

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: December 14, 2023

PREPARED BY: Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk

REQUEST: APPOINTMENT OF ISRA SHAH AS PALM DESERT CITY ATTORNEY

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve Amendment No. 3 to Contract C28880 with Best Best & Krieger LLP for City Attorney Services to appoint Isra Shah as Palm Desert City Attorney.
2. Authorize the City Attorney to make non-substantive changes and the Mayor to execute all necessary documents.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

In November 1973, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 73-03, appointing David Erwin, Esq., as City Attorney. In 1986, Mr. Erwin joined the law firm of Best Best & Krieger and continued to serve as City Attorney.

In 2009, the City issued a Request for Proposals for City Attorney Services and selected Best, Best & Krieger and David Erwin to continue to serve as City Attorney for a five-year term through August 2014. In August 2014, the City Council approved an extension to Contract No. C28880 for an additional five-year term ending August 31, 2019.

In November 2015, Mr. Erwin passed away after 42 years of service. The City Council appointed Robert Hargreaves, Esq., of Best Best & Krieger, to serve as City Attorney, having previously served as Deputy City Attorney since August 2009.

In March 2019, the City Council approved the Second Amendment to Contract No. C28880 to extend the term for an additional five years ending August 31, 2024.

After 14 years of service to the City of Palm Desert, Mr. Hargreaves announced his retirement effective December 14, 2023. As such, the City Council is requested to approve Amendment No. 3 to Contract C28880 to appoint Isra Shah, Esq., as City Attorney.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney's office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Amendment No. 3 to Contract C28880
2. Executed Contract C28880