



Meeting Name: Town Council meeting
Meeting Date: October 25, 2023
Prepared By: C. Copeland-Rodriguez, Town Clerk
Item Title: Resolution No. 2023-19 – Participation Agreement with Palm Beach County for Publication of Legal Notices on County Designated Publicly Accessible Website

DISCUSSION:

As the Council may be aware, during the 2022 legislative session, the Florida Legislature signed House Bill 7049 (“HB7049”) into law allowing governmental agencies to publish legal notices on a publicly accessible website designated by the County instead of publishing in a print newspaper under certain circumstances.

Staff received a letter from Palm Beach County on October 12, 2023, informing the Town that they have entered into an agreement with CivicPlus, LLC as the County’s designated “Publicly Accessible Website”, and to outline the process for the Town to publish legal notices on the website should we elect to do so.

Cost:

One-time Implementation- \$2,000 each participant

Annual – Year 1:

Municipalities whose Population:9,999 or fewer.....\$5,000

Total Cost for Year 1:

\$7,000

Per the proposed agreement’s **Early Adopter Incentive:** *Governmental Agencies that execute a Participation Agreement and an Order prior to December 31, 2023, will receive a 100% waiver of one-time implementation fees.* **Annual Price Adjustment:** *The Annual Rates shown in Exhibit B will increase by 3% annually, beginning on the first anniversary of the Effective Date of this Agreement and each anniversary thereafter.*

The new law does not obligate the Town to utilize the Website for publishing legal notices. It is merely an alternative to publishing in print newspapers.

On average, the Town of Juno Beach spends between \$4,500-\$10,000 per year on just legal advertisements (*Ordinances, Special Exceptions, Resolutions, Request for Proposals, etc.*).

RECOMMENDATION:

Town Staff recommends approval of Resolution No. 2023-19 - Participation Agreement with Palm Beach County for Publication of Legal Notices on County Designated Publicly Accessible Website; and authorizes the Town Manager to execute the agreement.