

- A city shall calculate and pay interest to a vendor if the city has not paid the obligation according to the terms of the contract or, if no contract terms apply, within the standard payment period.
- The rate of interest calculated and paid by the city on the outstanding balance of the obligation not paid according to the terms of the contract or during the standard payment period shall be 1.5 percent per month or part of a month.
- No interest penalties may accrue against a purchaser who delays payment of a vendor obligation due to a good faith dispute with the vendor regarding the fitness of the product or service, contract compliance, or any defect, error or omission related thereto. If such delay undertaken by the city is not in good faith, the vendor may recover costs and attorney's fees.
- The minimum monthly interest penalty payment that a city shall calculate and pay a vendor for the unpaid balance for any one overdue bill of \$100 or more is \$10. For unpaid balances of less than \$100, the city shall calculate and pay the actual interest penalty due the vendor.

Immediate Payment of Claims

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 412.271, subd. 4, when payment of a claim based on contract cannot be deferred until the next City Council meeting without loss to the city through forfeiture of discount privileges or otherwise, it may be made immediately if the itemized claim is endorsed for payment by at least a majority of all the members of the City Council. The claim shall be acted upon formally at the next City Council meeting in the same manner as if it had not been paid, and the earlier payment shall not affect the right of the city or any taxpayer to challenge the validity of the claim.

Cash Disbursement Guidelines

The Clerk-Treasurer will be responsible for implementing and providing internal control for all disbursements.

1. General Guidelines

- a. All general disbursements will be approved in advance by the City Council. The following exceptions may be made upon approval of the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer:
 - i. Debt service payments, including principal, interest, and fiscal agent fees
 - ii. Payroll and related liability payments
 - iii. Investment purchases
 - iv. Sales tax payments
 - v. Postage replenishment
 - vi. Contract or other payments that have specific City Council pre-approved payment instructions
 - vii. Payments to the following vendors:
 1. Albany Mutual Telephone
 2. CenterPoint Energy
 3. DHIA Laboratories
 4. Finken Water Centers
 5. League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT)
 6. Magnifi Financial
 7. Minnesota Life Insurance Company
 8. Northland Trust Services, Inc.
 9. Rahn's Oil & Propane, Inc.
 10. Star Publications LLC
 11. Verizon Wireless
 12. Xcel Energy
- b. All general disbursements, other than from payroll, petty cash, or made electronically, will be made by pre-numbered checks.
- c. In accordance with Minnesota Statutes § 471.38 and § 471.391, checks by which claims are paid may have printed on their reverse side, above the space for endorsement thereof, the following statement: "The undersigned payee, in endorsing this check declares that the same is received in payment of a just and correct claim against the city, and that no part of it has heretofore been paid." When endorsed by the payee named in the check, such statement shall operate and shall be deemed sufficient as the required declaration of the claim.

- d. Under no circumstances will blank checks be signed in advance.
- e. Paying off of vendor statements (rather than invoices) will be prohibited.
- f. Electronic claims will be utilized for all general disbursements.
- g. Unpaid invoices will be maintained in a file by the Administrative Assistant.

2. General Disbursement Process

- a. All invoices received by the city will be generally opened and date stamped by the Administrative Assistant, who will:
 - i. Verify that the goods and/or services were received
 - ii. Verify that the amount of the invoice is correct
 - iii. Attach packing slips or bills of lading
 - iv. Complete an electronic claim, including:
 - 1. Vendor name and address
 - 2. Invoice number
 - 3. Account coding
 - 4. Description of invoice
 - 5. Amounts
 - v. Present a Claim Approval List and attached invoices to the Clerk-Treasurer
- b. The Clerk/Treasurer processes all authorized payments by:
 - i. Verifying that all amounts due and account codes are accurate
 - ii. Reviewing application of sales tax on each invoice for propriety
 - iii. Initialing the Claim Approval List to indicate approval
 - iv. Copying any specific invoices for the City Council's review
 - v. Providing a copy of the Claims Listing report to the City Council for approval during the regularly scheduled City Council meetings
 - vi. Providing explanation to the City Council for all disbursements within the accounts payable report
- c. Checks will be signed and mailed on the day following City Council approval of the Claims Listing and accounts payable reports:
 - i. Two authorized signers (Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer) will sign all approved checks, while verifying that all checks are accurate by comparing the check and amount to the approved Claim Approval List and invoices
 - ii. After authorized signatures are obtained, the Administrative Assistant will mail the approved disbursements:
 - 1. A check including stub will be mailed to the vendor
 - 2. A check stub will be attached to the invoice, which will then be filed

Electronic Disbursement Process

- d. Electronic or wire transfers will generally be for:
 - i. Debt service payments, including principal, interest, and fiscal agent fees
 - ii. Payroll and related liability payments
 - iii. Investment purchases
 - iv. Sales tax payments

The Clerk-Treasurer will be responsible for implementing and providing internal control for all electronic or wire transfer disbursements by documenting the process and anticipating the funds to be wired to the designated depository on a particular date and time as well as preparing appropriate general ledger transactions, including payments and adjusting journal entries.

