Request for Proposals: Legal Services – Prosecuting Attorney

The City of Parkville, Missouri (“City”) is pleased to issue this Request for Proposals (“RFP”) for legal services for a prosecuting attorney for Parkville Municipal Court.

1. INTRODUCTION

The City of Parkville is a fourth-class city located in the southern portion of Platte County, Missouri along the Missouri River. The population of Parkville was 5,554 at the 2010 census. Parkville is home to Park University, Parkville Commons, English Landing Park, the National Golf Club, Riss Lake, and the historic downtown Main Street area. The City of Parkville has 40 permanent employees supplemented by various contracted, seasonal, and intern employees. The City offers a full range of municipal services including street maintenance, public parks, sewer utility, community development, police, and municipal court. The 2015 City Budget and 2013 Audit are available online: http://parkvillemo.gov/financialdocuments/.

This RFP is being issued to identify the most capable individual or firm to serve as the city prosecutor. The municipal court of the City of Parkville is a division of the 6th Judicial Circuit (Platte County Circuit). The cases heard in municipal court are those as set forth in the Revised Statutes of Missouri. The rules of the court are set forth by the Supreme Court of Missouri, statute, and ordinance.

The City currently employees a city prosecutor and assistant city prosecutor, on a contractual basis, to meet the prosecutorial needs of the City. The incumbent prosecutor is retiring after approximately 25 years in the position. The City desires to eliminate the assistant city prosecutor position and instead enter into a single contract to provide all prosecutorial services. The City envisions contracting with a law firm that will appoint a lead attorney to act as the city prosecutor but be able to supplement with other attorneys as needed in the event of prosecutor absences. Alternative arrangements will be considered so long as the respondent can demonstrate an ability to provide back-up services as needed.

Current rates of compensation are as follows:

- City prosecutor - $1,450 per month; $17,500 annually; $160 per hour for additional services
- Assistant city prosecutor - $400 per month; $4,800 annually

2. SCOPE OF SERVICES

Basic Services: The city prosecutor shall prosecute cases before the Parkville Municipal Court and any appeals therefrom. The prosecutor must be available for general court appearances two to three nights a month. Basic services includes all preparation for court appearances including conferences with defendants, defense attorneys, the municipal judge, city staff (including police and code enforcement officers), and all legal research necessary for the prosecution of cases to be tried in municipal court. Court is usually held on the first and third Thursdays of the month. The probation and plea dockets begin at 4:30 p.m. followed by the regular docket at 5:30 p.m. In addition, the prosecutor will provide advice and counsel to city officials regarding the prosecution of ordinance violations and code enforcement.
**Additional Services:** Additional services shall include appearances in the Circuit Court of Platte County and all appellate courts of the State of Missouri as required.

*Note: The final Scope of Services is subject to change following the selection process and contract negotiations with the selected candidate. Therefore, the City reserves the right to make revisions.*

3. **PROPOSAL AND EVALUATION CRITERIA**

**A. Instructions to Applicants:**

1. The response to this RFP should be delivered as follows: Five (5) hard copies plus one (1) electronic PDF file version (on a CD, flash drive or via email) shall be submitted to the address below in a sealed package clearly marked to the attention of Lauren Palmer and must be received at the address below by 5:00 PM Central Time on May 12, 2015.

   Lauren Palmer  
   City Administrator  
   City of Parkville  
   8880 Clark Ave.  
   Parkville, MO 64152  
   lpalmer@parkvillemo.gov

2. Any proposals received after the specified date and time will be rejected and returned unopened. Proposals may not be modified or withdrawn after the submittal deadline. However, a respondent may withdraw one’s proposal from the selection process at any time prior to the submittal deadline. The City reserves the right to extend the time for submittals.

3. Additional promotional materials/brochures may be included in addition to the proposal but may not substitute for any of the content requirements of the proposal itself. This additional material need not be submitted in an electronic format.

4. Communication (other than through the process described herein) with the City, the selection committee, or the general public relative to this RFP prior to the announcement of a selection is strictly prohibited.

5. The City reserves the right to waive any irregularities and/or reject any and all submittals. The City is under no obligation to award a contract to any firm submitting a proposal.

6. The City shall not be responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation, submittal, and presentation of proposals.

7. All materials submitted shall become the property of the City and shall be subject to the laws and regulations relating to the disclosure of public information. No guarantee of privacy or confidentiality is offered or implied.

