

**CITY OF BILOXI
AGENDA ITEM
FACT SHEET**

Item No.:

4 #

Council Meeting Date:

July 1, 2025

ITEM TITLE: RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich

CONTACT PERSON: Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich

SUMMARY EXPLANATION:

Resolution appointing City Attorney and Director of the Legal Department for the City of Biloxi, Mississippi.

Resolution ☒

Ordinance ☐

Public Hearing ☐

Routine Agenda ☐

Exhibits for Review

Contract ☐

Minutes ☐

Plans/Maps ☐

Deed ☐

Lease ☐

Other (Specify):

Submittal Authorization:

Council President ☐

Mayor ☒

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Mayor recommends approval

COUNCIL ACTION: Motion By: _____ Second By: _____

Vote:	Councilmember	Yes	No	AFR	ABST	Councilmember	Yes	No	AFR	ABST
	Gray	_____	_____	_____	_____	Tisdale	_____	_____	_____	_____
	Marshall	_____	_____	_____	_____	Glavan	_____	_____	_____	_____
	Nail	_____	_____	_____	_____	Shoemaker	_____	_____	_____	_____
	Creel	_____	_____	_____	_____					

ACTION TAKEN:

070125bexc

Resolution No. _____

RESOLUTION APPOINTING CITY ATTORNEY AND DIRECTOR OF THE
LEGAL DEPARTMENT FOR THE CITY OF BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

WHEREAS, as provided in Mississippi Code Annotated Section 21-8-23, and Section 2-1-2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Biloxi, the Mayor is authorized to appoint a City Attorney, who shall be the chief legal officer of the City to manage and direct the Legal Department;

WHEREAS, the City may, pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated Section 21-15-25 and 21-15-27, employ a firm of attorneys to represent the City's interest and serve as City Attorney;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 416-16, the law firm of Currie Johnson & Myers, P.A. ("Currie Johnson"), and in particular its managing partner Peter C. Abide, has served as City Attorney and Director of the Legal Department since October 1, 2016, and has provided good and valuable services to the City since that time;

WHEREAS, Mayor Andrew "FoFo" Gilich has renewed his appointment of the Currie Johnson to be City Attorney and Director of the Legal Department, subject to the approval of the City Council and further subject to the terms of this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, Peter C. Abide, has resided in Biloxi and practiced law in Biloxi for over 33 years, and has been previously qualified by the City in Resolutions 383-15, 416-16, 327-17 and 489-21, will serve as the firm's primary contact for all City matters, will further have the authority to engage, supervise, and direct those other Special Counsel attorneys and law firms, and will have the authority to initiate, engage, supervise, defend and direct litigation, under contract to the City as set forth in separate resolutions of this Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION ONE: The findings, conclusions, and statements of fact contained in the preamble of this Resolution are hereby adopted, ratified and incorporated herein.

SECTION TWO: The appointment of Currie Johnson & Myers, P.A., with Peter C. Abide serving as primary contact, as City Attorney and Director of the Legal Department is hereby confirmed, according to the terms of this Resolution. The Currie Johnson Law Firm is recognized as a qualified and proper law firm to serve as counsel in the capacity as set forth herein, effective July 1, 2025.

SECTION THREE: Neither Peter C. Abide or any member of the Currie Johnson Law Firm shall be considered an employee of the City; however, such classification is not intended to waive any available defenses under Mississippi Code Annotated 11-46-1 et. seq.

SECTION FOUR: Legal services and expenses shall be compensated at the rates of \$150.00 per hour for attorneys and \$60.00 per hour for paralegals. Such services do not include matters in connection with the issuing or refunding of bonds, which shall be approved by separate resolution.

SECTION FIVE: This resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after passage.