Credit Cards

In accordance with Minnesota Statute § 471.382, the City Council may authorize the use of a credit card by any city officer or employee otherwise authorized to make a purchase on behalf of the city. If a city officer or employee makes or directs a purchase by credit card that is not approved by the City Council, the officer or employee is

personally liable for the amount of the purchase. A purchase by credit card must otherwise comply with all statutes, rules, or city policy applicable to city purchases.

Dated This 31st Day of January, 2024

Motion by:

Second by:

Council members in favor:

Opposed or abstained:

Michael Eveslage, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jon Nelson, Clerk-Treasurer

LOAN RESOLUTION

""TGUQNWIKQP "4246/27"CEEGRVPI "WUF C'TWTCN'F GXGNQRO GP V'NQCP "HQT"Y GNNGU'EQWP VT["CETGUHQWT"

A RESOLUTION OF THE _____

OF THE _____

AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE INCURRENCE OF INDEBTEDNESS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A PORTION OF THE COST OF ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, ENLARGING, IMPROVING, AND/OR EXTENDING ITS

FACILITY TO SERVE AN AREA LAWFULLY WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION TO SERVE.

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the _____

(Public Body)

(herein after called Association) to raise a portion of the cost of such undertaking by issuance of its bonds in the principal amount of

_____ ; and

WHEREAS, the Association intends to obtain assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture, (herein called the Government) acting under the provisions of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.) in the planning, financing, and supervision of such undertaking and the purchasing of bonds lawfully issued, in the event that no other acceptable purchaser for such bonds is found by the Association:

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises the Association hereby resolves:

1. To have prepared on its behalf and to adopt an ordinance or resolution for the issuance of its bonds containing such items and in such forms as are required by State statutes and as are agreeable and acceptable to the Government.
2. To refinance the unpaid balance, in whole or in part, of its bonds upon the request of the Government if at any time it shall appear to the Government that the Association is able to refinance its bonds by obtaining a loan for such purposes from responsible cooperative or private sources at reasonable rates and terms for loans for similar purposes and periods of time as required by section 333(c) of said Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1983(c)).
3. To provide for, execute, and comply with Form RD 400-4, "Assurance Agreement," and Form RD 400-1, "Equal Opportunity Agreement," including an "Equal Opportunity Clause," which clause is to be incorporated in, or attached as a rider to, each construction contract and subcontract involving in excess of \$10,000.
4. To indemnify the Government for any payments made or losses suffered by the Government on behalf of the Association. Such indemnification shall be payable from the same source of funds pledged to pay the bonds or any other legal ly permissible source.
5. That upon default in the payments of any principal and accrued interest on the bonds or in the performance of any covenant or agreement contained herein or in the instruments incident to making or insuring the loan, the Government at its option may (a) declare the entire principal amount then outstanding and accrued interest immediately due and payable, (b) for the account of the Association (payable from the source of funds pledged to pay the bonds or any other legally permissible source), incur and pay reasonable expenses for repair, maintenance, and operation of the facility and such other reasonable expenses as may be necessary to cure the cause of default, and/or (c) take possession of the facility, repair, maintain, and operate or rent it. Default under the provisions of this resolution or any instrument incident to the making or insuring of the loan may be construed by the Government to constitute default under any other instrument held by the Government and executed or assumed by the Association, and default under any such instrument may be construed by the Government to constitute default hereunder.
6. Not to sell, transfer, lease, or otherwise encumber the facility or any portion thereof, or interest therein, or permit others to do so, without the prior written consent of the Government.
7. Not to defease the bonds, or to borrow money, enter into any contractor agreement, or otherwise incur any liabilities for any purpose in connection with the facility (exclusive of normal maintenance) without the prior written consent of the Government if such undertaking would involve the source of funds pledged to pay the bonds.
8. To place the proceeds of the bonds on deposit in an account and in a manner approved by the Government. Funds may be deposited in institutions insured by the State or Federal Government or invested in readily marketable securities backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. Any income from these accounts will be considered as revenues of the system.
9. To comply with all applicable State and Federal laws and regulations and to continually operate and maintain the facility in good condition.
10. To provide for the receipt of adequate revenues to meet the requirements of debt service, operation and maintenance, and the establishment of adequate reserves. Revenue accumulated over and above that needed to pay operating and maintenance, debt service and reserves may only be retained or used to make prepayments on the loan. Revenue cannot be used to pay any expenses which are not directly incurred for the facility financed by USDA. No free service or use of the facility will be permitted.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0572-0121. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

CERTIFICATION TO BE EXECUTED AT LOAN CLOSING

I, the undersigned, as _____ of the _____

hereby certify that the _____ of such Association is composed of _____ members, of whom , _____ constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting thereof duly called and held on the _____ day of _____ ; and that the foregoing resolution was adopted at such meeting by the vote shown above, I further certify that as of _____ , the date of closing of the loan from the United States Department of Agriculture, said resolution remains in effect and has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated, this _____ day of _____

Title

Memo

From: Jon Nelson, Clerk-Treasurer

To: Freeport City Council

Date: 01/24/24

Re: Resolution 2024-06 – Slum & Blight Conditions in Freeport

This resolution is to fulfill requirements to use the Small Cities Development Program funds for the streetlight project. Lisa Graphenteen generated a report and created the resolution based on her findings.

