



CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH
City Hall, Commission Chambers, 2nd Floor
17011 N.E. 19th Avenue
North Miami Beach, FL. 33162
Monday, March 18, 2024
7:00pm

Mayor Evan S. Piper
Vice Mayor Fortuna Smukler
Commissioner Jay Chernoff
Commissioner McKenzie Fleurimond
Commissioner Daniela Jean
Commissioner Michael Joseph
Commissioner Phyllis S. Smith

City Manager Mario A. Diaz
Outside Counsel Valerie Vicente
City Clerk Andrise Bernard, MMC

Special Commission Meeting Minutes

ROLL CALL OF THE CITY OFFICIALS

The Regular Commission Meeting was called to order at 7:04pm.
Present at the meeting were Mayor Evan Piper, Vice Mayor Fortuna Smukler, Commissioner Jay Chernoff, Commissioner McKenzie Fleurimond, Commissioner Daniela Jean, Commissioner Michael Joseph (arrived after roll call), and Commissioner Phyllis Smith.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by the Mayor and Commission.

Mayor Piper opened the meeting for **PUBLIC COMMENT**.

City Clerk Andrise Bernard read the rules of public comment and the pledge of civility into the record.

The following person(s) made comments on the record:

1. Karen Harrold
2. Mubarak Kazan
3. Ketley Joachim

The meeting was closed for **PUBLIC COMMENT**.

LEGISLATION

Resolution No. R2024-47 Approving the Ranking for Request for Qualifications RFQ-23-035-SG Professional Legal Services - City Attorney (Shereece George Depusoir, Chief Procurement Officer)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CITY MANAGER WHO CONCURS WITH THE EVALUATION COMMITTEE AND APPROVING THE RANKING OF THE THREE (3) MOST HIGHLY QUALIFIED FIRMS THAT RESPONDED TO REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS RFQ-23-035-SG PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES - CITY ATTORNEY; AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TOP-RANKED, MOST-QUALIFIED FIRM AND, IF NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNSUCCESSFUL, WITH THE NEXT HIGHEST RANKED FIRM SUCCESSIVELY, UNTIL AN ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT CAN BE RECOMMENDED FOR CITY COMMISSION APPROVAL.

Outside Counsel Valerie Vicente stated that she was retained by the City to provide support and advise City staff and the Mayor and Commission regarding the selection process because the current interim City Attorney is a finalist for the permanent position.

Chief Procurement Officer Shereece George Depusoir provided an overview of the solicitation and qualification process, confirmed that the Procurement Management Department conducted a review of the submissions from the three respondents, discussed the role and rankings of the Evaluation Committee, explained the difference between RFQ (Request For Qualifications) and RFP (Request For Proposals), stated that the cone of silence is being lifted for the purpose of the meeting and will be reinstated and back in effect after the meeting, and informed that the three respondents will each provide a 15 minute presentation followed by questions from the Mayor and Commission.

City Manager Mario Diaz stated that when one respondent is presenting the other two respondents will be outside the Commission Chambers and the audio has been turned off.

John Herin appeared before the Mayor and Commission on behalf of Fox Rothschild and presented qualifications, experience, and approach to providing professional legal services to the City.

A brief recess was taken.

Gary Carman, Anastasia Protopapadakis, Kristie Hatcher-Bolin, Phil Hutchinson, Rick Danese, and David Allen appeared before the Mayor and Commission on behalf of Gray Robinson and presented qualifications, experience, and approach to providing professional legal services to the City.

A brief recess was taken.

Joseph Geller appeared before the Mayor and Commission on behalf of Greenspoon Marder and presented qualifications, experience, and approach to providing professional legal services to the City.

Chief Procurement Officer Shereece George Depusoir announced that the presentations were concluded and Outside Counsel Valerie Vicente stated that the rankings are at the discretion of the Mayor and Commission and not bound by the recommendation of the Evaluation Committee.

The Mayor and Commission received forms to individually rank the three respondents and Chief Procurement Officer Shereece George Depusoir revealed the rankings as follows:

1. Greenspoon Marder
2. Gray Robinson
3. Fox Rothschild

Motion to approve the rankings of the Mayor and Commission and authorize the City Manager to negotiate an agreement with the first ranked firm (Greenspoon Marder) and if negotiations are unsuccessful with the next highest ranked firm successively until an acceptable agreement can be recommended for City Commission consideration and approval made by Commissioner Joseph, seconded by Commissioner Jean.

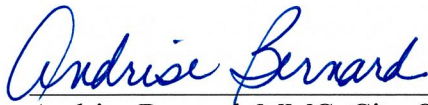
Voice Vote: **MOTION PASSED 7-0.**

The three respondents were invited back inside the Commission Chambers and Mayor Piper thanked each for their presentations and announced the rankings.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15pm.

ATTEST:



Andrise Bernard, MMC, City Clerk

(SEAL)