



**Date** October 5, 2020

**ACCEPTING PROPOSAL OF AHLERS & COONEY, P. C. TO PROVIDE MUNICIPAL NUISANCE CODE LITIGATION/REAL ESTATE COUNSEL SERVICES FOR THE BLITZ ON BLIGHT PROGRAM AND APPROVING AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF SAME**

WHEREAS, The City's Blitz on Blight program is an effort to improve City neighborhoods and remove abandoned structures which is fueled by the Local Option Sales and Service Taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Blitz on Blight program is expected to result in the removal of hundreds of public nuisance structures; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager directed the Legal Department to work with the Finance Department Procurement Division to solicit proposals from qualified law firms to provide title search, litigation and legal counsel services to the City in connection with nuisance actions resulting from the City's Blitz on Blight program and the Procurement Division solicited bids for such services by advertisement and mailing RFP No. N20-156 Municipal Nuisance Code Litigation/Real Estate Counsel Services for the City of Des Moines Blitz on Blight Program to 6 potential proposers with 3 proposals received; and

WHEREAS, the Evaluation and Selection Committee, which was composed of the City Manager, Community Development Director, City Attorney and the Litigation Deputy, determined that the proposal submitted by Ahlers & Cooney, P. C., 100 Court Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50309, was the highest scoring proposal and recommends such proposal to the City Council for award of contract; and

WHEREAS, an agreement to provide such services has been negotiated by the Legal Department staff for a term of one year, with an option to renew at the City's discretion by two 1 year terms, a copy of which is on file in the City Clerk's Office; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that at least 1300 to 1500 hours of legal services at an estimated cost approximating \$250,000 will be required to provide these necessary services for the Blitz on Blight program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, that the proposal submitted by Ahlers & Cooney, P. C. for Municipal Nuisance Code Litigation/Real Estate Counsel Services for the City of Des Moines Blitz on Blight program is hereby accepted and the Mayor is authorized and directed to execute the agreement for such services for a term of two years, a copy of which is on file in the City Clerk's Office.



**Roll Call Number**

**Agenda Item Number**

**49**

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Manager is authorized to execute up to two 1 year renewals of such agreement subject to his determination of the ongoing need for such renewal and the best interests of the City after consultation with the City Attorney.

adopt.

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ to

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Ann DiDonato  
Ann DiDonato  
Assistant City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
BOESEN				
GATTO				
GRAY				
MANDELBAUM				
VOSS				
WESTERGAARD				
TOTAL				

**CERTIFICATE**

I, P. Kay Cmelik, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

MOTION CARRIED APPROVED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk