

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT for professional services is made by and between the City of Madison, Alabama, a municipal corporation, located at 100 Hughes Road, Madison, Alabama 35758, hereinafter referred to as "City," and **Rice Advisory, LLC**, located at 250 Commerce Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 2; Montgomery, Alabama 36104, hereinafter referred to as "Consultant."

WITNESS TO:

WHEREAS, the City of Madison has sought professional services for municipal financial advisory services; and

WHEREAS, the best interests of the City and its residents will be served by retaining an experienced provider of such services; and

WHEREAS, Consultant is an experienced and unique provider of the services required and is capable of providing the same in a professional, timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to avail itself of Consultant's unique abilities and services and Consultant desires to provide same to City;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of mutual covenants and agreements herein set forth, the parties, intending to be legally bound, hereby agree as follows:

SECTION 1: SCOPE OF WORK

- A. Pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement, Consultant will provide the following services to City: Municipal financial advisory services, said services to be administered according to Consultant's proposed Fee Schedule ("Attachment A") which are attached hereto and wholly incorporated herein by this reference.
- B. Consultant shall thoroughly and proficiently perform all services using reasonable diligence and exercising the best judgment, care, and skill ordinarily used by similar persons providing the same or similar services under the same or similar circumstances.
- C. Consultant shall furnish all supplies, materials, machinery, equipment, and means, except as otherwise expressly specified herein, necessary or proper to carry out the services required by this Agreement.
- D. Consultant shall perform all services in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and shall be solely responsible for the legality, safety, efficiency, and adequacy of the services performed hereunder.

- E. Throughout the term of this Agreement, Consultant shall provide City reasonable and meaningful access via telephone and e-mail to Consultant's principals for the purpose of fulfilling the contracted-for deliverables.
- F. Any and all information provided to Consultant by City, of the type normally available for the proposed services, which has been prepared by or for others (including, but not limited to, the City, the State of Alabama, and various federal agencies) will be considered "best available information" and thus appropriate and sufficient for the services proposed herein. Consultant will not develop such original information unless specifically included in the attachments incorporated in Section 1.A.
- G. Pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, it is expressly understood that the Consultant represents only the City.

SECTION 2: EXPENSE STRUCTURE; OPTIONAL SERVICES & FEES

- A. City shall pay consultant at its proposed fee structure described in Attachment A, which shall be payable on a monthly basis as services are rendered and invoiced to City. Consultant is solely responsible for submission of monthly detailed invoices outlining the work performed and the payment due from City, terms net thirty (30) days.
- B. All fees and expenses related to Consultant's performance are included in the total compensation set forth in Section 2.A., and Consultant shall not be compensated for any other expenses.
- C. All taxes applicable to the payments made to Consultant hereunder shall be the sole responsibility, obligation, and liability of Consultant.
- D. Payment of compensation as set forth in Section 2.A. vests complete and irrevocable ownership in the City of all paid-for deliverables created by Consultant and City shall be perpetually vested with full usage rights of the same.
- E. In the event that Consultant determines that additional services are necessary, Consultant shall notify the City with reasonable promptness and explain the facts and circumstances giving rise to the need. Consultant shall not proceed to provide any additional services until Consultant receives written authorization of City. Any additional services will be performed according to the Consultant's fee schedule, set forth in Attachment A, and shall be subject to the budgetary restrictions of the City's duly-adopted budget for the then-current fiscal year.

SECTION 3: INDEMNIFICATION & INSURANCE

- A. Indemnification: Consultant agrees to hold harmless and indemnify City from and against all injuries, deaths, claims, suits, damages, losses, liabilities, judgments, costs, and

expenses resulting from negligent performance of professional services on the part of Consultant or its individual employees, officials, agents and representatives in the course of Consultant providing services pursuant to the instant Agreement.

To the extent allowed by law, City agrees to hold harmless and indemnify Consultant from and against all injuries, deaths, claims, suits, damages, losses, liabilities, judgments, costs, and expenses resulting from willful malfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence on the part of City or its individual employees, officials, agents and representatives in the course of receiving services from Consultant pursuant to the instant Agreement.

B. **Insurance:** Consultant further agrees to maintain and keep in full force and effect at all times during the term of this Agreement and any extensions thereof the following insurance policies for the duration of this agreement: Commercial General Liability Insurance, including officers, agents, and employees with per-project policy limits of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for each occurrence and in the aggregate for bodily injury and property damage; two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) Products/Completed Operations Aggregate; and one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) Personal and Advertising Injury limits combined single limit or equivalent. The Contractor shall name the City and its employees, agents, and servants as additional insureds in said policies and shall provide endorsements evidencing such coverage upon City's request.

All insurance policies as required of the Consultant in this Agreement shall be written by a company or companies authorized and qualified to do business in the State of Alabama. Contractor shall promptly file the certificates of all coverage required hereunder with City within ten (10) days of the effective date of this Agreement. Each insurance policy and certificate shall provide, in effect, that the policy may not be cancelled or non-renewed by the insurer until at least thirty (30) days after the insurer shall have notified the City of such action in writing by sending the same to the point of contact identified in Section 10. Consultant's insurance shall provide primary coverage as relates to other insurance carried by the City.

SECTION 4: COMMENCEMENT; TERM

This Agreement shall come into effect when the authorized representatives of each party finally execute and affix their respective signatures hereto in their duly authorized capacities. In the event the signatures are affixed on different dates, the date of the latter signature shall be the date the Agreement comes into effect. This Agreement shall remain in effect for one (1) year from the effective date, unless either party terminates early pursuant to Section 5 of this agreement. This Agreement shall be subject to two (2) additional renewal periods of one (1) year each, and it shall renew automatically unless either party gives notice of termination pursuant to Section 5 of this Agreement.

SECTION 5: TERMINATION

This Agreement may be terminated by either party, with or without cause, upon the provision of thirty (30) days' written notice to the other party. In the event of termination, Consultant shall be entitled to payment only for services rendered as of the date of termination,

and City shall be entitled to receive only that work product created by Consultant as of the date of termination.

SECTION 6: INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR RELATIONSHIP

It is mutually understood and agreed, and it is the intent of the parties, that an independent contractor relationship be and is hereby established under the terms and conditions of this Agreement. It is further mutually understood and agreed that employees of Consultant are not nor shall be deemed to be employees of City and that employees of City are not nor shall they be deemed to be employees of Consultant.

SECTION 7: EXCUSED PERFORMANCE

In case performance of any terms or provisions hereof shall be delayed or prevented because of compliance with any law, decree or order of any governmental agency or authority, whether the same shall be of Local, State or Federal origin, or because of riots, war, public disturbances, strikes, lockouts, differences with workmen, fires, floods, acts of God or any other reason whatsoever which is not within the control of the party whose performance is interfered with and which, by the exercise of reasonable diligence, said party is unable to prevent, the party so suffering may, at its option, suspend, without liability, the performance of its obligations hereunder during the period of such suspension of performance of duties hereunder.

SECTION 8: ASSIGNMENT

Neither Consultant nor City may assign or transfer this Agreement or any part thereof without the express, written consent of the other party.

SECTION 9: ARBITRATION

Any dispute arising out of or with respect to this Agreement or any alleged breach hereof (which dispute is not resolved by negotiation between the parties within thirty days after written demand therefor is made by either party), shall, upon notice by either party to the other, be submitted to arbitration, by a single arbitrator, in Alabama, under rules of the American Arbitration Association. The parties shall share equally the costs of the arbitrator, and each party shall bear its own costs. The award of the arbitrator shall be final, binding on the parties, and non-appealable, and may be entered in any court of competent jurisdiction to enforce it.

SECTION 10: ENTIRE AGREEMENT: WAIVER

This Agreement and attachments incorporated within it constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties with respect to the provision of the services outlined herein and there are no other or further written or oral understandings or agreements with respect thereto. No variation or modification of this Agreement and no waiver of its provisions shall be valid unless in writing and signed by duly authorized representatives of Consultant and City. This Agreement supersedes all other agreements between the parties.

SECTION 11: NOTICES

All notices to City shall be addressed to:

*Director of Finance
City of Madison Finance Department
100 Hughes Road
Madison, Alabama 35758*

*With a copy to:
City Attorney
City of Madison Legal Department
100 Hughes Road
Madison, AL 35758*

All notices to Consultant shall be addressed to:

*Rushton Rice
Rice Advisory LLC
250 Commerce Street
3rd Floor, Suite 2
Montgomery, AL 36104*

SECTION 12: GOVERNING LAW

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Alabama.

SECTION 13: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- A. If any provision of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and enforceable. If a court finds that any provision of the Agreement is invalid or unenforceable, but that by limiting such provision it would become valid and enforceable, then such provision shall be deemed to be written, construed and enforced as so limited.
- B. The failure of either party to enforce any provision of this Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver or limitation of that party's right to subsequently enforce and compel strict compliance with every provision of this Agreement.
- C. Nothing contained herein shall create a contractual relationship with, or any rights in favor of, any third party.
- D. In the event the terms set forth in the body of this Agreement conflict with the terms set forth in any attachment hereto, the terms set forth in the body of this Agreement shall prevail.

- E. The headings of each section are inserted for reference purposes only. Any conflict between a descriptive heading and the content of the section shall be resolved in favor of the language contained in the section.
- F. Consultant agrees to comply with all applicable Federal, State, and Local laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, those pertaining to wages and hours of employment. By signing this Agreement, the parties affirm, for the duration hereof, that they will not violate federal immigration law or knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien within the State of Alabama. Furthermore, a party found to be in violation of this provision shall be deemed in breach of the Agreement and shall be responsible for all damages resulting therefrom.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto affirm that they have the authority to execute this Agreement on behalf of their respective entities for the entire term and have hereunto set their hands and seals on the day and year respectively noted.

**City of Madison, Alabama,
a municipal corporation**

Attest:

By: _____
Paul Finley, Mayor

Lisa D. Thomas, City Clerk-Treasurer

Date: _____

STATE OF ALABAMA §
§
COUNTY OF MADISON §

I, the undersigned Notary Public, in and for said County, in said State, hereby certify that Paul Finley and Lisa D. Thomas, whose names as Mayor and the City Clerk-Treasurer, respectively, of the City of Madison, Alabama, are signed to the foregoing instrument, and who are known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the instrument, they, as such officers and with full authority, executed the same voluntarily for and as the act of the City of Madison, Alabama, a municipal corporation.

Given under my hand and official seal this ____ day of April 2024.

Notary Public

**Rice Advisory, LLC
Consultant**

By: _____
Rushton Rice

Its: President

Date: _____

STATE OF ALABAMA §
 §
COUNTY OF _____ §

I, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for said County in said State, hereby certify that Rushton Rice, whose name as President of Rice Advisory, LLC, is signed to the foregoing instrument and who was made known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the instrument, he, as such officer and with full authority, executed the same voluntarily for and as the act of said entity.

Given under my hand this the _____ day of April 2024.

Notary Public