



**PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES  
MEMORANDUM # 09-05**

**DATE:** March 12, 2009

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Kathleen M. Novak and City Council Members

**FROM:** William A. Simmons, City Manager   
Raymond Reling, Acting Director of Utilities 

**SUBJECT:** CR-18 – 2009 Fischer, Brown, Bartlett and Gunn Legal Agreement

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Attached to this memorandum is a Resolution which, if approved, would authorize the Mayor to execute the Legal Services Agreement between the City of Northglenn and Fischer, Brown, Bartlett & Gunn (FBBG) to provide legal services for an amount not to exceed \$120,000. Staff recommends approval of the proposed agreement using the historical fee arrangement.

**BACKGROUND:**

The City of Northglenn has used FBBG as special water counsel since 1985. Most notable, FBBG is assisting Northglenn in the process of preparing an application to the Colorado State Water Court to convert acquired Church Ditch Inches from agricultural to municipal purposes.

In 2008, expenditures for water counsel are estimated at \$34,000 even though the contract limit was for \$120,000. Expenditures during 2008 were less than expected due to little activity in water court last year that required Northglenn's participation and there was a delay in initiating the Farmers Reservoir and Irrigation Company (FRICO) change case.

FBBG will continue to move the Church Ditch Change Case through the court process and begin the process of converting acquired FRICO shares from agricultural to municipal purposes. The City has not brought forward any changes of use to the water court since 1982 even though the City has acquired additional water rights since that time. The anticipated change cases are crucial for quantifying the City's allowable consumptive use and to identify the return flow requirements associated with the Church Ditch and FRICO water rights.

**POTENTIAL OBJECTION:**

City Staff is not aware of any specific opposition to the proposed Agreement.

**BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS:**

There is no impact to the General Fund. The not to exceed cost to provide the legal services during 2009 is \$120,000.00. There are sufficient funds from the Water and Sewer Fund in the 2009 Utilities Department Operating Budget (account number 510.65102.000.3101) to pay for the legal services.

**STAFF REFERENCE:**

If Council Members have any comments or questions, they may contact Raymond Reling at (303) 450-4049 or [rreling@northglenn.org](mailto:rreling@northglenn.org).

SPONSORED BY: MAYOR NOVAK

COUNCILMAN'S RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO.

No. CR-18  
Series of 2009

\_\_\_\_\_  
Series of 2009

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN AND FISCHER, BROWN, BARTLETT & GUNN, P.C.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The Agreement marked as **Exhibit A**, and attached hereto, between the City and Fischer, Brown, Bartlett & Gunn, P.C., is hereby approved, and the Mayor is authorized to enter into the Agreement on behalf of the City Council of the City of Northglenn.

DATED at Northglenn, Colorado, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SHERI L. PAIZ  
Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHANNA SMALL, CMC  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
COREY Y. HOFFMANN  
City Attorney

## LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

**THIS AGREEMENT** is made and entered into as of the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009, to be effective as of January 1, 2009, by and between the CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, whose address is 11701 Community Center Drive, Northglenn, Colorado 80233 ("City") and FISCHER, BROWN, BARTLETT & GUNN, P.C., a professional corporation, whose address is 1319 E. Prospect Road, Fort Collins, CO 80525 ("FBBG")

In consideration of the mutual covenants and obligations herein expressed, the City and FBBG agree as follows.

1. **Scope of Services.** FBBG agrees to provide legal services to the City upon the request of authorized representatives of the City, including the City Attorney. FBBG is customarily engaged in the profession of providing legal services to clients. FBBG shall not be obligated to work exclusively for the City during the term of this Agreement. However, FBBG will provide adequate professional time for the performance of legal services requested by the City hereunder. FBBG is responsible for providing its own offices, equipment, training and supplies for performance of the legal services.
2. **Time of Commencement and Completion of Services.** The legal services shall be provided during the year commencing on January 1, 2009, and ending on December 31, 2009.
3. **FBBG Responsibility.** FBBG shall be responsible for the performance and supervision of all legal services requested by the City to be performed under this Agreement. In addition, FBBG shall be responsible for the professional quality, technical accuracy, timely completion and coordination of all legal services performed under this Agreement. FBBG shall only employ qualified persons for performance of the legal services.
4. **Compensation.** In consideration of the services to be performed pursuant to this Agreement, the City agrees to pay FBBG reasonable fees for services rendered by FBBG attorneys and legal assistants for legal services performed. Reasonable attorney fees billed by FBBG shall be determined in accordance with the factors to be considered in determining a lawyer's reasonable fee, as set forth in Rule 1.5 of the Colorado Rules of Professional Responsibility adopted by the Colorado Supreme Court. It provides:

