THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: March 23, 2021

Subject: Approval of Funds - Government Relations Contract

Staff Resource(s): Brad Branham, City Attorney

Action Requested: Approval of a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to enter into a contract for one year with Blanchard, Miller, Lewis, and Isley, P.A. in the annual amount of $72,000.00 for government relation services, and the option to extend this contract for two additional one-year terms at the same annual rate.

Background:
- Approval of this contract will allow the City's Lobbyist to continue his legislative services.
- The previous contract was also for $72,000 annually, and the renewal will continue at this same annual rate.
- The City has the option to renew the contract annually for up to two years.

Council Goal(s):
- Connected and engaged community

Committee(s):
- None

Pro(s):
- Will allow for continued legislative services in the North Carolina General Assembly.

Con(s):
- None

Fiscal Impact:
- The City of Asheville will pay $72,000 annually to renew the government relations contract, and have the option to extend this agreement for up to two additional one year terms at the same annual rate.
- Funding for the contract is included in the General Fund budget.

Suggested Motion:
- Move to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Attorney to renew the government relations contract with Blanchard, Miller, Lewis, and Isley, P.A., for a one year term at a total cost of $72,000, and to authorize the option to extend the contract for up to two additional one year terms at the same annual rate.

Attachment(s):
- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 21-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH BLANCHARD, MILLER, LEWIS AND ISLEY, P.A. FOR GOVERNMENT RELATION SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to N.C.G.S §160A-20.1 to enter into contracts with private entities to carry out any public function which is authorized to engage in by law; and

WHEREAS, the City requires legislative representation and advocacy for the 2021 Sessions of the North Carolina General Assembly on matters which are of significant interest to the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

The City Attorney, on behalf of the City of Asheville, is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Blanchard, Miller, Lewis and Isley, P.A. for the provision of legislative services, which includes services for 2021 Session of the North Carolina General Assembly, in an amount not to exceed $72,000, plus expenses, subject to the approval of the City Attorney; and

The City Attorney be further authorized to extend this contract for up to two additional one year terms at the same annual rate.

Read, approved and adopted this the 23rd day of March, 2021.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney