

CITY OF UNALASKA
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 2021- 40

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DIANNE BLUMER, BLUMER & ASSOCIATES FOR AN ADDITIONAL TERM

WHEREAS, the Unalaska City Council has determined it is beneficial to the City of Unalaska to retain a lobbyist; and

WHEREAS, the existing Professional Services Agreement with Dianne Blumer of Blumer & Associates, will expire on June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City of Unalaska wishes to retain Dianne Blumer to perform the duties of Lobbyist as directed by the City of Unalaska.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Unalaska City Council authorizes the City Manager to extend the Professional Services Agreement with Dianne Blumer, Blumer & Associates for an additional term, effective July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, for a fee of \$71,000 plus reasonable expenses.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Unalaska City Council on June 8, 2021.

Vincent M. Tutiakoff Sr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Marjie Veeder, CMC
City Clerk

MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Michelle Price, Administrative Coordinator
Through: Erin Reinders, City Manager
Date: June 8, 2021
Re: Resolution 2021-40 Authorizing the City Manager to extend the term of the Professional Services Agreement with Dianne Blumer of Blumer & Associates for an additional term

SUMMARY: State lobbyist Dianne Blumer’s contract with the City expires on June 30, 2021. Ms. Blumer submitted a letter of interest to the City Manager, expressing her interest to renew her contract (copy attached). Also attached is Resolution 2021-40 authorizing the City Manager to extend the term of the Professional Services Agreement with Dianne Blumer of Blumer & Associates, along with the proposed contract extension. Staff recommends approval.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: Council adopted Resolution 2020-35 on June 9, 2020, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Professional Services agreement contract for FY21 in the amount of \$71,000 plus reasonable expenses. Council budgeted \$71,000 for state lobbyist fees for FY22.

BACKGROUND: Dianne Blumer has been the City Council’s lobbyist for state affairs since FY19 after Ray Gillespie’s retirement. The table below provides a history of compensation rates for Dianne Blumer from FY19 - present.

YEAR	FEES	EXPENSES	TOTAL
FY19	\$ 71,000.00	\$0.00	71,000.00
FY20	\$ 71,000.00	1602.08	72,602.08
FY21	\$ 71,000.00	\$0	\$71,000
TOTAL	\$ 213,000.00	1602.08	214,602.08

DISCUSSION: Ms. Blumer’s letter states that she is interested in continuing her services for the next fiscal year. She has not requested an increase in her retainer.

ALTERNATIVES: Council could renew the lobbying contract at the current level, recommend an increase to the base compensation rate or a cost of living increase, or not enter into a lobbying agreement.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: This expense is included in the FY22 budget for \$71,000, plus reimbursement for reasonable expenses.

LEGAL: None needed.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: If Council agrees to authorize the City Manager to sign a renewal contract with Dianne Blumer of Blumer & Associates, Council should approve and adopt Resolution 2021-40.

PROPOSED MOTION: Move to adopt Resolution 2021-40.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: I recommend Council approve this resolution.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Letter of interest from Dianne Blumer dated May 12, 2021
- Proposed Modification of Professional Services Agreement

BLUMER & ASSOCIATES
6058 Azalea Dr., Anchorage, Alaska 99516
Government Relations, Consulting & Lobbying Services
(907)575-2279

May 12, 2020

Mayor Tutiakoff
City of Unalaska
P.O. Box 610
Unalaska, Alaska 99865

Subject: Letter of Interest for FY 2022 Lobbying Services

Dear Mayor Tutiakoff:

Blumer & Associates is pleased to offer this Letter of Interest for consideration of the FY2022 lobbying contract representing the City of Unalaska.

It has been my distinct privilege to work with you, the City Manager, City Council and staff over the last four years. It definitely has been a challenging and unique year as we have experienced a world wide pandemic, economic shutdowns and continue working through another one of the most inexplicable legislative sessions I have experienced. Now as we work through the States fiscal deficits and the economic devastation related to COVID-19 we face even more challenges. I would be honored to continue to work on the list of priorities important to the community and to advocate adamantly in the upcoming special sessions and next year to bring those key projects to the forefront for consideration.

As the Principal of Blumer & Associates I personally offer over fifteen years of combined experience with the Alaska State Legislature and the Executive Branch, including recent direct advocacy on behalf of local governmental clients. I maintain a solid relationship with the Governor and his Cabinet, as well as a bi-partisan relationship with the House and Senate members, including leadership on both sides of the aisle.

I am well versed in the history, legislative goals, priorities, and role of local government. I have provided governmental affairs and lobbying services to the Alaska Municipal League and other cities over the last several years. On many occasions I have presented to various municipals/cities in relation to governmental and legislative matters.

Blumer & Associates possess the bipartisan professional relationships to ensure that your priorities and concerns are well represented and advocated for ensuring they will be heard and acted upon. I am fluent in local government priorities and resolutions on key legislative issues. I have had the pleasure of

-serving the City of Unalaska over the last three years and am familiar with many of the local issues and key objectives.

In addition to advocating on various cities independent capital requests, I have supported statewide local government matters in the legislature including, but not limited to;

PERS/TRS employer contribution rate, community assistance / revenue sharing, shared fish tax, school bond debt reimbursement .supported maximum local control including multiple pieces of legislation, multiple budget appropriations, and push back against cost shifting.

I offer integrity, professionalism, familiarity with process, and the bipartisan relationships required to successfully represent the City of Unalaska. My work history includes, independent lobbying, Chief of Staff and Senior Policy Adviser in the legislative branch, executive level management positions in the Administration, including a Cabinet- level appointment by the Governor as the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development

I would be honored to continue working with the City of Unalaska during these challenging times and advocating heavily to ensure that your community is well represented.

Sincerely,



Dianne Blumer

Blumer & Associates

**MODIFICATION OF
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**

This modification is made to that certain agreement dated June 8, 2021, between the City of Unalaska (hereinafter designated as "City") and Blumer & Associates, hereinafter designated as "Consultant". The Professional Services Agreement is modified as follows:

1. The Agreement is extended for an additional term effective July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.
2. The total payment under this Agreement shall not exceed \$71,000, plus reasonable expenses.
3. Payment for services to Consultant shall be as follows:

DATE	AMOUNT
July 1, 2019	\$1775.00
August 1, 2019	\$1775.00
September 1, 2019	\$1775.00
October 1, 2019	\$1775.00
November 1, 2019	\$1775.00
December 1, 2019	\$1775.00
January 1, 2020	\$14,200.00
February 1, 2020	\$14,200.00
March 1, 2020	\$14,200.00
April 1, 2020	\$14,200.00
May 1, 2020	\$1775.00
June 1, 2020	\$1775.00
TOTAL	\$71,000

CITY OF UNALASKA

BLUMER & ASSOCIATES

Erin Reinders, City Manager

Dianne Blumer

STATE OF ALASKA)
) ss.
Third Judicial District)

STATE OF ALASKA)
) ss.
_____Judicial District)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of June 2021 by ERIN REINDERS, City Manager for the City of Unalaska, a First Class Alaska Municipal Corporation, on behalf of the City of Unalaska.

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this ____ day of June 2021, by DIANNE BLUMER on behalf of BLUMER & ASSOCIATES.

Notary Public, State of Alaska
Commission expires _____

Notary Public, State of Alaska
Commission expires _____