

RESOLUTION NO. 3097

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND APPOINTING THE LAW FIRM OF COCKEY, BRENNAN & MALONEY, P.C. AS CITY SOLICITOR.

WHEREAS, Section SC9-1 of the Charter of the City of Salisbury (the “City Charter”) provides in pertinent part: “There shall be a Department of Law headed by the City Solicitor. The City Solicitor and any Assistant City Solicitors, shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and a majority of the full Council.”;

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2021, the Administration received written notice from Seidel, Baker and Tilghman, P.A. informing the City of the law firm’s resignation as City Solicitor and legal counsel for the City, effective April 2, 2021;

WHEREAS, after April 2, 2021, Seidel, Baker and Tilghman, P.A. will provide the City with legal services on an as-needed basis, upon request from the Administration, to effectuate the orderly and efficient transition of the City’s legal business and affairs to such legal counsel as is appointed hereunder;

WHEREAS, the Administration, with the approval of the Council, desires to appoint a new law firm to serve as the City Solicitor and as legal counsel for the City, pursuant to Article IX of the City Charter;

WHEREAS, the Administration contacted numerous law firms that maintain a principal office in Salisbury and, along with Council President Heath, conducted interviews of potential candidates for the City Solicitor position;

WHEREAS, three firms were interviewed and ranked based on the following criteria: (i) billing (fees and timeliness of invoicing); (ii) performance (firm experience, legal team assembled, use of technology and communication); and, (iii) soft skills (alignment to the City’s mission, independent initiative, goal orientation, and interpersonal skills);

WHEREAS, the Administration has confirmed (i) the law firm of Cockey, Brennan and Maloney, P.C., and its attorneys, meet the qualifications for City Solicitor provided in Section SC9-2 of the City Charter, and (ii) Cockey, Brennan and Maloney, P.C. will match the hourly rate the City is currently charged by Seidel, Baker and Tilghman, P.A. for legal services;

WHEREAS, the Administration requests the Council approve the appointment of Cockey, Brennan & Maloney, P.C. as the City Solicitor and legal counsel for the City, pursuant to Article IX of the City Charter; and,


WHEREAS, in accordance with the foregoing, the Council hereby approves the appointment of Cockey, Brennan & Maloney, P.C. to serve as the City Solicitor and legal counsel for the City pursuant to Article IX of the City Charter, which said appointment shall be deemed effective immediately upon the passage of this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Salisbury City Council hereby appoints the law firm of Cockey, Brennan and Maloney, P.C. as the City Solicitor and legal counsel for the City, pursuant to Article IX of the City Charter;

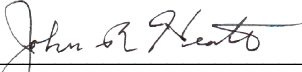
AND, BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND RESOLVED by the Salisbury City Council that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

THE ABOVE RESOLUTION was introduced and duly passed at a regular meeting of the Salisbury City Council held on this 22nd day of March, 2021.

ATTEST:

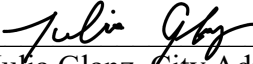


Kimberly R. Nichols
CITY CLERK



John R. Heath
PRESIDENT, City Council

APPROVED by me this 23 day of March, 2021.



Julia Glanz, City Administrator for and at the
direction of Jacob R. Day, Mayor



City of
Salisbury
Jacob R. Day, Mayor

To: City Council

From: Julia Glanz, City Administrator

Subject: New City Solicitor

Date: March 16, 2021

Administration received an official letter of resignation from Mark Tilghman on Friday, March 5. Administration and Council President Heath conducted interviews with three local firms during the week of March 8th. Firms were ranked on the following criteria: billing (fees and timeliness of invoicing), performance (firm experience, legal team assembled, use of technology and communication), and soft skills (alignment to the City mission, initiative and getting to yes, and interpersonal skills).

After conducting thorough interviews with each firm, the Administration and Council President Heath are highly recommending Council confirmation of Cockey, Brennan and Maloney, P.C. (CBM) as City Solicitor and legal counsel for the City of Salisbury. The firm's representation of the City will be led by attorneys Laura Hay, Ashley Bosche, Heather Konyar and Michael Sullivan. CBM's team is excited about the opportunity to work with the City of Salisbury and continue to move our organization forward. The team assembled by CBM has extensive experience with contract negotiation, development and annexations, employment law, landlord/tenant disputes, civil litigation, legislative drafting and more.

CBM will bring an exceptional level of accessibility, time management and urgency, initiative, and innovation. With having four full-time attorneys, our team's needs will be met quickly and holistically. CBM will be able to hit the ground running and quickly get up to speed on the City's complex needs.



City of
Salisbury
Jacob R. Day, Mayor

CBM will match Seidel, Baker & Tilghman's hourly rate of \$152.50.

Seidel, Baker and Tilghman will be available to assist in the transition of legal services as needed.

The Administration would like to thank Mark Tilghman, Pete Golba, and Kristine Devine for their commitment to the City of Salisbury since 2012. We wish them well in their future endeavors.