



## City Council Memorandum

To: Mayor & City Council  
From: Jim Culotta, City Administrator  
Date: 1/16/18  
Re: City Attorney Reappointments & Establishing Fees

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Davis & Campbell, the law firm for the City Attorney, requests a \$10 increase in the hourly rate for several attorneys. The attached resolution reflects this request and reappoints attorneys with Davis & Campbell. It also establishes compensation for 2018. The Finance & Personnel Committee recommended approval at their December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **BACKGROUND**

The table below details the billing rate history and proposed rate for each attorney.

|                                     | HISTORICAL BILLING RATES |          |          |               |          |          |          |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|----------|---------------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                     | Proposed Rates           |          |          |               |          |          |          |
|                                     | 2018                     | 2017     | 2016     | 2015*         | 2014     | 2013     | 2012     |
| Keith Braskich                      | \$270.00                 | \$260.00 | \$260.00 | \$260 - \$250 | \$250.00 | \$265.00 | \$265.00 |
| Richard Russo                       | \$205.00                 | \$195.00 | \$195.00 | \$195 - \$185 | \$185.00 | \$185.00 | \$185.00 |
| Derek Schryer                       | \$205.00                 | \$195.00 | \$185.00 | \$175 - \$165 | \$165.00 | \$165.00 | \$165.00 |
| Robert Coletta                      | \$270.00                 | \$260.00 | \$260.00 | \$260.00      |          | \$240.00 |          |
| Jay Scholl                          | \$195.00                 | \$185.00 | \$185.00 | \$175.00      |          | \$165.00 |          |
| Kevin Shields                       | N/A                      |          |          | \$175 - \$165 | \$165.00 | \$165.00 |          |
| Nicole Meyer                        | \$195.00                 | \$195.00 | \$185.00 | \$175.00      |          |          |          |
| Michael Rayfield                    | \$165.00                 | \$155.00 | \$155.00 |               |          |          |          |
| Tinothy Yuhasz                      | \$165.00                 |          |          |               |          |          |          |
| 2015* - Rates Changed March 1, 2015 |                          |          |          |               |          |          |          |

### **ATTACHED**

1. Resolution

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

Synopsis: The following resolution would reappoint Attorney Richard Russo as City Attorney, Attorney Derek Schryer as Assistant City Attorney, and would approve the use of other Davis & Campbell attorneys. This resolution also provides for hourly compensation for each of the attorneys.

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING CITY ATTORNEY REAPPOINTMENT AND  
ESTABLISHING ATTORNEYS' FEES**

**WHEREAS**, upon the recommendation of Mayor Gary W. Manier, the City Council previously approved the appointment of Richard Russo and Derek Schryer of Davis & Campbell L.L.C. as City Attorney and Assistant City Attorney respectively for the City of Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council also previously approved the use of Keith Braskich of Davis & Campbell L.L.C. for specialized legal services provided such specialized services are authorized in advance by the Mayor or City Administrator; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Manier and the City Council wish to reappoint Richard Russo and Derek Schryer as City Attorney and Assistant City Attorney respectively, and to approve the use of Keith Braskich and Robert Coletta for specialized legal services; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council also authorizes Nicole Meyer, Jay Scholl, Michael Rayfield, and Tim Yuhasz of Davis & Campbell L.L.C. to assist the City Attorney and Assistant City Attorney with providing legal services to the City of Washington on an as needed basis; and

**WHEREAS**, said authorization and the associated resulting expenses requires the formal approval of the Corporate Authorities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CORPORATE  
AUTHORITIES OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, TAZEWELL COUNTY, ILLINOIS**, that Richard A. Russo and Derek A. Schryer of the Davis & Campbell L.L.C. law firm be reappointed City Attorney and Assistant City Attorney, respectively, for the City of Washington, Illinois.

The parties agree that City Attorney Russo shall be paid for services performed pursuant to this appointment at the rate of \$205.00 per hour and that Assistant City Attorney Schryer shall be paid for services performed pursuant to this appointment at the rate of \$205.00 per hour.

Additionally, Nicole Meyer and Jay Scholl are authorized to assist the City Attorney and Assistant City Attorney with providing legal services for the City, on an as needed basis, at the rate of \$195.00 per hour. Michael Rayfield and Tim Yuhasz are authorized to assist the City Attorney and Assistant City Attorney with providing legal services for the City, on an as needed basis, at the rate of \$165.00 per hour.

Furthermore, should the City require specialized legal services from Davis & Campbell attorney Keith Braskich and attorney Robert Coletta, shall be compensated at a rate of \$270.00 per hour, respectively, provided such specialized legal services are authorized in advance by the Mayor or City Administrator.

Unless otherwise terminated prior thereto, said appointments shall remain in effect until the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 2018 and until a successor is appointed.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Corporate Authorities this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2018.

AYES \_\_\_\_\_

NAYS \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

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