Recommendation: Approve Resolution 2024-06.

RESOLUTION 2024-06

A RESOLUTION IDENTIFYING “SLUM & BLIGHT” CONDITIONS IN A TARGETED AREA OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT

WHEREAS, the City of Freeport is undertaking a program of streetscape improvements, and

WHEREAS, the City of Freeport has identified a specific area hereinafter referred to as the “Slum and Blight” area in which revitalization activities will occur, and

WHEREAS, the Freeport City Council has assessed the target area for purposes of the 2024 Streetscape project using local income through the Small Cities Development Program and determined that the area can be characterized as blighted by reason of “dilapidation, obsolescence, overcrowding, faulty arrangement or design, lack of ventilation, light, and sanitary facilities, excessive land coverage, deleterious land use, or obsolete layout, or any combination of these or other factors, are detrimental to the safety, health, or welfare of the community” in accordance with Minnesota Statute 469.002, Subd. 11. Of the 33 buildings in the target area, 18 of them are structurally substandard with none being dilapidated.

FUTHERMORE, the Freeport City Council has identified deteriorating conditions due to the inability of commercial structures to meet codes, and general deterioration of building exteriors in the downtown area.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of Freeport, Minnesota, that the area identified as the target area, described as starting at the intersection of Main Street East and 3rd Avenue Northeast and extending West to the intersection of Main Street West and 3rd Avenue Northwest. The Target area also extends from the intersection of 3rd Street Southeast/Southwest and 1st Avenue extending north to the intersection of 2nd Street Northeast/Northwest and 1st Avenue, is characterized by conditions meeting the definition of “Slum and Blight.”

Adopted this 31st day of January, 2024.

Mike Eveslage, Mayor

Jon Nelson, Clerk-Treasurer

Memo

From: Jon Nelson, Clerk-Treasurer

To: Freeport City Council

Date: 01/26/24

Re: Widseth Contract

I have been working with Chris Otto from League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust in regards to the hail damage the City of Freeport's properties received from the July 2023 storm. He sent our repair project out for bid and Widseth came back with a low-bid of \$14,500. Otto has reviewed the proposal and recommends that we accept to keep the project moving. We approved replacing all items on the list that Otto provided us. We will make the contract payment but will be reimbursed through insurance.

Recommendation: Accept the Widseth proposal.

January 23, 2024

Mr. Jon Nelson, City Clerk - Treasurer
City of Freeport
125 E. Main Street
Freeport, MN 56331

Alexandria
610 Fillmore Street
Alexandria MN 56308

320.762.8149
Alexandria@Widseth.com
Widseth.com

RE: City of Freeport reroof projects

Dear Mr. Nelson,

Thank you for contacting Widseth to provide you with the following proposal to provide professional design services for creating a building permit construction document set and specifications for the properties that were damaged by last summer's storms in Freeport, Minnesota. Widseth is very fortunate to have this opportunity to work with you on your projects. We are up to the challenge of completing this task and providing a quality set of building permit documents for you.

Scope of Services and Fees:

- Documentation for demolition of existing roofing repairs for 13 structures in the city limits of Freeport.
- Prepare construction documents that will include:
 - One site visit to document building roof configuration and area.
 - Provide architectural roof plans for each building. (13 Buildings)
 - Produce project specifications for construction.
 - Conduct a bid procurement.

Widseth's proposes to complete the construction documents described above for a lump sum fee of **\$14,500.00**.

Schedule:

We would be able to begin work on this project upon receipt of a signed copy of this proposal. We anticipate the deliverables would be completed within 45 days.

Thank you for contacting Widseth to provide you with this proposal.

Sincerely,
Widseth Smith Nolting & Associates, Inc.



Greg Bohl, AIA, LEED AP, CID



Bryan Balcome, LS, VP

Accepted by: City of Freeport

The above proposal and attached General Provisions are satisfactory and Widseth is authorized to do the work as specified. Payment will be made through the signature of its authorized representative below, Permitting Widseth to commence work on this project. This proposal is valid for 30 Days.

(Signature)

(Title)

(Date)

General Provisions of Professional Services Agreement

These General Provisions are intended to be used in conjunction with a letter-type Agreement or a Request for Services between Widseth Smith Nolting & Assoc., Inc., a Minnesota Corporation, hereinafter referred to as WIDSETH, and a CLIENT, wherein the CLIENT engages WIDSETH to provide certain Architectural, and/or Engineering services on a Project.

