



TO: Douglas City Council

FROM: Lisa Nocerini, City Manager
Steve Kent, Chief of Police

DATE: September 15, 2025

RE: Approval of Agreement for Prosecutorial Services

The City's current attorney handling prosecutorial services will retire effective September 30, 2025. In preparation for this transition, Chief Kent solicited interest from multiple firms to ensure continuity of service in this critical area.

Following this process, the law firm of Orton, Tooman, Hale, McKown & Kiel, P.C., through Attorney Michael J. Becker, has expressed strong interest in representing the City. The firm currently provides prosecutorial services to the City of Plainwell and has previously represented the Cities of Wayland and Otsego in similar capacities. Their experience in municipal law, courtroom procedure, and ordinance enforcement makes them well-suited to provide seamless support for the Douglas Police Department and the City. The firm has proposed an hourly rate of \$200.00 per hour, billed in one-tenth-hour increments.

Chief Steve Kent and I recommend that City Council approve entering into an agreement with Orton, Tooman, Hale, McKown & Kiel, P.C., with Attorney Michael J. Becker as Lead Prosecutor, effective upon the retirement of the City's current attorney at the end of September 2025.

Recommended Motion:

Approve the engagement of Orton, Tooman, Hale, McKown & Kiel, P.C. to provide prosecutorial services for the City of the Village of Douglas effective October 1, 2025.