



CITY OF FERNLEY

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: December 15, 2021

REPORT TO:	Mayor and City Council
REPORT FROM:	Trisha Conner, Assistant to the City Manager
REVIWED BY:	Daphne Hooper, City Manager
REVIEWED BY:	Denise Lewis, City Treasurer

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>	CURRENTLY BUDGETED: Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>	FUND/ACCOUNT: 100-413-322
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ACTION REQUESTED: Consent Ordinance Resolution Motion Receive/File

AGENDA ITEM: Staff Report (For Possible Action): Possible Approval a Contract with Walther Law Offices PLLC for Public Defender Services from January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$6,666.66 a month.

Agenda Item Brief:
Staff posted an RFQ for Public Defender Services November 1 – 30, 2021 on the internet and newsprint. The City received one proposal from Walther Law office PLLC. Staff recommends the contracting with Walther Law Offices for the City’s Public Defender services beginning January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$6,666.66 a month.

Recommended Motion:
“I move to approve the contract between the City of Fernley and Walther Law Office PLLC for Public Defender Services for the amount of \$6,666.66 a month from January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024.”

Business Impact (per NRS Chapter 237):
 A Business Impact Statement is Attached.
 A Business Impact Statement is not required because this is not a rule (term excludes vehicles by which legislative powers are exercised under NRS Chapters 271, 278, 278A, or 278B).

See attached report for background, analysis, alternatives.

ALTERNATIVES:

Council may make any amendments or adjustments.

- Not approve the contract and direct staff to look for other possible professional services for the City's Public Defender.
- Request additional information

BACKGROUND:

Staff posted a Request for Qualifications for Public Defender Services November 1 – 30, 2021 via newsprint and on the internet. The City received one proposal from Walther Law Office PLLC of Dayton. Walther Law Offices has three attorneys with over 10 years of collective experience representing indigent clients. They have three offices, one located in Fernley "which is staffed nearly every Monday – Friday 8-5." Walther also has Spanish speaking staff and has strong experience translating and assisting in communication with Spanish speaking clients. Walther Law Office, PLLC has been in existence for three years and the firm currently has the Lyon County Public Defender Contract and provides contract services with Yerington Municipal Court. Walther claims there is no conflict of interest with the City of Fernley.

The term of the proposed contract is from January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$6,666.66 a month. Staff recommends Council to approve the contract.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

NRS 332.115

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Funds have been budgeted for FY2021/22 and will be budgeted for FY2022/23 and FY2023/24.

ATTACHMENTS:

Public Defender Contract
Attachment A – Scope of Service
Attachment B – Fee Schedule
Walther Law Office PLLC Proposal