As used herein, the term "this Agreement" refers to (1) the WIDSETH Proposal Letter which becomes the Letter Agreement upon its acceptance by the Client, (2) these General Provisions and (3) any attached Exhibits, as if they were part of one and the same document. With respect to the order of precedence, any attached Exhibits shall govern over these General Provisions, and the Letter Agreement shall govern over any attached Exhibits and these General Provisions. These documents supersede all prior communications and constitute the entire Agreement between the parties. Amendments to this Agreement must be in writing and signed by both CLIENT and WIDSETH.

ARTICLE 1. PERIOD OF SERVICE

The term of this Agreement for the performance of services hereunder shall be as set forth in the Letter Agreement. In this regard, any lump sum or estimated maximum payment amounts set forth in the Letter Agreement have been established in anticipation of an orderly and continuous progress of the Project in accordance with the schedule set forth in the Letter Agreement or any Exhibits attached thereto. WIDSETH shall be entitled to an equitable adjustment to its fee should there be an interruption of services, or amendment to the schedule.

ARTICLE 2. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The scope of services covered by this Agreement shall be as set forth in the Letter Agreement or a Request for Services. Such scope of services shall be adequately described in order that both the CLIENT and WIDSETH have an understanding of the expected work to be performed.

If WIDSETH is of the opinion that any work they have been directed to perform is beyond the Scope of this Agreement, or that the level of effort required significantly exceeds that estimated due to changed conditions and thereby constitutes extra work, they shall notify the CLIENT of that fact. Extra work, additional compensation for same, and extension of time for completion shall be covered by a revision to the Letter Agreement or Request for Services and entered into by both parties.

ARTICLE 3. COMPENSATION TO WIDSETH

A. Compensation to WIDSETH for services described in this Agreement shall be on a Lump Sum basis, Percentage of Construction, and/or Hourly Rate basis as designated in the Letter Agreement and as hereinafter described.

1. A Lump Sum method of payment for WIDSETH's services shall apply to all or parts of a work scope where WIDSETH's tasks can be readily defined and/or where the level of effort required to accomplish such tasks can be estimated with a reasonable degree of accuracy. The CLIENT shall make monthly payments to WIDSETH within 30 days of date of invoice based on an estimated percentage of completion of WIDSETH's services.
2. A Percentage of Construction or an Hourly Rate method of payment of WIDSETH's services shall apply to all or parts of a work scope where WIDSETH's tasks cannot be readily defined and/or where the level of effort required to accomplish such tasks cannot be estimated with any reasonable degree of accuracy. Under an Hourly Rate method of payment, WIDSETH shall be paid for the actual hours worked on the Project by WIDSETH technical personnel times an hourly billing rate established for each employee. Hourly billing rates shall include compensation for all salary costs, payroll burden, general, and administrative overhead and professional fee. In a Percentage of Construction method of payment, final compensation will be based on actual bids if the project is bid and WIDSETH's estimate to the CLIENT if the project is not bid. A rate schedule shall be furnished by WIDSETH to CLIENT upon which to base periodic payments to WIDSETH.
3. In addition to the foregoing, WIDSETH shall be reimbursed for items and services as set forth in the Letter Agreement or Fee Schedule and the following Direct Expenses when incurred in the performance of the work:
 - (a) Travel and subsistence.
 - (b) Specialized computer services or programs.
 - (c) Outside professional and technical services with cost defined as the amount billed WIDSETH.
 - (d) Identifiable reproduction and reprographic costs.
 - (e) Other expenses for items such as permit application fees, license fees, or other additional items and services whether or not specifically identified in the Letter Agreement or Fee Schedule.
4. The CLIENT shall make monthly payments to WIDSETH within 30 days of date of invoice based on computations made in accordance with the above charges for services provided and expenses incurred to date, accompanied by supporting evidence as available.

WIDSETH

ARCHITECTS • ENGINEERS
SCIENTISTS • SURVEYORS

B. The CLIENT will pay the balance stated on the invoice unless CLIENT notifies WIDSETH in writing of the particular item that is alleged to be incorrect within 15 days from the date of invoice, in which case, only the disputed item will remain undue until resolved by the parties. All accounts unpaid after 30 days from the date of original invoice shall be subject to a service charge of 1 % per month, or the maximum amount authorized by law, whichever is less. WIDSETH shall be entitled to recover all reasonable costs and disbursements, including reasonable attorneys fees, incurred in connection with collecting amount owed by CLIENT. In addition, WIDSETH may, after giving seven days written notice to the CLIENT, suspend services and withhold deliverables under this Agreement until WIDSETH has been paid in full for all amounts then due for services, expenses and charges. CLIENT agrees that WIDSETH shall not be responsible for any claim for delay or other consequential damages arising from suspension of services hereunder. Upon payment in full by Client and WIDSETH's resumption of services, the time for performance of WIDSETH's services shall be equitably adjusted to account for the period of suspension and other reasonable time necessary to resume performance.

ARTICLE 4. ABANDONMENT, CHANGE OF PLAN AND TERMINATION

Either Party has the right to terminate this Agreement upon seven days written notice. In addition, the CLIENT may at any time, reduce the scope of this Agreement. Such reduction in scope shall be set forth in a written notice from the CLIENT to WIDSETH. In the event of unresolved dispute over change in scope or changed conditions, this Agreement may also be terminated upon seven days written notice as provided above.

