

**COMMITTEE ON MDC GOVERNMENT
SPECIAL MEETING**

The Metropolitan District
555 Main Street, Hartford CT
Monday, January 7, 2019

Present: Commissioners Clifford Avery Buell, Peter Gardow, Denise Hall, Allen Hoffman, Jean Holloway, Gary LeBeau, Alphonse Marotta, Alvin Taylor and District Chairman William A. DiBella (9)

Absent: Commissioner John Avedisian, David Ionno and Maureen Magnan (3)

Also

Present: Commissioner James Healy
Commissioner Domenic M. Pane
Scott W. Jellison, Chief Executive Officer
John M. Zinzarella, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Business Services
R. Bartley Halloran, District Counsel
Christopher Stone, Assistant District Counsel
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk
Christopher Levesque, Director of Operations
Sue Negrelli, Director of Engineering
Kelly Shane, Director of Procurement
Tom Tyler, Director of Facilities
Robert Zaik, Director of Human Resources
Karyn Blaise, Controller
Kerry E. Martin, Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer
Carrie Blardo, Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer
Victoria S. Escoriza, Executive Assistant
David Silverstone, Consumer Advocate
Joe Vitale, Bond Counsel
Attorney William Sweeney, Counsel
Adam Krea, Hilltop Securities

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hoffman called the meeting to order at 4:44 PM

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Commissioner Taylor and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of December 10, 2018 were approved.

APPOINTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANTS

To: Committee on MDC Government

January 7, 2019

Over the past year, the firms of Gaffney, Bennett and Associates Inc. and SJB Strategies, LLC have provided exemplary service in the area of government relations and advocacy within state government on behalf of the District. Based upon their collective past performance, and to maintain the necessary level of continuity within the District's legislative and administrative lobbying activities, District staff recommends the reappointment of Gaffney, Bennett and Associates Inc. and SJB Strategies, LLC for the 2019 legislative session. In addition, staff recommends the appointment of new lobbying firm, Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC lead by Janice T. Flemming-Butler, to also represent the District during the upcoming session of the State general assembly, and to provide additional services in the area of government relations as may be necessary during the one year term of their respective contract. The term of these appointments would be from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

Furthermore, in the event the Committee on MDC Government forwards the appointments to the District Board, District staff recommends that the annual fees for Gaffney, Bennett and Associates, Inc. remain at \$40,000 SJB Strategies, LLC receive \$20,000 and Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC receive \$50,000, for a total of \$110,000.00. Payments would be prorated over a 12-month period, commencing January 2019.

It is therefore recommended that it be:

Voted: That the Committee on MDC Government recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution:

Resolved: That the firms of Gaffney, Bennett and Associates Inc., SJB Strategies, LLC and Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC be retained to perform lobbying services for a period commencing on January 1, 2019 and terminating on December 31, 2019. Gaffney, Bennett and Associates, Inc. fee will remain at \$40,000, SJB Strategies, LLC will receive \$20,000, and Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC will receive \$50,000.00, for a total of \$110,000.00, to be prorated over a twelve-month period, subject to the execution of a written agreement prepared and approved by District Counsel as to form and content, reflecting the scope of services, reporting requirements and such other terms and conditions as District Counsel may specify.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott W. Jellison
Chief Executive Officer

On motion made by Commissioner Buell and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those present.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 PM

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

Date of Approval