resolution no. 07-243

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH DR. HUTCHINS FOR A TWO PHASE STUDY AS IT PERTAINS TO THE HIRING AND EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES OF COMPANIES THAT HAVE INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT AGREEMENTS WITH THE CITY OF PORT ARTHUR

WHEREAS, the City of Port Arthur has received a proposal from Dr. Hutchins as denoted in Exhibit "A"; and

whereas, the City Council deems it in the public interests of the citizens of the City of Port Arthur for the City to enter into an agreement with Dr. Hutchins to perform the two phase study as denoted in Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, this two phase study will pertain to the hiring and employment practices of companies that have Industrial District Agreements with the City of Port Arthur.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS:

- Section 1. That the facts and opinions in the preamble are true and correct.
- Section 2. That the City Council approves the usage of Dr. Hutchins for the two phase study as denoted in the attached Exhibit "A" for a not to exceed cost of \$7,500.
- Section 3. That Dr. Hutchins will sign the Resolution agreeing to the terms thereof.

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Section 4. That a copy of the caption of this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the City Council. READ, ADOPTED AND APPROVED on this day of A.D., 2007, at a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Port Arthur, Texas, by the following vote: AYES: Mayor Ortiz, Mayor Pro Tan Sinasa Q Councilmembers Chalman, Jones, Handarson Flood, Beard, Killiamson & Prince. NOES: NOPR ATTEST: APPROVED AS TO FORM: APPROVED FOR ADMINISTRATION:

APPROVED AS TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS:

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

AGREED TO:

DR. JANIS HUTCHIN

DATE:

EXHIBIT "A"



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Port Neches, Tx 77651
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409-984-6236 office 409-718-8111 mobile

May 14, 2007

RECEIVED MAY 1 5 2007

Mr. Stephen Fitzgibbons
City Manager
City of Port Arthur
444 Fourth Street
Port Arthur, TX 77641-1089

CRY MANAGER OFFICE

Dear Mr. Fitzgibbons:

As a result of the meeting on Friday with you, Councilman Sinegal, and City Attorney Sokolow, I understand that there is a shared concern among council members and council appointees that adequate evaluations of current tax abatement agreements are being hindered by a lack of information. Specifically, council members are not able to respond to concerns from Port Arthur residents regarding the employment process used by the companies that are benefiting from these agreements.

Initially, the study will focus on the following companies:

- Total
- Motiva
- BASF
- Chevron
- Valero
- Huntsman
- LNG-Exon

At this point, I see a two-phase project. At a minimum, the scope of the study will include the following during the first phase of the project:

- Review of the current tax abatement agreements
- Review of correspondence relating to the current agreements
- Interviews with representatives of each of the companies
- Interviews with City of Port Arthur officials and council members
- Examination of advertisements for construction and permanent jobs
- Review of employment records to include applications, pre-hire assessments, evaluations, and documentation relating to residency

From our discussions on Friday, I believe that your ultimate objective is to develop a process for capturing the data and reporting the results of each Port Arthur resident's application experience. Of course, each company must adhere to its internal policies for protecting the applicant's privacy. I believe that we may be able to develop a process to satisfy both the council's and each company's objectives. Reaching a consensus among the company representatives concerning this process, and the agreement on the forms to document and report the data will comprise the second phase of the project.

I estimate my charges to be \$75 per hour for each billable hour of work plus reasonable expenses, which include 44cents per mile for automobile travel. Within the current scope of the project as outlined above, I estimate the billable hours not to exceed 75 hours. However, this number may be revised if additional items or areas of concern are added to the scope.

Upon your response that this process meets the approval of council members, I will develop a consulting work plan and timetable for completion of key tasks and dates for status reports.

Sincerely,

Janis A. Hutchins, Ph.D., CPA