In the event of termination, and upon payment in full for all work performed and expenses incurred to the date of termination, documents that are identified as deliverables under the Letter Agreement whether finished or unfinished shall be made available by WIDSETH to the CLIENT pursuant to Article 5, and there shall be no further payment obligation of the CLIENT to WIDSETH under this Agreement except for payment of an amount for WIDSETH's anticipated profit on the value of the services not performed by WIDSETH and computed in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 and the Letter Agreement.

In the event of a reduction in scope of the Project work, WIDSETH shall be paid for the work performed and expenses incurred on the Project work thus reduced and for any completed and abandoned work, for which payment has not been made, computed in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 and the Letter Agreement.

ARTICLE 5. DISPOSITION OF PLANS, REPORTS AND OTHER DATA

All reports, plans, specifications, field data and notes and other documents, including all documents on electronic media, prepared by WIDSETH or its consultants are instruments of Service and shall remain the property of WIDSETH or its consultants, respectively. WIDSETH and its subconsultants retain all common law, statutory and other reserved rights, including, without limitation, copyright. WIDSETH and its subconsultants maintain the right to determine if production will be made, and allowable format for production, of any electronic media or data to CLIENT or any third-party. Upon payment in full of monies due pursuant to the Agreement, WIDSETH shall make hard copies available to the CLIENT, of all documents that are identified as deliverables under the Letter Agreement. If the documents have not been finished (including, but not limited to, completion of final quality control), then WIDSETH shall have no liability for any claims expenses or damages that may arise out of items that could have been corrected during completion/quality control. Any Instruments of Service provided are not intended or represented to be suitable for reuse by the CLIENT or others on extensions of the Project or any other project. Any modification or reuse without written verification or adaptation by WIDSETH for the specific purpose intended will be at CLIENT's sole risk and without liability or legal exposure to WIDSETH. CLIENT shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless WIDSETH from any and all suits or claims of third parties arising out of use of unfinished documents, or modification or reuse of finished documents, which is not specifically verified, adapted, or authorized in writing by WIDSETH. This indemnity shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

Should WIDSETH choose to deliver to CLIENT documents in electronic form, CLIENT acknowledges that differences may exist between any electronic files delivered and the printed hard-copy. Copies of documents that may be relied upon by CLIENT are limited to the printed hard-copies that are signed and/or sealed by WIDSETH. Files in electronic form are only for convenience of CLIENT. Any conclusion or information obtained or derived from such electronic documents will be at user's sole risk. CLIENT acknowledges that the useful life of some forms of electronic media may be limited because of deterioration of the media or obsolescence of the computer hardware and/or software systems. Therefore, WIDSETH makes no representation that such media will be fully usable beyond 30 days from date of delivery to CLIENT.

ARTICLE 6. CLIENT'S ACCEPTANCE BY PURCHASE ORDER OR OTHER MEANS

In lieu of or in addition to signing the acceptance blank on the Letter Agreement, the CLIENT may accept this Agreement by permitting WIDSETH to commence work on the project or by issuing a purchase order signed by a duly authorized representative. Such purchase order shall incorporate by reference the terms and conditions of this Agreement. In the event of a conflict between the terms and conditions of this Agreement and those contained in the CLIENT's purchase order, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall govern. Notwithstanding any purchase order provisions to the contrary, no warranties, express or implied, are made by WIDSETH.

ARTICLE 7. CLIENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

A. To permit WIDSETH to perform the services required hereunder, the CLIENT shall supply, in proper time and sequence, the following at no expense to WIDSETH:

1. Provide all program, budget, or other necessary information regarding its requirements as necessary for orderly progress of the work.
2. Designate in writing, a person to act as CLIENT's representative with respect to the services to be rendered under this Agreement. Such person shall have authority to transmit instructions, receive instructions, receive information, interpret and define CLIENT's policies with respect to WIDSETH's services.
3. Furnish, as required for performance of WIDSETH's services (except to the extent provided otherwise in the Letter Agreement or any Exhibits attached hereto), data prepared by or services of others, including without limitation, core borings, probes and subsurface explorations, hydrographic and geohydrologic surveys, laboratory tests and inspections of samples, materials and equipment; appropriate professional interpretations of all of the foregoing; environmental assessment and impact statements; property, boundary easement, right-of-way, topographic and utility surveys; property descriptions; zoning, deed and other land use restriction; and other special data not covered in the Letter Agreement or any Exhibits attached hereto.
4. Provide access to, and make all provisions for WIDSETH to enter upon publicly or privately owned property as required to perform the work.
5. Act as liaison with other agencies or involved parties to carry out necessary coordination and negotiations; furnish approvals and permits from all governmental authorities having jurisdiction over the Project and such approvals and consents from others as may be necessary for completion of the Project.
6. Examine all reports, sketches, drawings, specifications and other documents prepared and presented by WIDSETH, obtain advice of an attorney, insurance counselor or others as CLIENT deems necessary for such examination and render in writing, decisions pertaining thereto within a reasonable time so as not to delay the services of WIDSETH.
7. Give prompt written notice to WIDSETH whenever CLIENT observes or otherwise becomes aware of any development that affects the scope or timing of WIDSETH's services or any defect in the work of Construction Contractor(s), Consultants or WIDSETH.
8. Initiate action, where appropriate, to identify and investigate the nature and extent of asbestos and/or pollution in the Project and to abate and/or remove the same as may be required by federal, state or local statute, ordinance, code, rule, or regulation now existing or hereinafter enacted or amended. For purposes of this Agreement, "pollution" and "pollutant" shall mean any solid, liquid, gaseous or thermal irritant or contaminant, including smoke, vapor, soot, alkalis, chemicals and hazardous or toxic waste. Hazardous or toxic waste means any substance, waste pollutant or contaminant now or hereafter included within such terms under any federal, state or local statute, ordinance, code, rule or regulation now existing or hereinafter enacted or amended. Waste further includes materials to be recycled, reconditioned or reclaimed.