Factors to be considered in determining the reasonableness of the fee include the following:

- (1) The time and labor required, the novelty and difficulty of the question involved, and the skill requisite to perform the legal service properly;

- (2) The likelihood, if apparent to the client, that the acceptance of the particular employment will preclude the employment by the lawyer;
- (3) The fee customarily charged in the locality for similar legal services;
- (4) The time involved and the results obtained;
- (5) The time limitation imposed by the client or by the circumstances;
- (6) The nature and length of the professional relationship with the client;
- (7) The experience, reputation and ability of the lawyer or lawyers performing the services; and
- (8) Whether the fee is fixed or contingent.

A \$35.00 per hour charge will be made for secretarial, clerical and word processing services provided by firm personnel.

Due to various uncertainties, it is difficult to predict the nature, scope and extent of legal services required, and thus the anticipated fees for such services. The City and FBBG anticipate that legal fees paid to FBBG pursuant to this Agreement shall not exceed one hundred and twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000.00), although each recognize that such fees may actually be below or above that amount.

The itemized invoices from FBBG shall include, at a minimum:

- A. A list of FBBG's personnel who worked on legal matters for the City during the billing period, the amount of time each worked; and
- B. An itemized list of reimbursable expenses.

**5. Payment and Review.**

A. Bills will be paid monthly; provided, however, that the City shall have the right to refuse to pay all or a portion of a billing statement in order to first verify the accuracy of the statement or resolve a dispute with FBBG regarding a statement.

B. FBBG representatives will meet with the City's representatives from time to time at the City's request to review the legal services performed and billings hereunder.

6. **Drawings and Other Documents.** FBBG shall provide the City with reproducible copies of all documents specially developed for the City in the performance of the legal services hereunder.

7. **Parties' Representatives.** Each party designates the Representatives listed below who shall have the authority to make all necessary and proper decisions with reference to the legal services. All requests for Agreement interpretations, changes, and other clarifications or instructions shall be directed to the Parties' Representatives. Unless otherwise designated in writing, the City's Representatives will be William Simmons, Cory Peterson, Shelley Stanley or Corey Hoffmann and FBBG's Representatives will be William H. Brown, William R. Fischer, Daniel K. Brown or Brent Bartlett.

8. **Key Personnel.** FBBG shall assign the following employees of FBBG to performance of legal services for the City for so long as the parties deem necessary, so long as they are employed by or associated with FBBG: William H. Brown, William R. Fischer, Daniel K. Brown, Brent Bartlett, Sara Irby, and Donald E. Frick, P.E.

9. **Insurance.** FBBG shall maintain the following insurance in full force and effect during the full term of this Agreement:

A. Workmen's Compensation Insurance in amounts prescribed by applicable statutes; and

B. Professional Liability Insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 per claim and in the aggregate.

10. **Confidentiality.** All information which FBBG or any person, firm or corporation employed by or otherwise connected with FBBG, receives from the City, the City's employees, any other contractor or subcontractor of the City or employees of any such other contractors or subcontractors under or pursuant to this Agreement, shall be considered confidential and maintained as a privileged attorney-client communication or trade secret and FBBG shall neither use such information, except pursuant to and in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, nor disclose such information to any third party without the prior consent of the City.

11. **Independent Contractor.** Nothing herein shall be construed to make FBBG an agent or employee of the City for any purpose. FBBG shall in all respects be an independent contractor of the City in its performance of the legal services, and FBBG and its employees and subcontractors shall in no way represent themselves to third parties as employees of the City in the performance of the legal services for any purpose.

12. **No Unemployment Insurance Benefits For FBBG.** FBBG is not entitled to unemployment insurance benefits as a result of performance of legal services for the City unless unemployment compensation coverage is provided by FBBG or some other entity.

13. **Payment of Taxes.** FBBG is and shall be solely liable and responsible for any federal and state income and withholding taxes, unemployment taxes, FICA taxes and worker's compensation payments and premiums applicable to this agreement or any services provided hereunder.

