



CITY OF POMONA COUNCIL REPORT

December 17, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Linda Lowry, City Manager

Subject: **Consideration of Legal Services Agreement for Interim City Attorney Services**

OVERVIEW

Recommendation – That the City Council approve Agreement for Legal Services for the City of Pomona (Interim City Attorney) between the City and Best Best & Krieger, LLP, dated December 17, 2018.

Fiscal Impact – The City's adopted budget includes funding for city attorney services.

Previous Related Action – On November 28, 2018, the City Manager entered into an agreement for special legal services with Christi Hogin at Best Best & Krieger. On December 3, 2018, the City Council appointed Hogin Interim City Attorney and she has been performing under that limited special services contract.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approval of this legal services agreement (Attachment 1) will provide the City continuing City Attorney services while the City Council determines how it would like to fill the position permanently.

BACKGROUND

City Charter §703 provides that the City Council appoints and removes the City Attorney. The City Attorney serves as the chief legal advisor to the Council, the City Manager, and all City departments and appointed bodies, and has the authority to represent the City in all civil and criminal matters, and performs such other duties as prescribed by the Charter, by ordinance or resolution, or as requested by the Council or City Manager. The City Attorney must be an attorney at law, duly licensed to practice in the State of California, and have been engaged in the practice of law for at least five (5) years prior to appointment.

On December 3, 2018, the City Council voted to remove the City Attorney and appointed Christi Hogin as Interim City Attorney. At that time she was under a limited contract for special counsel services.

DISCUSSION

The attached contract is recommended to continue the services of Christi Hogin and Best Best & Krieger, LLP as interim City Attorney.

The current contract for Special Counsel is at an hourly rate of \$250 for transactional (non-litigation) legal services. The proposed contract is for a reduced composite hourly rate of \$210.

The City Attorneys' Department of the League of California Cities has developed Ethical Principles for City Attorneys (Attachment 2). Ms. Hogin, who is active in the League and a past president of the City Attorneys' Department, requested that this document be provided to the Council and the public (through this agenda item) in order to set the expectations for how she and her colleagues at BBK will conduct themselves on behalf of the City.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Interim City Attorney contract
2. Ethical Principles for City Attorneys