CITY OF JOPLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

ITEM
Council Bill 2024-286 Approving Amendment #3 to the March 24, 2024 contract with Alvarez & Marsal to provide additional Professional Administrative Support Services and Technical Assistance for the ARPA Community Revitalization Program.

MEETING DATE
September 16, 2024

ORIGINATING DEPT
Planning, Development & Neighborhood Services

REVIEWED BY
Dept. Head: Troy Bolander; City Attorney: Peter Edwards; City Manager: Nicholas Edwards; Finance Director: Leslie Haase

SUMMARY
This Council Bill approves a contract amendment with Alvarez & Marsal to provide additional administrative support and technical assistance for the administration of the ARPA Community Revitalization Program suite of housing projects. The Alvarez & Marsal contract was approved by Council Bill 2024-256.

BACKGROUND
The federal American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") of 2021 established a Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund ("SLFRF") for the purpose of responding to the impact of COVID-19 and the affects felt within communities, residents, and businesses across the nation. The funding aims to provide local governments with the resources to respond to the public health emergency and its economic impacts within four allowable use categories.

The Department of Treasury awarded the State of Missouri a $2.5 billion share of federal funding after which time the Missouri General Assembly appropriated $100 million of the State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the Missouri Department of Economic Development ("DED") for community development and revitalization. The DED then established the ARPA Community Revitalization Grant Program, a competitive program that requires a 50% funding match. The City of Joplin applied to and was awarded $3.5 million with the $3.5 million local match provided through the City's local ARPA award.

The Seven Million funding stream is providing three housing projects to advance neighborhood revitalization in three distinct ways. The $3 million Joplin Homeowner's Assistance Program offers up to $40,000 in down payment and closing cost assistance; the $2 million Joplin Homeowner's Rehabilitation Program offers up to $25,000 for home repairs; and finally the $2 million Demolition Program provides funding for the demolition of vacant structures that have been deemed dangerous.

BID PROCESS SUMMARY

The Planning, Development, and Neighborhood Services department issued Request for Proposal #2023-RFP-12 for Services related to the administration of the ARPA Community Revitalization Program. Despite documented outreach to solicit responses from disadvantaged businesses across several categories, a total of two organizations responded.

The interview team independently evaluated each organization's response to questions broadly categorized as: resource allocation, compliance, project timelines, and value add. The team graded each respondent, and the average score identified Alvarez & Marsal as the winning firm.

Negotiation conversations took place in December 2023 & January 2024 to increase the level of office hours and onsite assistance for the JHAP2 program. The original proposal was submitted to council for approval with the intention of requesting additional funding as needed to closeout the programs.

The increase of Amendment #3 in the amount of $265,978 for a total not to exceed contract value of $$799,588 is still below the cost of the other organization's proposal.

EXHIBITS

"Exhibit A" - Alvarez & Marsal Contract;
"Exhibit B" - Alvarez & Marsal October 20, 2023 & January 4, 2024 Proposals

FUNDING SOURCE

This item includes a budget amendment to utilize General Fund Use Tax proceeds.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of this council bill for additional Professional Administrative Support Services with Alvarez & Marsal on first reading.