



City of Missoula, Montana
Item to be Referred to City Council Committee

Committee: Administration and Finance

Item: Legislative Lobbyist Contract 2021

Date: November 19, 2020

Sponsor(s): Dale Bickell

Prepared by: Jessica Miller

Ward(s) Affected:

<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 5
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 6
<input type="checkbox"/> All Wards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A

Action Required:

Consider a contract for lobbyist services in the 2021 legislative session.

Recommended Motion(s):

I move the City Council: Approve and authorize the mayor to sign a contract with John MacDonald Consulting, LLC, in the amount of \$32,000.

Timeline:

Referral to committee:	November 23, 2020
Committee discussion:	December 2, 2020
Council action (or sets hearing):	December 7, 2020
Public Hearing:	N/A
Deadline:	N/A

Background and Alternatives Explored:

John MacDonald was the City's lobbyist for the 2009, 2011, 2015, 2017, and 2019 legislative sessions. He has an excellent working relationship with both City staff and legislators and has advocated diligently and effectively for the City's interests. Private lobbyists were first used in 2007 with Helena-based lobby firms representing city interests since the 2009 Session. Prior to 2007, mayors, council members and key staff members acted as the primary lobbyists representing city interests. The City's political interests during the legislative sessions are often complex and adequate funding is critical to support city interests.

Financial Implications:

Lobbyist funding was approved in the FY21 budget.

Links to external websites: