

RESOLUTION NO. 2419

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN PFAS PRODUCT LIABILITY LITIGATION AND THE EXECUTION OF A LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT RELATED TO THAT LITIGATION

WHEREAS, the City of Hermiston (the “City”) is committed to delivering clean drinking water to its customers; and

WHEREAS, the City is also committed to identifying parties responsible for increasing the costs of water treatment and system maintenance and taking reasonable steps to avoid passing on these costs to its consumers; and

WHEREAS, there is ongoing product liability litigation involving PFAS in Aqueous Film-Forming Foams (AFFF) Litigation MDL No. 2873 that the City may qualify to join; and

WHEREAS, STAG LIUZZA, L.L.C., THORP, PURDY, JEWETT, URNESS & WILKINSON, P.C., and INNOVA LEGAL ADVISORS, P.C., have put together a team of uniquely qualified and experienced attorneys (“the Firm”) who have joined together to assist public entities facing the challenges posed by potential per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”); and

WHEREAS, the Firm is comprised of experienced attorneys in both in PFAS litigation and in the representation of public entities pursuing legal claims involving cost recovery related to remediation of water contamination; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined it to be in the City’s best interest to enter into the Legal Services Agreement with the Firm and pursue any settlement and other legal damage claims it may have related to PFAS in Aqueous Film-Forming Foams (AFFF) Litigation MDL No. 2873; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to authorize the City Manager to retain the services of outside counsel for the purposes of addressing PFAS issues and participation in PFAS litigation.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HERMISTON RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute the Legal Services Agreement with STAG LIUZZA, LLC (through attorney Michael Stag, LLC) Thorp, Purdy, Jewett, Urness & Wilkinson, P.C. (through attorney Kristin Denmark), and Innova Legal Advisors, P.C. (through attorney Bob Blackmore), for the purpose of providing legal services related to the filing of a civil action and/or claims in the pending settlements for recovery of costs associated with damages to the public drinking water system and/or public wastewater system against Defendants who manufactured, marketed, distributed, and/or sold aqueous film-forming foam in the PFAS Product Liability Multi-District Litigation.

2. That the City Manager or his designee is authorized to sign all necessary documents to facilitate the Legal Services Agreement.
3. That this resolution is effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED by the Common Council this 13th day of April 2026.
SIGNED by the Mayor this 13th day of April 2026.

Doug Primmer, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Heather KP La Beau, DEPUTY CITY RECORDER