**B. Proposal Requirements and Evaluation Criteria**

The following are the contents that all proposals must include. The following categories and criteria will be major considerations in the evaluation and determination of the most qualified and capable individual and/or firm. Note: The sequence of the listing is not intended to reflect relative weight of each category:

1. **Interest and Relevant Experience:** A statement of interest for the scope of services (not to exceed two pages) including a narrative describing the respondent’s capabilities, relevant experience, and interest in the position.

2. **Availability:** A statement on the availability and commitment of the respondent to undertake the scope of services. The statement should demonstrate how back-up services will be provided in the event of prosecutor absences.
3. **Background and Training:** Proposal shall include resumes for personnel who may perform services, including the lead contact who will act as the primary city prosecutor. Resumes should list all relevant educational background/training and experience.

4. **References:** The name, address and telephone number of at least three references, preferably clients, who can attest to the respondent’s ability to perform the services. Proposal shall include a description of the relationship between each reference and the respondent.

5. **Disclosure:** Proposal will disclose any professional or personal financial interest which could be a possible conflict of interest in contracting with the City.

6. **Fee:** Proposal shall include a total fee for the scope of services and shall separate fees associated with the basic services and additional services. Proposal should clearly state basis for the proposed fee (hourly, monthly, lump sum, other) and the method for billing additional services beyond those listed in the scope. The fee proposal shall, if applicable, itemize the methodology for billing reimbursable expenses such as travel, production of documents, subscriptions, etc. The City reserves the right to negotiate a final fee and scope of services as part of contract negotiations following the selection process.

7. **Adherence to Contract:** The City’s standard Professional Services Agreement is included as Attachment 1. Respondent shall thoroughly review the agreement and state an ability to comply with its terms and/or state any terms for which it will request re-negotiation.

### 4. PROPOSED PROCESS AND TIMELINE (subject to change)

Section 125.010 of the Municipal Code states that the Mayor, by and with the consent of the Board of Aldermen, may appoint a city prosecutor. Per Section 112.070.G., the city administrator will make a recommendation to the Mayor for the appointment. The following selection process will be utilized to determine the recommendation to the Board of Aldermen.

- **April 28, 2015** RFP issued and posted on the City of Parkville website.
- **May 12, 2015** Receipt of proposals due by 5:00 PM Central Time.
- **May 13 -15** A selection committee comprised of city officials will evaluate the proposals and select a preferred respondent to begin contract negotiations. If multiple firms have exceptional proposals, the selection committee will select a short-listed group of finalists for interviews.
- **May 18, 2015** Preferred firm is notified of selection and contract negotiations.
- **May 26, 2015** Deadline to complete contract negotiations.
- **June 2, 2015** Board of Aldermen takes action on recommended contract.
- **June 3, 2015** Start date

By submitting a proposal in response to this RFP, the respondent expresses its intent to comply with the established timeline. In addition, the respondent accepts the evaluation process and methodology, as well as acknowledges and accepts that the determination of “the most qualified and capable” firm(s) will require subjective judgments by the selection committee and the City. Thank you in advance for your interest in the City of Parkville.

**ATTACHMENT**

1. Draft Professional Services Agreement

**END OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
ATTACHMENT 1

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS SERVICE AGREEMENT, entered into on this 2nd day of June, 2015 by and between the CITY OF PARKVILLE, MISSOURI (“City”) and ________________________________ (“Service Provider”).

WHEREAS, the City requires a city prosecutor to fulfill the duties outlined in Section 125.020 of the Parkville Municipal Code, and other related duties; and

WHEREAS, Service Provider was chosen through a qualifications and fee based selection process and has demonstrated the necessary expertise, experience, and personnel to perform the Services.

NOW THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION of the mutual covenants and agreements set forth herein, the parties mutually agree as follows:

I. SCOPE OF SERVICES
   A. The term “Services” when used in this Agreement shall mean any and all city prosecutor services provided by the Service Provider in accordance with this Agreement.
   B. The City agrees to retain Service Provider and Service Provider agrees to perform and complete the Services described in the Exhibit A – Scope of Services, attached hereto and incorporated by reference.
   C. The City reserves the right to direct revision of the Services at the City’s discretion. Service Provider shall advise the City of additional costs and time delays, if any, in performing the revision, before Service Provider performs the revised services.
   D. Service Provider shall provide Additional Services under this Agreement only upon written request of the City and only to the extent defined and required by the City. Any additional services or materials provided by the Service Provider without the City’s prior written consent shall be at the Service Provider’s own risk, cost, and expense, and Service Provider shall not make a claim for compensation from the City for such work.

