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City Council

Approval of a Resolution Authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the Police Auditor Agreement with Ogden Murphy Wallace, P.L.L.C.

Agenda Date: 5/18/2021
Agenda Item Number: 4.N
File Number: 21-0481

Type: resolution **Version:** 1 **Status:** Passed

Title

Approval of a Resolution Authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the Police Auditor Agreement with Ogden Murphy Wallace, P.L.L.C.

Recommended Action

Committee Recommendation:

Not referred to a committee.

City Manager Recommendation:

Move to approve a resolution authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the Police Auditor Agreement with Ogden Murphy Wallace, P.L.L.C.

Report

Issue:

Whether to approve a resolution authorizing Amendment No. 1 to the Police Auditor Agreement with Ogden Murphy Wallace, P.L.L.C., in order to extend its terms and authorizing compensation for additional services.

Staff Contact:

Debbie Sullivan, Assistant City Manager, 360.753.8499

Presenter(s):

None - Consent Calendar Item.

Background and Analysis:

The purpose of police auditor services is to increase public trust and confidence in the police department and its' professional standards, internal investigations, and complaint processes. In November of 2020, the City contracted with the law firm, Ogden Murphy Wallace, P.L.L.C. to act as an independent police auditor pursuant to Olympia Municipal Code 2.38. Funding for the contract was set at \$30,000 and the contract was to end in November of 2021. Staff recommends increasing the budget to \$100,000 and extending the contract through 2022.

The current budget of \$30,000 was based on the last Police Auditor contract approved by Council in 2009. Since the Police Auditor was reinstated in November 2020, the number of hours dedicated to this work far exceeds the 2009 level of effort. Also, the one-year term of the contract ends in November 2021 and does not provide the time needed to evaluate a full twelve months of complaints and investigations. Therefore, staff recommends extending the contract term to allow the Police Auditor a reasonable amount of time to analyze the data, file the final report, and present to Council. The final report, analysis, and recommendations is tentatively scheduled for February of 2022.

Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):

The community continues to express a need for police accountability and police auditor services are one way for the City to ensure that the Olympia Police Department's professional standards, internal investigations, and complaint processes meet best practices.

Options:

1. Move to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Police Auditor Agreement with Ogden Murphy Wallace, P.L.L.C. and authorize the City Manager to sign the Amendment.
2. Do Not Approve Amendment No. 1, allowing services to terminate when funding is exhausted.
3. Direct staff to edit Amendment No. 1.

Financial Impact:

Additional funding in the amount of \$70,000 was approved on May 4, 2021 as part of the 2021 General Fund End of Year allocation.

Attachments:

Resolution
Agreement