

## **Legal Services Agreement**

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THE CITY OF BROOKINGS AND STEVEN J. BRITZMAN, ATTORNEY AT LAW agree that the City of Brookings has appointed Steven J. Britzman to serve as City Attorney for a one (1) year period, commencing January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021, unless extended by mutual agreement of the parties, in writing. The City of Brookings and Steven J. Britzman desire to set forth the terms of their Agreement concerning the provision of legal services by Steven J. Britzman as City Attorney as follows:

### **1. Performance of Legal Services**

Steven J. Britzman will perform all legal services as provided in the "Scope of Services for City Attorney for City of Brookings" (the "Scope of Services"). A copy of the Scope of Services for City Attorney is attached hereto. Steven J. Britzman will perform all legal services which shall include representing the City in Magistrate Court in the enforcement of City Ordinances.

### **2. Insurance Coverage**

Steven J. Britzman will maintain Attorneys Professional Liability coverage in the amount of One (1) million dollars (\$1,000,000) per claim and One (1) million dollars (\$1,000,000) aggregate during the term of this agreement. Steven J. Britzman will be responsible to pay any deductible amount under the foregoing coverage.

### **3. Conflicts of Interest**

The parties to this Agreement understand that actual or perceived conflicts of interest are defined in great detail in the Rules of Professional Responsibility which govern attorneys and which are a part of the statutes of South Dakota. Accordingly, Steven J. Britzman will follow the Rules of Professional Responsibility, immediately disclose to the City Council and City Manager any conflict or the appearance of a potential conflict, and resolve the issue to the satisfaction of the City of Brookings and the client.

### **4. Compensation for Legal Services**

Steven J. Britzman agrees to provide all of the legal services provided in the Scope of Services, for a monthly sum from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 of eight thousand two hundred fifty-eight and 81/100 (~~\$8,096.87~~ \$8,258.81) Dollars, payable on the last day of the month.

The hourly rate for other legal services, including those set forth in Item 15 of the Scope of Services is \$175.00 during the term of this Agreement.

The legal services provided by Steven J. Britzman will be performed as an independent contractor and Steven J. Britzman shall therefore pay all payroll and business expenses incurred in providing legal services to the City.

**5. Expense Reimbursements, Meetings and Conferences**

In addition to the compensation for legal services during each year of this Agreement, the City will provide Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) per year for membership in the International Municipal Attorneys Association (IMLA) (currently \$625.00 per year) and for Conference registration, travel and lodging for the Annual Meeting of the International Municipal Lawyers Association which includes approximately nineteen hours of continuing legal education.

The City Attorney will also be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses when required to travel outside the City of Brookings to other meetings or to perform legal services, provided such travel is approved by the City Manager in advance of travel.

**6. Legal Services not within the Scope of Services**

Steven J. Britzman shall first obtain approval of the City to perform any legal services excluded from the Scope of Services, however Steven J. Britzman and the City agree that it is appropriate for the City Attorney to be responsive to residents of the city, the media, other municipal attorneys, the municipal league and other public officials where communication or an appropriate measure of assistance is in the best interest of the City.

**7. Procedure for Appointment of Assistant City Attorney**

In the event it is determined by the parties that an Assistant City Attorney be appointed, the selection of the Assistant City Attorney shall be by appointment by the City Council upon recommendation of the City Manager and City Attorney. The term of office of an Assistant City Attorney shall coincide with the City Attorney's term of office and the terms of the appointment and scope of services shall be set forth in an Amendment to this Legal Services Agreement. The compensation for an Assistant City Attorney shall be paid solely by the City Attorney.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of December, 2020.

STEVEN J. BRITZMAN, ATTORNEY AT LAW

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven J. Britzman

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of December, 2020.

CITY OF BROOKINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA

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Paul M. Briseno, City Manager

ATTEST:

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Bonnie Foster, City Clerk

## **SCOPE OF SERVICES FOR CITY ATTORNEY FOR CITY OF BROOKINGS**

THE CITY ATTORNEY SHALL PERFORM THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

1. The City Attorney will attend all City Council meetings as the legal advisor for the Brookings City Council, unless the absence is due to vacation or illness or the subject matter does not require the assistance of counsel.
2. Provide all necessary legal consultation services, including oral and written opinions and research as requested by the Brookings City Council and the City Manager.
3. Provide legal assistance to the City's Boards and Commissions, except the Utility Board and Hospital Board, as requested by the City Manager and City Council.
4. Provide legal representation to the City in litigation initiated against the City and by the City in circumstances where the City is not represented by legal counsel assigned by its insurance company. Legal representation in litigation must be authorized in each instance by the City Council and compensation will be in addition to the monthly compensation as provided in Section 15.
5. Assist in the preparation and review of all contract agreements, resolutions, ordinances and other legal documents considered, adopted or endorsed by the City.
6. To maintain a working knowledge of Municipal Law on both the State and Federal level.
7. Provide legal representation for the City before administrative bodies upon special request by the City Council.
8. As requested, review all claims made against the City.
9. Confer with colleagues who specialize in areas of law to establish and verify a basis for legal proceedings; serve as a liaison between outside legal counsel and City Officials on specialized legal issues.
10. Prepare a monthly written report to the City Manager of legal services performed which includes a description of the service and the time required to perform the service.
11. Assist the City Clerk and the private sector firm in Ordinance Codification.
12. The City Attorney will be an advisor to the labor negotiating staff and will review labor contracts as required or requested.
13. Maintain professional awareness of current literature and changes in law and

attend continuing legal education to ensure the most efficient, cost-effective, and accurate operation of the City Attorney's Office.

14. Review proposed state legislation affecting the City and prepare or supervise the preparation of state legislation relating to municipal and city government matters as directed by the City Manager or City Council. Consult with City Council, the City Manager and department heads in regard to such legislation and testify before legislative boards as requested.

15. The City Attorney's basic fee does not include the following services:

a. Litigation

b. Recodification of substantially all of the City Ordinances.

All services with the exception of litigation and recodification of the City Ordinances will be compensated pursuant to the City Attorney's basic fee. Fees for services in a. and b. above will be as negotiated and agreed upon by the parties.