If WIDSETH encounters, or reasonably suspects that it has encountered, asbestos or pollution in the Project, WIDSETH shall cease activity on the Project and promptly notify the CLIENT, who shall proceed as set forth above. Unless otherwise specifically provided in the Letter Agreement, the services to be provided by WIDSETH do not include identification of asbestos or pollution, and WIDSETH has no duty to identify or attempt to identify the same within the area of the Project.

With respect to the foregoing, CLIENT acknowledges and agrees that WIDSETH is not a user, handler, generator, operator, treator, storer, transporter or disposer of asbestos or pollution which may be encountered by WIDSETH on the Project. It is further understood and agreed that services WIDSETH will undertake for CLIENT may be uninsurable obligations involving the presence or potential presence of asbestos or pollution. Therefore, CLIENT agrees, except (1) such liability as may arise out of WIDSETH's sole negligence in the performance of services under this Agreement or (2) to the extent of insurance coverage available for the claim, to hold harmless, indemnify and defend WIDSETH and WIDSETH's officers, subcontractor(s), employees and agents from and against any and all claims, lawsuits, damages, liability and costs, including, but not limited to, costs of defense, arising out of or in any way connected with the presence, discharge, release, or escape of asbestos or pollution. This indemnification is intended to apply only to existing conditions and not to conditions caused or created by WIDSETH. This indemnification shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

9. Provide such accounting, independent cost estimating and insurance counseling services as may be required for the Project, such legal services as CLIENT may require or WIDSETH may reasonably request with regard to legal issues pertaining to the Project including any that may be raised by Contractor(s), such auditing service as CLIENT may require to ascertain how or for what purpose any Contractor has used the moneys paid under the construction contract, and such inspection services as CLIENT may require to ascertain that Contractor(s) are complying with any law, rule, regulation, ordinance, code or order applicable to their furnishing and performing the work.

10. Provide "record" drawings and specifications for all existing physical features, structures, equipment, utilities, or facilities which are pertinent to the Project, to the extent available.
11. Provide other services, materials, or data as may be set forth in the Letter Agreement or any Exhibits attached hereto.

B. WIDSETH may use any CLIENT provided information in performing its services. WIDSETH shall be entitled to rely on the accuracy and completeness of information furnished by the CLIENT. If WIDSETH finds that any information furnished by the CLIENT is in error or is inadequate for its purpose, WIDSETH shall endeavor to notify the CLIENT. However, WIDSETH shall not be held responsible for any errors or omissions that may arise as a result of erroneous or incomplete information provided by CLIENT.

ARTICLE 8. OPINIONS OF COST

Opinions of probable project cost, construction cost, financial evaluations, feasibility studies, economic analyses of alternate solutions and utilitarian considerations of operations and maintenance costs provided for in the Letter Agreement or any Exhibits attached hereto are to be made on the basis of WIDSETH's experience and qualifications and represent WIDSETH's judgment as an experienced design professional. It is recognized, however, that WIDSETH does not have control over the cost of labor, material, equipment or services furnished by others or over market conditions or contractors' methods of determining their prices, and that any evaluation of any facility to be constructed, or acquired, or work to be performed on the basis of WIDSETH's cost opinions must, of necessity, be speculative until completion of construction or acquisition. Accordingly, WIDSETH does not guarantee that proposals, bids or actual costs will not substantially vary from opinions, evaluations or studies submitted by WIDSETH to CLIENT hereunder.