14. **Termination.** Both the City and FBBG shall have the right to terminate this Agreement for any reason upon the giving of notice to the other party.

15. **Force Majeure.** Except for the obligation to pay money, neither party shall be liable to the other party for any delay or inability to perform its obligations hereunder by reason of acts of God, acts of the public enemy, riot, civil commotion, insurrection, acts or failure to act of governmental authorities, war, or any other cause or causes beyond the party's reasonable control.

17. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the City and FBBG regarding the subject matter hereof and replaces all prior written or oral agreements and understandings. It may be altered, amended, or repealed only by a duly executed written instrument.

18. **Notice.** All notices required to be given under this Agreement shall be in writing, and shall be deemed to have been duly given (a) when delivered personally to the other party to whom addressed or (b) upon receipt when sent by United States mail postage prepaid, as certified or registered mail, properly addressed as follows or (c) upon confirmation when sent by facsimile transmission and receipt is confirmed by return facsimile transmission:

If to FBBG:

William R. Fischer  
Fischer, Brown, Bartlett & Gunn, P.C.  
1319 E. Prospect Road  
Fort Collins, CO 80525  
Fax: (970) 407-1055

If to the City:

William Simmons  
City Manager  
City of Northglenn  
11701 Community Center Drive  
Northglenn, CO 80233  
Fax: (303) 450-8798

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

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

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

FISCHER, BROWN, BARTLETT & GUNN, P.C.

By:   
William R. Fischer

Title: President

Date: 

**PROSPECTIVE CONSULTANT'S CERTIFICATE REGARDING EMPLOYING OR CONTRACTING WITH AN ILLEGAL ALIEN**

**FROM:** Fischer, Brown, Bartlett & Gunn, P.C.  
1319 E. Prospect Road  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80525

(Prospective *Consultant*)

**TO:** City of Northglenn  
P.O. Box 330061  
11701 Community Center Drive  
Northglenn, CO 80233

Project Name \_\_\_\_\_

Bid Number \_\_\_\_\_

Project No. \_\_\_\_\_

As a prospective Consultant for the above-identified bid, I (we) do hereby certify that, as of the date of this certification, I (we) do not knowingly employ or contract with an illegal alien who will perform work under the Agreement and that I (we) will confirm the employment eligibility of all employees who are newly hired for employment to perform work under the Agreement through participation in either the E-Verify Program administered by the United States Department of Homeland Security and Social Security Administration or the Department Program administered by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment.

Executed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2009.

Prospective Consultant, Fischer, Brown Bartlett & Gunn, P.C.

By: William R. Fischer  
William R. Fischer, President

**Finance Dept Use Only**

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

PO # \_\_\_\_\_



**AFFIDAVIT**

**1. Check and complete one:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am a sole proprietor doing business as \_\_\_\_\_ . I do not currently employ any individuals. Should I employ any individuals during the term of my Agreement with the City, I certify that I will comply with the lawful presence verification requirements outlined in that Agreement.

**OR**

*Fischer, Brown, Bartlett & Gunn PC*

I, William R. Fischer, am an owner/member/shareholder of Fischer, Brown, Bartlett & Gunn, P.C., a Professional Corporation. Should I employ any individuals during the term of my Agreement with the City, I certify that I will comply with the lawful presence verification requirements outlined in that Agreement. *Lit*

**2. Check one.**

I, William R. Fischer, am a United States citizen or legal permanent resident.

*The City must verify this statement by reviewing one of the following items:*

- A valid Colorado Driver's license or a Colorado identification card*
- A United States military card or a military dependent's identification card*
- A United States Coast Guard Merchant Mariner card*
- A Native American tribal document or*
- In the case of a resident of another state, the driver's license or state-issued identification card from the state of residence, if that state requires the applicant to prove lawful presence prior to the issuance of the identification card*
- Any other documents or combination of documents listed in the City's "Acceptable Documents for Lawful Presence Verification" chart that prove both the consultant's citizenship/lawful presence and identity.*

**OR**

I am otherwise lawfully present in the United States pursuant to federal law.

*Consultant must verify this statement through the federal systematic alien verification of entitlement program, the "SAVE" program, and provide such verification to the City.*

  
William R. Fischer

1-16-09  
Date

Finance Dept Use Only	
Initials	_____
Date	_____
PO #	_____