

## **CONTRACT FOR CIVIL (NON-CRIMINAL) MUNICIPAL LEGAL SERVICES**

THIS AGREEMENT is made between and entered by the CITY OF RAMSEY, MINNESOTA, a Minnesota Statutory City (hereinafter, "the City") and HOLSTAD & KNAAK, PLC, a law firm organized as a professional association under the laws of the State of Minnesota (hereinafter, "the Attorney")

Upon formal appointment of the Attorney by the City Council and for the promised consideration as outlined below, the Attorney shall provide the following legal services to the City:

### **LEGAL SERVICES**

1. Attend City Council meetings and other City Board, Authority, Commission or Committee meetings as requested by the City Council or City Administrator.
2. Draft and/or review ordinances, resolutions, and correspondence, as requested. Review City Council agendas and meeting minutes, as requested.
3. Advise the Mayor, Council Members, City Administrator, Department Heads and other City staff on City legal matters.
4. Prepare and/or review municipal contracts, such as contracts for public improvements, joint powers agreements, construction, and purchase of equipment.
5. Review of the Municipal Code on a regular basis and provide assistance in the drafting of any needed modifications or amendments.
6. Represent the City in matters related to the enforcement of City building and zoning codes in injunctive and other civil proceedings, except in instances where such representation is provided in the City's insurance contract and third-party representation is obtained. In such instances it will remain the Attorney's duty to closely monitor and cooperate as needed in such representation.
7. Research and submit legal options on municipal or other legal matters, as requested by the City Council or the City Administrator.
8. Meet with the City Council, City Administration, Department Heads and City Staff as needed to review Council and Commission Agenda items and the status of all legal matters before the City. The Attorney and City Administrator will establish any necessary schedule if and when it is determined that regular meetings will be necessary for this purpose.
9. Provide legal briefings or presentations regarding new or proposed legislation affecting the City's operation and activities.
10. Provide advice and training on open meeting law, data practice law and requirements, parliamentary procedure, record retention and privacy issues, including HIPPA.
11. Represent, as needed, the City in employment related issues, labor negotiations, arbitration, administrative hearings and in litigation involving those same issues.
12. Interpret and advise with respect to municipal employment matters including, but not limited to PERA, labor agreements, personnel policy, FMLA and Veterans Preference.

13. Defend City in litigation, except in those cases where the City's insurance company is required to provide defense, including, but not limited to: a) human rights claims; b) condemnation; c) permits and administrative actions; and d) labor and employment proceedings in which legal representation of the city is either advisable or required.
14. Represent the City in uninsured claims and other insurance matters.
15. In coordination with any separately retained Bond Counsel, review financing, special assessments, bonds and insurance requirements required by or for City Contracts or activities.
16. Represent the City in the acquisition of properties for public improvements, easements, and parks.
17. Represent the City in condemnation proceedings for public improvement projects.
18. Represent the City in workers' compensation matters.
19. Initiate litigation on behalf of the City as requested by the City Council.
20. Interpret and advise the City on questions related to zoning or land use issues, impact fees and legal uses.
21. On direction of the Administrator, prepare and/or review the following:
  - a) Conditional and Special Use Permits
  - b) Vacation of Rights of Way Applications, supporting documentation and Resolutions
  - c) Special Assessments
  - d) Planned Unit Developments
  - e) Development Agreements
  - f) Subdivision and Zoning Requests
  - g) Development Agreement Drafts
22. The foregoing, expressly enumerated services, while intended to be extensive, is not intended to be all inclusive, and services provided shall also include those additional matters that may be considered customary and usual in the provision of legal services by a City attorney under customs and laws of the State of Minnesota.

#### **ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF ATTORNEY**

1. The Attorney shall not subcontract out or assign any interest in this contract to any third party without the prior written consent of the City.
2. Frederic W. Knaak shall be the principal attorney on all matters involving the representation of the City and shall be expressly, professionally, and individually responsible for all facets of that representation.

3. The Attorney shall maintain professional liability insurance coverage at all times during its representation of the City in the amount of \$2,000,000 aggregate claims, and \$2,000,000 individual claims.

4. It is understood by the Attorney and the City that this contract shall run for two years after the appointment of the Attorney, at which time it may only be renewed upon express agreement of the City and the Attorney. Notwithstanding the intended term, it is expressly understood that the Attorney's tenure as City Attorney is at the pleasure of the City Council and that the appointment of the City Attorney may be terminated at any time with or without any cause. In the event of a termination for other-than-cause prior to the two-year term, to the extent feasible, the City shall provide 60 days notice of its intention to terminate or not renew this contract.

5. On or about December 31 of each year, for the duration of this Agreement, the City Attorney and City Administrator may mutually evaluate the usage of legal services during the prior year of this Agreement in order to evaluate usage of legal services during the prior year of the Agreement in order to evaluate usage and identify areas where modification in the parties' relationship may be mutually beneficial.

6. All data collected, created, received, maintained, or disseminated for any purposes by the activities of the Attorney because of this Agreement and the resulting Attorney-Client relations is governed by the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 13, as amended, the Minnesota Rules implement such act now in force or as adopted, as well as federal regulations on data privacy. This paragraph does not create a duty or any obligation on the part of the Attorney to provide access to public data to the public for inspection or otherwise if the public data are available from the City.

7. Any modification of the provisions of this Agreement shall be reduced to writing and signed by the parties hereto.

#### **OTHER**

1. The City expressly reserves its right to hire independent counsel on matters it determines requires an attorney with more expertise or expertise in a particular field. In such a situation, the City shall remain responsible to the Attorney for the monthly fee provided under this agreement along with any billings not related to the matter for which special counsel was retained. The City shall only be responsible to the Attorney for extra expenses in relation to the matter for which special counsel is retained if the City names the Attorney as co-counsel in the matter or otherwise requests the Attorney's participation.
2. The effective date of this Agreement shall be November 1, 2023.

#### **COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES**

1. Payment under this contract shall be in the form of a single, monthly fee of four-thousand one hundred and fifty/00 (\$4,150.00). That payment is intended to be for all of the foregoing services, including up to 10 hours of time billed on litigation matters, such as condemnation matters or

arbitrations. This rate does not include filing or similar fees required in representing the City in litigation matters. These incidental fees shall be paid by the City as incurred.

2. If it appears that more than ten hours of time shall be required on litigation matters, the Attorney shall notify the City in writing of that expectation. Any time over the 10 hours included in the monthly fee shall be billed at a single rate of \$150.00 per hour.

3. In the event of an unexpected or unusual cost, no expense or cost shall be billed to the City without first obtaining an authorization from the city in writing. Such an expense, as an example, might be a necessary deposition or transcript, or a very large volume of printing (in excess of 2000 pages in any given month.)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the CITY and the ATTORNEY have executed this Agreement and it is effective on the latest date affixed hereto.

CITY OF RAMSEY

HOLSTAD & KNAAK PLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark E. Kuzma, its Mayor

Frederic W. Knaak, Esq.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Brian Hagen, City Administrator

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_