II. STANDARD OF CARE
   A. Service Provider shall exercise the same degree of care, skill, and diligence in the performance of all Services to the City that is ordinarily possessed and exercised by reasonable, prudent, and experienced professionals under similar circumstances.
   B. Service Provider represents it has all necessary licenses, permits, knowledge, and certifications required to perform the Services described herein.

III. COMPENSATION
   A. As consideration for providing the Services, the City shall pay Service Provider as follows:
      a. Services will be billed <to be determined>.
      b. Service Provider is not eligible for reimbursement for miscellaneous expenses including travel, transportation, postage, etc. for the day-to-day costs associated with delivery of the Services.
      c. Subject to annual appropriations, the City will pay costs for one attorney to annually attend the Missouri Municipal and Associate Circuit Judges Association annual conference for legal education. Allowable expenses for both advance payment and reimbursement will be determined and paid in accordance with
IV. SCHEDULE
A. Unless otherwise directed by the City, Service Provider shall commence performance of the Services upon execution of this Agreement.
B. Service Provider will be prepared for and make appearance on the City’s behalf on all scheduled municipal court dates.
C. Neither the City nor the Service Provider shall be in default of the Agreement for delays in performance caused by circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the non-performing party.

V. LIABILITY AND INDEMNIFICATION
A. Service Provider shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City and its departments, elected officials, officers, employees and agents, from and against all liability, suits, actions, proceedings, judgments, claims, losses, damages, and injuries (including attorneys’ fees and other expenses of litigation, arbitration, mediation or appeal), which in whole or in part arise out of or have been connected with Service Providers’ negligence, error, omission, recklessness, or wrongful or criminal conduct in the performance of Services, including performance by Service Provider’s employees and agents; or arising from any claim for libel, slander, defamation, copyright infringement, invasion of privacy, piracy and/or plagiarism related to any materials related to materials Service Provider creates or supplies to the City, except to the extent that such claims arise from materials created or supplied by the City.
B. Service Provider’s obligation to indemnify and hold harmless shall remain in effect and shall be binding on Service Provider whether such injury shall accrue, or may be discovered, before or after termination of this Agreement.

VI. INSURANCE
The Service Provider shall secure and maintain, at its expense, and through the duration of this Agreement, professional liability insurance on an occurrence basis with minimum limits of $1,000,000 per occurrence and $1,000,000 aggregate coverage. Service Provider shall also secure and maintain Worker’s Compensation and Employer’s Liability Insurance, when applicable, at the limits required by state and/or federal law.
VII. ASSIGNMENT OF AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR PERSONNEL
   A. Service Provider’s assignment of personnel to perform the Services shall be subject to the City’s oversight and general guidance. The City reserves the right to request qualifications and/or reject service from any and all employees of the Service Provider.
   B. While upon City premises, the Service Provider’s employees and agents shall be subject to the City’s rules and regulations respecting its property and the conduct of employees thereon.

VIII. OWNERSHIP OF WORK PRODUCT
   Service Provider agrees that any documents, materials and work products produced in whole or in part through it under this Agreement, any intellectual property rights of Service Provider therein (collectively the “Works”) are intended to be owned by the City. Accordingly, Service Provider hereby assigns to the City all of its right title and interest in and to such Works.

IX. RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES
   A. Service Provider represents that it has, or will secure at Service Provider's own expense, all personnel required in performing the Services under this Agreement. Such personnel shall not be employees of or have any contractual relationship with the City.
   B. All of the Services required hereunder will be performed by the Service Provider or under Service Provider's supervision, and all personnel engaged in the work shall be fully qualified and shall be authorized or permitted under State and Local law to perform such services.
   C. None of the Services covered by this Agreement shall be subcontracted without the prior written approval of the City. Any work or services subcontracted hereunder shall be specified by written contract or agreement and shall be subject to each provision of this Agreement.

