. Questions were asked as to: How do you see this arrangement as you are out of town? Mr. Friedman assured that Committee that funds would not be used on travel, contact in the form of phone, email, telecom, video conferencing and other technology will be used in addition to in person communication. Expertize from the Miami, Lakeland, and Jacksonville offices will be utilized, however the resources from all subsidiaries of Holland & Knight are available. Other members asked if Mr. Friedman was aware that the Council could accept, reject and or modify the legislation. Mr. Friedman said yes. Questions were asked: “What clients do you have? How long have you had these relationships? Over the years have you kept up with the changes in pension laws and requirements? Do you have any claims or lawsuits? Are the pension plans you manage experiencing any problems with payouts to its members? Click here for full detail discussion <http://www.coj.net/city-council/standing-committees/personnelcommittee.aspx>. Mr. Friedman provided a closing statement being committed to providing excellent service also the history of Holland & Knight and the firm’s commitment to community, its employees, diversity, and clients.

Mr. Glocker’s interview began at 10:10 am in the same manner as Mr. Friedman’s, with Council President Bishop introducing the Executive Committee and informing Mr. Glocker of the primary point of contact as the Council makes its leadership transition on July 1, 2013. Each Executive Committee Member poised questions and made statements as to the importance of having knowledge of the 30 year plan, state and tax law experience in pension matters and being abreast of municipal legislative process. Additionally, the discussion continued as the Executive Committee Members stressed the importance of

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the ability to review the legislation before the Council and to provide insight as to current and future guidance in the impact of the legislation. Mr. Glocker assured the Committee of his ability to perform the task. Mr. Glocker provided insight into his experience, his associates at Blank, Balch & Bingham, LLP. He stressed that his firm had seven attorneys with the ability to secure additional expertise that the Council would require, if needed. Question was asked about where these attorneys were housed, locally or out of town. Mr. Glocker informed that the attorneys, with certain expertise, would come from Birmingham, Alabama. The expertise would range from compliance, labor law, pension, etc. Questions were asked as to: How do you see this arrangement as you are out of town? As well as the question of how would he handle the cost of travel? Mr. Glocker informed Committee that travel would be charged to the Council, when arranged for in person contact. However, other medians of communication would consist of contact in the form of phone, email, telecom, video conferencing and other technology will be used in addition to in person communication. The Committee stressed its desire not to use the funds for travel expenses. Other members asked if Mr. Glocker was he aware that the Council could accept, reject and or modify the legislation. Mr. Glocker said yes. Also, that he was familiar with some aspects of situation as it has been reported in the local news media. Questions were asked: “What clients do you have? How long have you had these relationships? Over the years have you kept up with the changes in pension laws and requirements? Do you have any claims or lawsuits? Are the pension plans you manage experiencing any problems with payouts to its members? Click here for full detail discussion <http://www.coj.net/city-council/standing-committees/personnelcommittee.aspx>. Mr. Glocker provided a closing statement as to his firm’s ability to provide excellent service.

Mr. Harper’s interview began at 10:55 am in the same manner as Mr. Friedman’s and Mr. Glocker’s, with Council President Bishop introducing the Executive Committee and informing Mr. Harper of the primary point of contact as the Council makes its leadership transition on July 1, 2013. Each Executive Committee Member poised questions and made statements as to the importance of having knowledge of the 30 year plan, state and tax law experience in pension matters and being abreast of municipal legislative process. Additionally, the discussion continued as the Executive Committee Members stressed the importance of the ability to review the legislation before the Council and to provide insight as to current and future guidance in the impact of the legislation. Mr. Harper assured the Committee of his ability to perform the task. Mr. Harper provided insight into his experience, his associates at Harper & Gerlach. The expertise would range from compliance, labor law, pension, etc. However, he after listening to the Committee he questioned whether his firm would be what the Council needed at this time. Click here for full detail discussion <http://www.coj.net/city-council/standing-committees/personnelcommittee.aspx>. Mr. Harper thanked the Committee for opportunity.

The Executive Committee deliberated and came to the unanimous vote to recommend Robert Friedman, Holland & Knight to the full Council on June 25, 2013. Additionally, the Committee informed the Director of the Council to set up a final meeting with Mr. Friedman via conference call with the Executive Committee for Monday, June 24, 2013 at 3:30 pm. Mr. Friedman should provide the following documents by 12 noon for the Executive Committee’s review at 3:30 pm: Engagement letter, to reflect the requirements as referenced in Ordinance 2013-367-E. Cheryl Brown, Director and Paige Johnston will make the contact. Ms. Brown will work with Ms. Johnston to provide Mr. Friedman a signed copy of the 30 year agreement and have a phone meeting of the expectations of the Executive Committee for the Monday, June 24, 2013 meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:20 am

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**Minutes Prepared By:** Cheryl L Brown, Director Jacksonville City Council

Posted 6.21.2013

**Items Forwarded to Legislative Services:** Minutes

CD – Already on file

Sign-in Sheet

Notice- Already on file

Packet – Applicants

Job Announcement

Ordinance 2013-367-E

Interview Schedule

Resumes of Finalists

Email – Detailing Job Announcement Sources

cc: Council Members/Staff

Cheryl Brown, Director/CouncilSecretary

Dana Farris, Chief, Legislative Services Division

Carol Owens, Asst. Chief – Legislative Services Division

Paula Shoup, Legislative Services – Records Retention

CITYC & CouncilRecords@coj.net