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Steve Tillis | Alderman Ward 1
Karen Stennis | Alderman Ward 2

Kevin Wade | Alderman Ward 3
Shannon Pfeiffer | Alderman Ward 4
Rob Blackman | Alderman Ward 5
Julie Messenger | Alderman Ward 6



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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor & Board of Aldermen
From:
Re: Legal Services Contract
Section: NEW BUSINESS
Meeting Date: September 2, 2025

This item is presented for approval of a Professional Services Agreement with the David N. Harris, Jr. Law Firm, PLLC to provide legal services for the City of Ocean Springs for a term beginning September 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026.

Mr. Harris currently serves as Interim City Attorney. Under Mississippi Code §21-15-41, interim appointments are generally limited to 90 days. As that period is nearing its conclusion, Mr. Harris has submitted a new one-year professional services contract for consideration by the Board.

This proposed contract is not a continuation of the interim designation, but rather establishes an annual agreement for legal services under separate and independent terms. The expiration date of September 30, 2026, was proposed to align the legal services contract with the end of the City's fiscal year. Aligning the term with the fiscal year supports clearer budget planning and consistency across annual contract renewals.

Requested Action:
Approve the Professional Services Agreement with the David N. Harris, Jr. Law Firm, PLLC for legal services to the City of Ocean Springs for the term September 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026.