
Meeting Date: November 25, 2024

Subject: Gordon Thomas Honeywell Consulting Agreement Renewal

Attachments: Renewal Contract

Presented by: Adam Vaughn, Finance Director

Approved for Agenda by: Dan Ford, City Manager

Discussion:

In April of this year the City agreed to hire the firm Gordon Thomas Honeywell (GTH) to assist with state lobbying efforts. This item is a renewal contract to extend the services through 2025.

GTH has assisted the City primarily on its Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and police station projects. GTH coordinated efforts with the City to apply to the Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF) for funds for our WWTP. As the council knows, the City was awarded funding through this process. GTH has been clear with us through the process that applying with the PWTF is the first step with the state before seeking additional funding.

Now that PWTF funding is secured, the City is looking for ways to fund about \$2 million of the loan portion of the project. The next step in the process is for GTH to lobby state legislators to appropriate funding for the project. GTH has begun this process by inviting various legislators to Toppenish to tour the WWTP. Throughout the legislative session GTH will be active with each of our representatives' offices to make Toppenish's case for funding.

GTH also plans to ask for \$300,000 of funding to renovate the police building property that the City has purchased.

Fiscal Impact:

\$3,000 a month plus \$100 an hour grant writing services on an as needed basis. Cost was included in the 2025 preliminary budget.

Recommendation:

Approve resolution 2024-48 authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement with GTH.

Alternatives:

Do not fund this service.