



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#18-0420

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Alain E. Boileau, Interim City Attorney

DATE: April 17, 2018

TITLE: Resolution appointing Johnson, Anselmo, Murdoch, Burke, Piper & Hochman, P.A., as special counsel, to represent the City of Fort Lauderdale in connection with general liability claims, prescribing hourly rates, and providing for an effective date.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution appointing Johnson, Anselmo, Murdoch, Burke, Piper & Hochman, P.A., as special counsel to represent the City of Fort Lauderdale in connection with general liability claims and related litigation and appeals, prescribing the hourly rates to be paid for such legal services, and providing for an effective date.

Background

Section 4.10 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, provides, in part, that “[t]he city commission may, by resolution, authorize one (1) or more special counsel to be retained for the purpose of performing such legal duties as may be prescribed by said resolution. Each such resolution shall further prescribe the compensation to be paid the special counsel.”

After 35 years of dedicated and exceptional service as Special Counsel to the City of Fort Lauderdale, Robert H. Schwartz, Esquire, of McIntosh Schwartz, P.L., and previously of Adorno & Yoss, LLP, and Gunther & Whitaker, P.A., will be retiring from private practice effective May 6, 2018.

It is recommended that the City add to its roster of special counsel and prescribe the new counsel’s compensation. The purpose of the additions is to have more than one special counsel available in various practice areas thus streamlining the appointment process and eliminating delays in appointing and consulting with counsel in recurring matters and conflict situations.

Resource Impact

<i>Funds available as of April 9, 2018</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	INDEX NAME (Program)	CHARACTER CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
543-INS010101-5113	Self-Insurance Claims	Non-Oper Exp/ General Liab Claims	\$6,568,435	\$2,578,460	\$100,000.00
			TOTAL AMOUNT ►		\$100,000.00

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Resolution

Prepared by: Tania Marie Amar, Assistant City Attorney

Charter Officer: Alain E. Boileau, Interim City Attorney