

Request For Board Action

REFERRED TO BOARD March 16, 2015

AGENDA ITEM NO: 8

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Finance Department

SUBJECT: Approval of a resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to execute a three year contract with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP to provide auditing services to the Village of Antioch.

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND OF SUBJECT MATTER:

The Village of Antioch's financial records have been audited by Lauterbach & Amen, LLP since fiscal year 2004.

On August 14, 2014 staff solicited proposals from qualified firms of certified public accountants to audit the Village's financial statements for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2015 with the option of auditing the Village's financial statements for the two (2) subsequent fiscal years.

The Finance Department received five proposals, including a proposal from Lauterbach and Amen. Finance Liaison Trustee Poulos and staff reviewed the proposals and selected two for interviews.

Staff believes that it is in the best interest of the Village to retain Lauterbach & Amen, LLP as auditors.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: A total of \$82,400 for three fiscal years.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

1. Resolution
2. Contract

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Motion to approve a Resolution authorizing the Village Administrator to execute a contract with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP for the purpose of providing auditing services to the Village of Antioch.

RESOLUTION NO.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH LAUTERBACH & AMEN, LLP FOR THE
PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AUDITING SERVICES TO THE VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH**

WHEREAS, the Village of Antioch (“Village”) is a municipality located in Lake County, Illinois;

WHEREAS, the corporate authorities have considered the proposed contract recommended by Village Staff regarding auditing of the Village’s financial statements by Lauterbach & Amen, LLP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village as follows:

On behalf of the Village, The Village Administrator is authorized to execute a contract with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP for the purpose of providing auditing services to the Village of Antioch for fiscal years 2015 through 2017.

PASSED this day of , 2015.

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSENT: _____

APPROVED this day of , 2015.

Lawrence M. Hanson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lori K. Folbrick, Village Clerk



February 26, 2015

The Honorable Mayor
Members of the Board of Trustees
Village of Antioch, Illinois

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide the Village of Antioch, Illinois for the years ended April 30, 2015, April 30, 2016 and April 30, 2017. We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, including the notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the Village as of and for the years ended April 30, 2015, April 30, 2016 and April 30, 2017. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to supplement the Village's basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to the Village's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by generally accepted accounting principles and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited: management's discussion and analysis, the budgetary comparison schedules, pension plan funding progress and employer contribution schedules, and other postemployment benefit obligation funding progress and employer contribution schedules.

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information other than RSI that accompanies the Village's financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole: combining and individual fund statements and budgetary comparison schedules, and other information listed as supplemental and schedules.

The following other information accompanying the financial statements will not be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements, and our auditor's report will not provide an opinion or any assurance on that other information: introductory and statistical information.

Audit Objective

The objective of our audit is the expression of opinions as to whether your basic financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and to report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and will include tests of the accounting records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the Village's financial statements. Our report will be addressed to the Board of Trustees of the Village. We cannot provide assurance that unmodified opinions will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinions or add emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraphs. If our opinions on the financial statements are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or may withdraw from this engagement.

Management Responsibilities

Management is responsible for the basic financial statements and all accompanying information as well as all representations contained therein. You agree to assume all management responsibilities for any nonattest services we provide; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of the services; and accept responsibility for them.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities; for the selection and application of accounting principles; and for the preparation and fair presentation in the financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Management is also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the government complies with applicable laws and regulations.

Management Responsibilities (Continued)

You are responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the supplementary information. You also agree to make the audited financial statements readily available to users of the supplementary information no later than the date the supplementary information is issued with our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Audit Procedures – General

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the government.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements, or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, any fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will also require certain written representations from you about the financial statements and related matters.

Audit Procedures – Internal Control

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the Village and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify deficiencies in internal control. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards.

Audit Procedures – Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the Village's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and agreements. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

Our fees for the April 30, 2015, April 30, 2016 and April 30, 2017 audit will be as stated in our proposal.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the Village of Antioch, Illinois and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign below and return it to us.

Cordially,



LAUTERBACH & AMEN, LLP

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of the Village of Antioch, Illinois.

By: _____

Title: _____

FEES AND BILLING



Lauterbach and Amen, LLP

Certified Public Accountants
27W457 Warrenville Road
Warrenville, Illinois 60555-3902
www.lauterbachamen.com

FEES AND BILLING

AUDITING SERVICES RFP RESPONSE FORM

Firm: Lauterbach & Amen, LLP

Firm Contact / Project Manager: Ronald J. Amen

Address: 27W457 Warrenville Road
Warrenville, IL 60555

Telephone and fax numbers: 630.393.1483 Phone 630.393.2516 Fax

Signature of Authorized agent: 

Print name and position of Authorized Agent: Ronald J. Amen, Partner

Date of proposal submission: September 30, 2014

FEE STRUCTURE

	2015	2016	2017
Municipal Audit and all Associated Work	\$27,000	\$27,700	\$28,400
TIF Comptrollers Report	\$775	\$800	\$825
Police Pension Fund IDOI	\$2,100	\$2,150	\$2,200
Total	\$29,875	\$30,650	\$31,425

FEES AND BILLING - CONTINUED

	Hours	Standard Rate	Quoted Rate	Total
Partner	70	\$140	\$130	\$9,100
Manager	110	\$110	\$100	\$11,000
In - Charge	115	\$70	\$60	\$6,900
	<u>295</u>			<u>\$27,000</u>

In over seventeen years of providing auditing services, Lauterbach & Amen, LLP has never increased an audit fee from what was proposed in the RFP. This includes implementation of all GASB's.

Our firm stresses that we are available throughout the year to provide technical accounting and financial reporting assistance and support to the Village. We encourage clients to contact us with questions that may arise. In addition, we provide annual client training to introduce new pronouncements that may affect the Village and training on other topics based on client request.

If engaged, L&A will submit proof of Professional Liability Insurance coverage for an amount of \$1,000,000 and proof of Worker's Compensation Insurance sufficient to meet statutory requirements.

FEES AND BILLING - CONTINUED

Schedules Requested

The proposed annual fees are based upon staff support at all levels from Village personnel and that the Village will provide adjusted trial balances and support (detail schedules that reconcile to the trial balances) for all balance sheet accounts. At a minimum, management is to provide supporting schedules for the areas outlined in the fieldwork phase of the audit approach section of this proposal.

Additional Services

Should it become necessary for the Village to request us to render additional services to either supplement the services requested in the RFP or to perform additional work as a result of the specific recommendations included in any report issued on this engagement or new accounting standards, then such additional work will be performed only after discussing with management the level of effort and estimated costs prior to performing any such work.

As independence standards have recently become more stringent related to the types of additional services auditors can perform, L & A would review these independence standards and the type of services requested prior to proposing on any additional services.

Conclusion

In closing, we would like to thank the Village for the opportunity to respond to your request for auditing services, and would like to emphasize that if chosen, L & A is committed to providing the resources needed to assure an unrivaled level of service and quality, the highest attention to detail, and a relationship with a firm of highly trained professionals exclusively working in the governmental sector.

*L & A will provide
an unrivaled level of
service and
expertise.*