



CITY COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Administration

DATE: January 14, 2025

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COOPER CITY, FLORIDA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND RON L. BOOK, ESQ., ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT "A" AND INCORPORATED HEREIN; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE ANY AND ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDATION:

The City Manager recommends approval of this Resolution to authorize the execution of the Professional Services Agreement between the City of Cooper City and Ronald L. Book, Esq., to provide coordination and all necessary legislative relations and lobbying services for the City in a total annual compensation of sixty thousand (\$60,000) dollars, payable in equal monthly installments of five thousand (\$5,000) dollars.

BACKGROUND OF ITEM:

The State Legislature annually considers appropriations which provide funding for infrastructure, programs, and projects. For over a decade, the City has engaged Ronald L. Book, Esq. to coordinate legislative relations with Elected Officials and State Representatives to prioritize projects for general appropriations requests and provide state lobbying services, including the monitoring of legislation which benefit the residents of Cooper City.

Ronald L. Book, Esq. has over 30 years of experience as a leader in the government affairs industry in Florida, specializing in the state legislative and executive branch lobbying. Most impressively, Ronald L. Book, Esq. and his team have successfully aided the City to secure general appropriations for infrastructure projects over the past three years, including:

- Cooper City Gravity Sewer Rehabilitation Project, Phase 1: \$700,000
- Cooper City SW 49th Street Culvert Rehabilitation/Replacement Project: \$575,000
- Cooper City Hiatus Road Traffic Safety Improvement Project: \$370,000
- Cooper City Community Center Tot Lot Project: \$50,000
- Cooper City Michael D. Riordan "City Mike" Park Project: \$112,500
- Cooper City Bill Lips Park Project: \$50,000

ANALYSIS:

The Professional Services Agreement between the City of Cooper City and Ronald L. Book, Esq. establishes a total annual compensation of sixty thousand (\$60,000) dollars, payable in equal monthly installments of five thousand (\$5,000) dollars, to provide coordination and all necessary legislative relations and lobbying services for the City. A comparative analysis of Professional Services Agreements monthly rates between Ronald L. Book, Esq. and local governments of a similar size to Cooper City was performed and yielded the following results:

- City of Aventura - \$5,000/per month
- City of Dania Beach - \$5,208.33/per month
- City of Miami Beach - \$8,937.91/per month
- City of North Miami - \$6,670/per month
- City of Sunny Isles Beach - \$5,416.66/per month
- Village of Royal Palm Beach - \$5,000/per month
- Town of Loxahatchee Groves - \$5,416.66/per month

For over a decade, the City has retained the services of Ronald L. Book, Esq. at the reduced monthly compensation rate of \$4,000/per month. This Professional Services Agreement brings the City’s monthly compensation to the market rate of similar cities represented by the Firm.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This Professional Services Agreement to provide coordination and all necessary legislative relations and lobbying services for the City of Cooper City supports the City’s Strategic Priority #1 - Financially Sustaining “Someplace Special”. In addition, the Agreement’s scope supports the Strategic Goal to increase the City’s financial strength through innovative thoughts and actions, while being mindful of the fiscal impact on residents. Furthermore, the Agreement’s scope directly meets the Strategic Goal Objective to further diversify and increase the City’s revenue sources to reduce reliance on property tax revenues.

FISCAL IMPACT: Budget/Finance will provide.

Funding for this Professional Services Agreement is budgeted Department 150 (Legal) in our General Fund. Assuming this new agreement begins in January of 2025, we will need an additional \$9,000 to fund this line item for the remainder of Fiscal 2025. We are proposing funding this from our contingency budget with a current balance of \$630,330.

<u>General Ledger Acct. Number</u>	<u>Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Requested Amount</u>	<u>Remaining Amount</u>
001-150-531159-514	\$ 48,000	\$9,000	\$ 57,000
001-190-599000-519	\$630,330	-\$9,000	\$621,330

ALTERNATIVES:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

Exhibit A: Professional Services Agreement between the City of Cooper City and Ronald L. Book, Esq.