X. NOTICES
   A. All notices required by this Agreement shall be in writing, and unless otherwise directed by this Agreement, shall be sent to the addresses as set forth in this Section:
   B. Notices sent by Service Provider shall be sent to:
      City of Parkville
      Attn: City Administrator
      8880 Clark Ave.
      Parkville, MO 64152
      lpalmer@parkvillemo.gov
   A. Notices sent by the City shall be sent to:
      <to be determined>

XI. TERM AND TERMINATION
   A. The effective date of this Agreement shall be the date of execution, when the Agreement is signed by both parties.
   B. The term of this Agreement shall be until June 30, 2016. The Agreement shall automatically renew each July 1 for an additional one (1) year term unless notice is given by either party to the other party at least sixty (60) days in advance of the renewal date of intention to terminate or re-negotiate the terms of the Agreement.
   C. Notwithstanding Article XI, Paragraph B, the City reserves the right and may elect to terminate this Agreement at any time, with or without cause, by giving at least ten (10)
days written notice to the Service Provider. The City shall compensate Service Provider for the Services that have been completed to the City’s satisfaction as of the date of termination. Service Provider shall perform no activities other than reasonable wrap-up activities after receipt of notice of termination.

XII. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
A. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Missouri.

B. Assignability. Service Provider shall not assign any interest on this Agreement, and shall not transfer any interest in the same (whether by assignment or invitation), without the prior written consent of the City thereto. Provided, however, that the claims for money by Service Provider from the City under this Agreement may be assigned to a bank, trust company, or other financial institution without such approval. Written notice of any such assignment or transfer shall be furnished promptly to the City.

C. Media Announcements. Service Provider shall not be authorized to make statements to the media or otherwise on behalf of the City without express direction and consent of the City.

D. Compliance with Local Laws. Service provider shall comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, and codes of the State and local governments, and shall save the City harmless with respect to any damages arising from any tort done in performing any of the work embraced by this Agreement.

E. Equal Employment Opportunity. During the performance of this Agreement, Service Provider agrees as follows:
   i. Service Provider will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color, national origin, religion, or sex. Service Provider will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, creed, color, national origin, religion, or sex. Such action shall include, but not be limited to, employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship.
   ii. Service Provider will, in all solicitation or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of Professional, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, religion, or sex.
   iii. Service Provider will cause the foregoing provisions to be inserted in all subcontracts for any work covered by this Agreement so that provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor, provided that the foregoing provisions shall not apply to contracts or subcontracts for standard commercial supplies or raw materials.

F. Authorized Employees. Service Provider acknowledges that Section 285.530, RSMo, prohibits any business entity or employer from knowingly employing, hiring for employment, or continuing to employ an unauthorized alien to perform work within the State of Missouri. Service Provider therefore covenants that it will not knowingly be in violation of subsection 1 of Section 285.530, RSMo, and that it will not knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ any unauthorized aliens to perform Services related to this Agreement, and that its employees are lawfully to work in the United States.
G. Interest of Members of a City. No member of the governing body of the City and no other officer, employee, or agent of the City who exercises any functions or responsibilities in connection with the planning and carrying out of this Agreement, shall have any personal financial interest, direct or indirect, in this Agreement, and Service Provider shall take appropriate steps to assure compliance.

H. Interest of Service Provider and Employees. Service Provider covenants that he/she presently has no interest and shall not acquire interest, direct or indirect, in the Services associated with this Agreement or any other interest which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of his/her services hereunder. Service Provider further covenants that in the performance of this Agreement, no person having any such interest shall be employed.

I. Entire Agreement. This Agreement represents the entire Agreement and understanding between the parties, and this Agreement supersedes any prior negotiations, proposals, or agreements. Unless otherwise provided in this Agreement, any amendment to this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be signed by the City and Service Provider, and attached hereto.

J. Severability. If any part, term or provision of this Agreement, or any attachments or amendments hereto, is declared invalid, void, or enforceable, all remaining parts, terms, and provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

K. Waiver. The failure of either party to require performance of this Agreement shall not affect such party’s right to enforce the same. A waiver by either party of any provision of breach of this Agreement shall be in writing. A written waiver shall not affect the waiving party’s rights with respect to any other provision or breach.

L. Third Parties. The Services to be performed by the Service Provider are intended solely for the benefit for the City. Nothing contained herein shall create a contractual relationship with, or any rights in favor of, any person or entity not a signatory to this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be duly executed as of the date first above written.

CITY OF PARKVILLE, MISSOURI

By: ______________________________

Nanette K. Johnston, Mayor

ATTEST:

__________________________

Melissa McChesney, City Clerk

<TO BE DETERMINED>
EXHIBIT A

<attach scope of work and fee>