ARTICLE 9. CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES

CLIENT acknowledges that it is customary for the architect or engineer who is responsible for the preparation and furnishing of Drawings and Specifications and other construction-related documents to be employed to provide professional services during the Bidding and Construction Phases of the Project, (1) to interpret and clarify the documentation so furnished and to modify the same as circumstances revealed during bidding and construction may dictate, (2) in connection with acceptance of substitute or equal items of materials and equipment proposed by bidders and Contractor(s), (3) in connection with approval of shop drawings and sample submittals, and (4) as a result of and in response to WIDSETH's detecting in advance of performance of affected work inconsistencies or irregularities in such documentation. CLIENT agrees that if WIDSETH is not employed to provide such professional services during the Bidding (if the work is put out for bids) and the Construction Phases of the Project, WIDSETH will not be responsible for, and CLIENT shall indemnify and hold WIDSETH, its officers, consultant(s), subcontractor(s), employees and agents harmless from, all claims, damages, losses and expenses including attorneys' fees arising out of, or resulting from, any interpretation, clarification, substitution acceptance, shop drawing or sample approval or modification of such documentation issued or carried out by CLIENT or others. Nothing contained in this paragraph shall be construed to release WIDSETH, its officers, consultant(s), subcontractor(s), employees and agents from liability for failure to perform in accordance with professional standards any duty or responsibility which WIDSETH has undertaken or assumed under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 10. REVIEW OF SHOP DRAWINGS AND SUBMITTALS

WIDSETH may review and approve or take other appropriate action on the contractor's submittals or shop drawings for the limited purpose of checking for general conformance with information given and design concept expressed in the Contract Documents. Review and/or approval of submittals is not conducted for the purpose of determining accuracy and completeness of other details or for substantiating instructions for installation or performance of equipment or systems, all of which remain the exclusive responsibility of the contractor. WIDSETH's review and/or approval shall not constitute approval of safety precautions, or any construction means, methods, techniques, sequences or procedures. WIDSETH's approval of a specific item shall not indicate approval of an assembly of which the item is a component. WIDSETH's review and/or approval shall not relieve contractor for any deviations from the requirements of the contract documents nor from the responsibility for errors or omissions on items such as sizes, dimensions, quantities, colors, or locations. Contractor shall remain solely responsible for compliance with any manufacturer requirements and recommendations.

ARTICLE 11. REVIEW OF PAY APPLICATIONS

If included in the scope of services, any review or certification of any pay applications, or certificates of completion shall be based upon WIDSETH's observation of the Work and on the data comprising the contractor's application for payment, and shall indicate that to the best of WIDSETH's knowledge, information and belief, the quantity and quality of the Work is in general conformance with the Contract Documents. The issuance of a certificate for payment or substantial completion is not a representation that WIDSETH has made exhaustive or continuous inspections, reviewed construction means and methods, verified any back-up data provided by the contractor, or ascertained how or for what purpose the contractor has used money previously paid by CLIENT.

ARTICLE 12. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

If included in the scope of services, WIDSETH will provide, with reasonable promptness, written responses to requests from any contractor for clarification, interpretation or information on the requirements of the Contract Documents. If Contractor's RFI's are, in WIDSETH's professional opinion, for information readily apparent from reasonable observation of field conditions or review of the Contract Documents, or are reasonably inferable therefrom, WIDSETH shall be entitled to compensation for Additional Services for WIDSETH's time in responding to such requests. CLIENT may wish to make the Contractor responsible to the CLIENT for all such charges for additional services as described in this article.

ARTICLE 13. CONSTRUCTION OBSERVATION

If included in the scope of services, WIDSETH will make site visits as specified in the scope of services in order to observe the progress of the Work completed. Such site visits and observations are not intended to be an exhaustive check or detailed inspection, but rather are to allow WIDSETH to become generally familiar with the Work. WIDSETH shall keep CLIENT informed about the progress of the Work and shall advise the CLIENT about observed deficiencies in the Work. WIDSETH shall not supervise, direct or have control over any Contractor's work, nor have any responsibility for the construction means, methods, techniques, sequences or procedures selected by the Contractor nor for the Contractor's safety precautions or programs in connection with the Work. These rights and responsibilities are solely those of the Contractor. WIDSETH shall not be responsible for any acts or omissions of any Contractor and shall not be responsible for any Contractor's failure to perform the Work in accordance with the Contract Documents or any applicable laws, codes, regulations, or industry standards.

If construction observation services are not included in the scope of services, CLIENT assumes all responsibility for interpretation of the Contract Documents and for construction observation, and the CLIENT waives any claims against WIDSETH that are connected with the performance of such services.

ARTICLE 14. BETTERMENT

If, due to WIDSETH's negligence, a required item or component of the Project is omitted from the construction documents, WIDSETH shall not be responsible for paying the cost required to add such item or component to the extent that such item or component would have been required and included in the original construction documents. In no event, will WIDSETH be responsible for any cost or expense that provides betterment or upgrades or enhances the value of the Project.

ARTICLE 15. CERTIFICATIONS, GUARANTEES AND WARRANTIES

WIDSETH shall not be required to sign any documents, no matter by who requested, that would result in WIDSETH having to certify, guarantee or warrant the existence of conditions whose existence WIDSETH cannot ascertain. CLIENT agrees not to make resolution of any dispute with WIDSETH or payment of any amount due to WIDSETH in any way contingent upon WIDSETH signing such certification.

