



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

RESOLUTION 26-005

AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES – MUNICIPAL BOND ATTORNEY

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highlands, a municipal corporation with its Borough Hall at 151 Navesink Ave., Highlands, New Jersey 07732, has a need to contract for Municipal Bond Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the position of Municipal Bond Counsel is a position/appointment for specialized legal work and services in connection with matters of public finance and other matters as directed by the Borough Governing Body, including but not limited to the authorization, issuance, sale and delivery of Bonds and/or Bond anticipation notes for the Borough, the preparation of any bond ordinances or resolutions authorizing financing; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Highlands, through a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 solicited proposals from qualified attorneys for the appointment and position of Municipal Bond Attorney for the calendar year 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined and certified in writing that the value of the contract will exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, certification of availability of funds has been provided by the Chief Financial Officer contingent upon the adoption of the 2026 budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough of Highlands Council as follows:

1. Meghan Ann Bennett of the law firm of Dilworth Paxson LLP, is hereby retained to provide professional services as Bond Attorney for an amount not to exceed \$20,000 plus reimbursable expenses for professional services, for the 12-month period beginning January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.
2. The Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to sign a contract for Professional Legal Services in accordance with this Resolution.
3. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Services" in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(l)(a) because it is for services performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession.
4. A copy of this Resolution as well as the contract shall be placed on file with the Clerk of the Borough of Highlands.

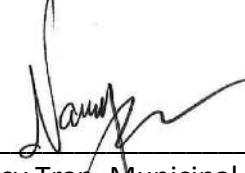
5. The Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to publish public notice of this award as required by law.

Motion to Approve R 26-005:

| | INTRODUCED | SECOND | AYE | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|-----------|------------|--------|-----|-----|---------|--------|
| CERVANTES | | | X | | | |
| CHELAK | | X | X | | | |
| MELNYK | | | X | | | |
| OLSZEWSKI | X | | X | | | |
| BROULLON | | | X | | | |

This is a Certified True copy of the Original Resolution on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

DATE OF VOTE: January 1, 2026



Nancy Tran, Municipal Clerk
Borough of Highlands