



Council Agenda Item

Meeting Date: August 15, 2023

Agenda Item: Retaining an Attorney for Personnel Matters

Staff Contact (name, email, phone): Sara Marquardt, smarquardt@whitewater-wi.gov, 262-473-1387

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

1. Council member Stone requested an agenda item regarding retaining an attorney for personnel matters.
2. The City of Whitewater currently retains the firm of Harrison, Williams and McDonell, LLP to provide legal services for the City of Whitewater with Jonathan McDonell as the lead attorney.
3. The law firm of von Briesen & Roper SC has long represented the City of Whitewater as special legal counsel on matters the City Attorney does not wish to address such as contract negotiations and complex labor-related issues. Attorney Kyle Gulya serves as lead attorney for von Briesen & Roper.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

On February 7, 2023, the agreement with Harrison, Williams & McDonell was approved by Common Council on a unanimous vote.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

Unknown

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff does not recommend moving forward with retaining an additional attorney for personnel matters. The City of Whitewater currently retains two competent and professional attorneys to handle City matters.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

1. N/A