

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

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE CITY’S AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES; RATIFYING PRIOR ONE-YEAR EXTENSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the voters of the State of Arkansas have approved Amendment 97 to the Arkansas Constitution, expressly authorizing local governments to use public funds for economic development purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas General Assembly has adopted Act 685 of 2017, effective August 1, 2017, codified at Ark. Code Ann. § 14-176-101, et. seq., establishing the process that cities must follow in order to fund economic development; and

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. 8956, the North Little Rock City Council has defined economic development services to be professional services under Arkansas law; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the City solicited bids for economic development services, and determined that the North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce was the most qualified applicant and should be engaged as a Consultant to provide economic development services to the City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 10231, adopted by the City Council on February 28, 2022, the City entered in to an Agreement with the North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce to provide economic development services, which would terminate on December 31, 2022 (attached hereto as Exhibit A); and

WHEREAS, the Agreement provides that the term of the Agreement may be extended for two additional one-year terms upon approval of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the first one-year extension was invoked but, due to oversight, the matter was not brought to City Council for approval; and

WHEREAS, the North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce’s performance of economic development services pursuant to its Agreement with the City has been valuable in assisting the City in pursuing economic development opportunities; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City and its residents to ratify the invocation of the first one-year extension, and to extend the Agreement for the last additional one-year term for the period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That the one-year extension of the City's agreement with the North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce for economic development services for the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 is hereby ratified

SECTION 2: That the second one-year term extension for the period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 is hereby approved.

SECTION 3: That the annual fee payable to the North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$100,000.00 has been included in the North Little Rock Electric Department's 2024 Budget.

SECTION 4: That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED:

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APPROVED:

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Mayor Terry C. Hartwick

SPONSOR:

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Mayor Terry C. Hartwick

ATTEST:

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Diane Whitbey, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Amy Beckman Fields, City Attorney

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY/kt

FILED	11:19	A.M.	_____	P.M.
By	Amy Fields CA			
DATE	3-25-24			
<b>Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Collector</b> <b>North Little Rock, Arkansas</b>				
RECEIVED BY	_____			

*(Signature)*  
AMENDED BY EMAIL