ARTICLE 16. CONTINGENCY FUND

CLIENT and WIDSETH agree that certain increased costs and changes may be required because of possible omissions, ambiguities or inconsistencies in the plans and specifications prepared by WIDSETH, and therefore, that the final construction cost of the Project may exceed the bids, contract amount or estimated construction cost. CLIENT agrees to set aside a reserve in the amount of 5% of the Project construct costs as a contingency to be used, as required, to pay for any such increased costs and changes. CLIENT further agrees to make no claim by way of direct or third-party action against WIDSETH with respect to any increased costs within the contingency because of such changes or because of any claims made by any Contractor relating to such changes.

ARTICLE 17. INSURANCE

WIDSETH shall procure and maintain insurance for protection from claims against it under workers' compensation acts, claims for damages because of bodily injury including personal injury, sickness or disease or death of any and all employees or of any person other than such employees, and from claims against it for damages because of injury to or destruction of property including loss of use resulting therefrom.

Also, WIDSETH shall procure and maintain professional liability insurance for protection from claims arising out of performance of professional services caused by any negligent act, error, or omission for which WIDSETH is legally liable.

Certificates of insurance will be provided to the CLIENT upon request.

ARTICLE 18. ASSIGNMENT

Neither Party to this Agreement shall transfer, sublet or assign any rights or duties under or interest in this Agreement, including but not limited to monies that are due or monies that may be due, without the prior written consent of the other party. Subcontracting to subconsultants, normally contemplated by WIDSETH as a generally accepted business practice, shall not be considered an assignment for purposes of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 19. NO THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES

Nothing contained in this Agreement shall create a contractual relationship or a cause of action by a third-party against either WIDSETH or CLIENT. WIDSETH's services pursuant to this Agreement are being performed solely for the CLIENT's benefit, and no other party or entity shall have any claim against WIDSETH because of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 20. CORPORATE PROTECTION

It is intended by the parties to this Agreement that WIDSETH's services in connection with the Project shall not subject WIDSETH's individual employees, officers or directors to any personal legal exposure for the risks associated with this Project. Therefore, and notwithstanding anything to the contrary, CLIENT agrees that as the CLIENT's sole and exclusive remedy, any claim, demand or suit shall be directed and/or asserted only against WIDSETH, a Minnesota corporation, and not against any of WIDSETH's individual employees, officers or directors.

ARTICLE 21. CONTROLLING LAW

This Agreement is to be governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota.

ARTICLE 22. ASSIGNMENT OF RISK

In recognition of the relative risks and benefits of the project to both the CLIENT and WIDSETH, the risks have been allocated such that the CLIENT agrees, to the fullest extent permitted by law, to limit the liability of WIDSETH, employees of WIDSETH and sub-consultants, to the CLIENT and to all construction contractors, subcontractors, agents and assigns on the project for any and all claims, losses, costs, damages of any nature whatsoever or claims expenses from any cause or causes, so that total aggregate liability of WIDSETH, employees of WIDSETH and sub-consultants, to all those named shall not exceed WIDSETH's total fee received for services rendered on this project. Such claims and causes include, but are not limited to negligence, professional errors or omissions, strict liability, breach of contract or warranty.

ARTICLE 23. NON-DISCRIMINATION

WIDSETH will comply with the provisions of applicable federal, state and local statutes, ordinances and regulations pertaining to human rights and non-discrimination.

ARTICLE 24. SEVERABILITY

Any provision or portion thereof in this Agreement which is held to be void or unenforceable under any law shall be deemed stricken and all remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and binding between CLIENT and WIDSETH. All limits of liability and indemnities contained in the Agreement shall survive the completion or termination of the Agreement.

ARTICLE 25. PRE-LIEN NOTICE

PURSUANT TO THE AGREEMENT WIDSETH WILL BE PERFORMING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH IMPROVEMENTS OF REAL PROPERTY AND MAY CONTRACT WITH SUBCONSULTANTS OR SUBCONTRACTORS AS APPROPRIATE TO FURNISH LABOR, SKILL AND/OR MATERIALS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE WORK. ACCORDINGLY, CLIENT IS ENTITLED UNDER MINNESOTA LAW TO THE FOLLOWING NOTICE:

- (a) ANY PERSON OR COMPANY SUPPLYING LABOR OR MATERIALS FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT TO YOUR PROPERTY MAY FILE A LIEN AGAINST YOUR PROPERTY IF THAT PERSON OR COMPANY IS NOT PAID FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS.**
- (b) UNDER MINNESOTA LAW, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO PAY PERSONS WHO SUPPLIED LABOR OR MATERIALS FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT DIRECTLY AND DEDUCT THIS AMOUNT FROM OUR CONTRACT PRICE, OR WITHHOLD THE AMOUNTS DUE FROM US UNTIL 120 DAYS AFTER COMPLETION OF THE IMPROVEMENT UNLESS WE GIVE YOU A LIEN WAIVER SIGNED BY PERSONS WHO SUPPLIED ANY LABOR OR MATERIALS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND WHO GAVE YOU TIMELY NOTICE.**