

**CITY OF HARTFORD
COUNTY OF VAN BUREN
STATE OF MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION 2026 - 017**



LEGAL SERVICE AGREEMENT – BLOOM SLUGGETT, PC

At a Regular meeting of the City of Hartford Commission at 19 West Main Street called to order by Mayor Jane M. Danger April 27, 2026 at 6:00p.m.

The following resolution was offered:

Moved by Commissioner _____ and supported by Commissioner _____.

WHEREAS, the City is seeking legal services related to ongoing matters involving the wastewater treatment plant, including equipment affecting its performance; and

WHEREAS, City staff, in coordination with Certified Operator Services, have identified multiple issues requiring legal review and potential action; and

WHEREAS, the City has consulted with project engineers, who have not provided an explanation or resolution for the equipment performance issues, and the contractor has not responded to attempts at communication; and

WHEREAS, Bloom Sluggett, PC, a law firm based in Grand Rapids, Michigan, specializes in representing governmental entities in public sector, municipal, water, and business law, and currently serves as legal counsel for several nearby communities; and

WHEREAS, Attorney Jeffrey Sluggett has been recommended to the City and will serve as special legal counsel for matters related to the wastewater treatment plant, with support from other attorneys and paralegals within the firm; and

WHEREAS, the firm's billing rates are as follows: shareholder time at \$255 per hour, associate attorney time at \$205 to \$240 per hour, and paralegal time at \$130 per hour; and

WHEREAS, the City's legal services budget is currently under budget, and funds for these services will be paid from the General Fund, with future costs to be incorporated into the sewer budget for the next fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, an initial estimate of hours will be provided following the City's initial consultation with Bloom Sluggett, PC;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Commission approves the City Commission hereby approves entering into a legal services agreement with Bloom Sluggett, PC for special legal counsel services related to the wastewater treatment plant issues, at the billing rates outlined above, and authorizes the City Manager to execute the agreement.

YEAS: Commissioners:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED

DATE: April 27, 2026

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk

I RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, Clerk for the City of Hartford, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the City Commission of the City of Hartford during a meeting held on April 27, 2026.

RoxAnn Rodney-Isbrecht, City Clerk
City of Hartford
19 West Main Street
Hartford MI 49057