

**City Council  
Agenda Memo**



**TO: David A. Vela, Interim City Manager** **City Council**  
**Meeting Date: December 18, 2014**

**FROM: Administrative Staff**

**SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute the Professional Services Contract with Richard J. Leidl, P.C.**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

In 2005, the City of Abilene began using the professional services of Richard J. Leidl, a Washington D.C. area legislative and regulatory consultant, to assist in identifying sources of federal funding for City projects. With his assistance the City has received funding for use in projects ranging from paratransit vehicles to law enforcement training facility improvements. Mr. Leidl proposes to assist the City in seeking funding through agency grants, as well as continuing to assist with other on-going projects that involve Federal funding and oversight. Those efforts include assistance with the Cedar Ridge Reservoir Project, and the City's application to the US Army Corps of Engineers for a 404 construction permit. Mr. Leidl will also provide assistance in the City's efforts to secure future water supplies through the City's participation in the West Texas Water Partnership.

**FUNDING/FISCAL IMPACT**

Estimated annual cost will not exceed \$72,000, plus expenses, and will be funded from various sources.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the City Council, by resolution, approve a contract with Richard J. Leidl, P.C. for an estimated annual amount of \$72,000, plus expenses, to cover the period January 1 through December 31, 2015, and authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the contract.

Prepared by:  Name: David A. Vela  Title: City Manager	Item No. 6.1	Disposition by City Council <input type="radio"/> Approved Ord/Res# _____ <input type="radio"/> Denied _____ <input type="radio"/> Other _____  City Secretary
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RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH RICHARD J. LEIDL, P.C.**

**WHEREAS**, in 2005 the City of Abilene began using the professional services of Richard J. Leidl, a Washington DC legislative and regulatory consultant; and

**WHEREAS**, in the past Mr. Leidl has assisted the City of Abilene receive federal funding for a variety of City projects; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Leidl proposes to continue to assist the City of Abilene in 2015 with numerous ongoing projects including the Cedar Ridge Reservoir Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated annual costs of such services will not exceed \$72,000 plus expenses.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS:**

**PART 1:** That the Interim City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a professional services contract with Richard J. Leidl, P.C. for legislative and regulatory consulting services.

**PART 2:** That the contract value shall not exceed the estimated annual amount of \$72,000 plus expenses and will cover the period of January 1 through December 31, 2015.

**PASSED** this 18th day of December, A.D. 2014.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY SECRETARY

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY ATTORNEY

RICHARD J. LEIDL, P.C.

5335 WISCONSIN AVENUE, N.W.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20015

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November 28, 2014

Mr. David A. Vela  
Interim City Manager  
City of Abilene  
555 Walnut Street  
Abilene, TX 79601

Re: Proposal for Representation in 2015

Dear David:

Enclosed are the originally-signed version of the proposal for 2015 and a copy. If the proposal is acceptable, please sign and date the copy and return it to me.

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to assist the City of Abilene and to be a part of the City's team here in Washington.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Leidl

RICHARD J. LEIDL, P.C.  
5335 WISCONSIN AVENUE, N.W.  
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November 28, 2014

Mr. David A. Vela  
Interim City Manager  
City of Abilene  
555 Walnut Street  
Abilene, TX 79601

Re: Proposal for Representation in 2015

Dear Mr. Vela:

Based on our discussions, we submit this proposal to continue to assist the City of Abilene ("City") during 2015 by providing legal services, including law-related services such as legislative lobbying, concerning: (1) efforts to obtain Federal funding and Federal support for various City projects, such as the proposed Cedar Ridge Reservoir and the joint efforts with the Cities of Midland and San Angelo to develop water management strategies, and (2) the City's initiatives on Federal legislative and regulatory issues. Our efforts will include working with the City's Congressional delegation for support on legislation and matters with Federal agencies and working directly with Federal agencies to obtain funding or approvals through their programs.

