

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: July 11, 2023

To: Village President and Board of Trustees

From: Napoleon Haney, Village Manager

Topic: Lobbying Services Agreement Renewal

PURPOSE

The lobbying services agreement with Maren Ronan (MR Ltd.) expired at the end of December 2022. In an effort to continue services, Maren Ronan provided services to the Village at the same monthly rate from January 1, 2023 to current (*month to month*). Maren Ronan has tentatively agreed to a two-year lobbying service agreement at the current rate of \$3,000 a month; a fee that has not increased since August 23, 2011.

PROCESS

Attached for your consideration is a two-year agreement with Maren Ronan for legislative lobbying services. This agreement is effectively a renewal of the agreement that expired on December 31, 2022. The fee for services remains unchanged at \$3,000 per month. This expenditure is budgeted.

OUTCOME

Utilizing a lobbyist to represent Homewood's interests in Springfield has proven of great worth. MR Ltd. has voiced our opposition and support for proposed legislation that would negatively or positively impact our finances, operations, and our ability to serve the residents. In particular, MR Ltd.'s efforts helped to pass legislation that dissolved the Chicago South Suburban Mass Transit District, which allows us to take ownership of the commuter parking lots, and MR Ltd. assisted in passing legislation that allowed Homewood to impose a local motor fuel tax.

Currently, MR Ltd. is assisting the Village in accessing \$2M of state-appropriation funding that has been awarded to Homewood in past and current state appropriations bills. Additionally, MR Ltd. provides critical bi-weekly reports on proposed legislation, bill status and general Springfield updates and movements. MR Ltd.'s reports are included in the weekly confidential manager's report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- **Funding Source:** General Fund
- **Budgeted Amount:** \$36,000
- **Cost:** \$36,000

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



LEGAL REVIEW

Not Required

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Authorize the Village President to enter into an agreement between Maren Ronan, Ltd. (MR Ltd.) of Western Springs, IL and the Village of Homewood for lobbying services from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$3,000 per month.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Agreement