



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** RES 24-213, **Version:** 1

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Appointing and authorizing the execution of a master legal services agreement with Ballard Spahr LLP.  
**WHEREAS**, Saint Paul City Charter § 5.02 authorizes the City, upon request of the City Attorney in the case of special or unusual circumstances, to appoint outside counsel to represent the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is in need of special counsel to provide bond counsel and related public finance legal services (“Legal Services”); and

**WHEREAS**, the City Attorney hereby requests and recommends the appointment of outside counsel due to the above-articulated needs; and

**WHEREAS**, currently the law firms of Kennedy & Graven, Chartered and Ballard Spahr LLP, are the only outside law firms providing Legal Services to the City in its bond and public finance activities; and

**WHEREAS**, to update the panel of outside law firms, the City Attorney’s Office (“CAO”) researched interest and qualifications for Legal Services for both the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Saint Paul, Minnesota (“HRA”) and the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the CAO evaluated the qualifications of various law firms and, based on careful evaluation and interviews of selected law firms, the CAO recommends that the City engage the law firm of Ballard Spahr LLP; and

**WHEREAS**, the CAO is hereby submitting to the City for approval a master legal services agreement (“Master Legal Services Agreement”) with Ballard Spahr LLP for a duration of approximately twelve (12) months commencing January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024, with an optional one-year renewal period; a copy of the Master Legal Services Agreement is on file in the office of the HRA Executive Director; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** pursuant to Saint Paul City Charter § 5.02 and upon the request and recommendation of the City Attorney, the Council of the City of Saint Paul, Minnesota does hereby appoint the law firm of Ballard Spahr LLP as special counsel for the purpose of providing Legal Services and authorizes the appropriate City officials to enter into and execute the Master Legal Services Agreement in the form on file in the office of the HRA Executive Director. The City Attorney is directed and authorized to take all actions necessary to implement this resolution.