During 2014, we continued to assist the City in its efforts to construct a new water reservoir, known as the Cedar Ridge Reservoir. Our efforts included extensive meetings here in Washington, D.C., in June with Members and staff of the Congressional delegation and officials at the Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency. The goals of these meetings have been to advise Federal officials about the reservoir's importance to the City and other communities in the region, to explore Federal funding opportunities, and to lay the foundation for support for this significant, long-term project. We propose that City officials continue this process in 2015, particularly with the planned filing of the section 404 permit application with the Army Corps of Engineers.

We also assisted the City in its efforts to work with Midland and San Angelo in developing water management strategies, including participation in meetings and advising the Congressional delegation and Federal agencies. We propose to continue to assist the City in these efforts, including working with applicable Federal agencies to obtain approvals or funding, addressing Federal legislation that may affect the projects, and seeking Congressional support.

During 2014, we continued to assist on issues concerning the Abilene Regional Airport ("Airport"), including meetings with the Airport Director and Congressional delegation staff in March 2014 and updates on the upcoming Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Bill, which Congress is expected to consider next year.


For 2015, we propose to continue our efforts in seeking Federal funding for the City through agency grants. This will include advising the City of grant programs, meetings with Federal agencies at the headquarters level here in Washington, D.C., and seeking Congressional support for the City's grant applications.

In 2014, as in prior years, we arranged and participated in meetings in Washington with Members and staff of the Congressional delegation and with Federal officials at various agencies. We recommend that City officials continue their practice of visiting Washington for these types of meetings. Based on developments, we will advise the City whether additional visits are necessary to address specific issues. It has been our practice to work very closely with the City as part of its team and we will be in regular contact through telephone calls and emails with City officials to keep you apprised of developments.

We propose to assist the City on the foregoing matters for a retainer of \$72,000 plus expenses for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, which would be \$6,000 per month plus expenses. This is the same amount that has been in place for the past six years. Our Billing and Payment Policies are attached. Since we will be in contact on a regular basis and since we will send invoices each month, the City will be able to track our efforts. If this proposal is acceptable, please confirm the City's agreement by executing a copy of this letter in the space provided and returning it to me.

It continues to be a privilege to be a part of the City's team here in Washington and we appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Richard J. Leidl  
President

The foregoing is agreed to:

The City of Abilene

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
David A. Vela  
Interim City Manager

Dated:

**Richard J. Leidl, P.C.**

**Billing and Payment Policies**

**Non-Fee Charges.**

Non-fee charges are set forth below. In cases where costs incurred for outside materials or services exceed \$200, we may forward the vendor's statement directly to you for payment with the understanding that the payment will be made promptly. As a result of billing delays by outside vendors, some charges may be billed later than the period in which the corresponding services are rendered.

Photocopying	No charge, except for large volumes handled by a vendor, in which case the photocopying will be billed at the rate charged by the vendor.
Facsimile	No charge
Postage	No charge, except for unusually large mailings which are billed at U.S. Postal Service rates
Overtime Secretarial Services	\$30.00 per hour
Telephone	Long distance call and conference call charges are billed at cost
Computerized Legal Research	Billed at rates charged by computerized research vendors (e.g., Lexis, Westlaw)
Mileage	Internal Revenue Service standard mileage rates
Other Travel	At cost
Airfare	Coach class
Other Third Party Charges	All other third party charges are billed at the rates or amounts charged by these third parties

**Monthly Statements Due Upon Receipt.**

Our statements will generally be prepared and mailed during the month following the end of the month in which the services are rendered. Statements are due upon receipt.

**Termination of Services.**

Our clients have the right to terminate our services at any time. We will have the same right, subject to any professional obligation to give the client reasonable time to arrange alternative representation and subject to the rules of any applicable court or tribunal. In the event of a termination of our services, the client will be obligated to pay for our fees and other non-fee charges prior to the delivery of notice of termination.