



## **COUNCIL ACTION SUMMARY SHEET**

**MEETING DATE:** February 9, 2026

**TOPIC** Legal Services Contract – Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton, PC

### **BACKGROUND BRIEF:**

The Ad Hoc Legal Services Review Committee is recommending that Council approve a contract for legal services with Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton, PC, (GMH) as presented. The proposed contract reflects changes made during the Committee's negotiations held with the firm on February 3 pursuant to Council's direction. Village Manager McClary has confirmed with current Village Attorney Kucharek that the transition to the new firm may occur at any time and that the transition should occur as soon as possible. If the contract is approved, GMH will begin its work with the Village on February 10.

John Clark of GMH will be in attendance at Monday's meeting to introduce himself and the firm.

### **SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:**

10/27/2025 – Council created an Ad Hoc Legal Services Review Committee consisting of three (3) Council members, the Village Manager, and the Chief of Police to establish the criteria for rating legal services firms; review the proposals received on October 22, 2025, and rate each; prepare interview questions and interview firms and rate each firm's interview presentation; and formulate a recommendation to Council on selection of the most qualified firm no later than the first regular meeting of the Village Council in December 2025.

11/24/2025 – Council extended the expiration of the term of the Ad Hoc Legal Services Review Committee and the appointments thereto from the first regular meeting of the Village Council in December 2025 to the second regular meeting of the Village Council in January 2026.

01/12/2026 – Council accepted and approved the recommendation from the Legal Services Review Ad Hoc Committee to select the law firm of Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton of Troy, Michigan, to provide general, prosecution, litigation, and other legal services for the Village of Lake Orion subject to the Committee's negotiation of an acceptable services contract with the firm and subsequent approval of the contract by the Village Council.

01/26/2026 – Council extended the expiration of the term of the Ad Hoc Legal Services Review Committee and the appointments thereto from January 26, 2026, Village Council Regular Meeting until February 23, 2026, Village Council Regular Meeting.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

If the contract is approved, legal services will be charged at the rate of \$175.00 per hour for general legal services, \$165.00 per hour for prosecutorial services, \$85.00 per hour for paralegal services, and actual cost for ancillary services. Telephone or email consultations of less than fifteen minutes will not be charged.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

To approve the Contract for Legal Services between the Village of Lake Orion and Giarmarco, Mullins & Horton, PC, of Troy, Michigan, as presented and authorize the Village Manager to execute the contract on behalf of the Village.