

PROPOSED  
ORDINANCE NO. 25-17

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE  
TO BE ENTITLED:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 3-3-2 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA; CONTRACTS FOR PUBLIC WORK AND PURCHASES OF OTHER COMMODITIES AND SERVICES; LOWEST AND BEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER; REJECTION OF BIDS; APPROVAL OF COUNCIL AND MAYOR; EMERGENCY PURCHASES; REGULATING CONTRACTING AND PURCHASE OF LEGAL SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. Section 3-3-2 of the Code of the City of Pensacola, Florida, is hereby amended to read as follows:

(a) Definitions.

(1) Commodity means any of the various supplies, materials, equipment, goods, merchandise and all other personal property purchased, leased or otherwise contracted for by the city.

**(2) Services means all purchases other than commodities.**

**(3)** Invitation to bid means a written solicitation for sealed competitive bids with the title, date, and hour of the public bid opening designated and specifically defining the commodity, group of commodities or services for which bids are sought. It includes instructions prescribing all conditions for bidding and shall be distributed to all prospective bidders simultaneously. The invitation to bid is normally used when the city is capable of specifically defining the scope of work for which a contractual service is required or when the city is capable of establishing precise specifications defining the actual commodity or group of commodities required.

**(4)** Request for proposals means a written solicitation for sealed proposals with the title, date, and hour of the public opening designated. The request for proposals is normally used when it would be difficult for the city to specifically define the scope of work for which the commodity, group of commodities, or contractual service is required and when the city is requesting that a qualified vendor propose a commodity, group of commodities or contractual service to meet the needs of the city. A request for proposals should include, but is not limited to, general information, applicable laws and rules, functional or general specifications, statement of work, proposed instructions, and evaluation criteria. Requests for proposals should state the relative importance of price and any other evaluation criteria.

- (b) Purchases of commodities and services. The purchase of commodities and services that have been specifically adopted in the annual budget or appropriated by council may be contracted for or purchased by the mayor without further action of council. Subject to the authority granted in subsections (c) and (d), below, regarding tier one city certified small business enterprises, **and subject to the provisions of subsections (i), (j) and (k) below, regarding legal services,** the purchase of or contracting for commodities or services in an amount exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), that has not been specifically adopted in the annual budget or appropriated by council, must be approved by council prior to purchase or contract.
- (c) Public works and improvements. Any public work or improvement may be executed either by contract, or by direct labor, as may be determined by the council; if the cost does not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), or does not exceed one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) if contracting with a tier one city certified small business enterprise (SBE), the mayor may make the determination. Before authorizing the direct execution of any work or improvement costing more than twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), or one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) if contracting with a tier one city-certified small business enterprise (SBE), detailed plans and estimates shall be submitted to the council by the mayor unless the council does not require same. Contracts for public work in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), or one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) if contracting with a tier one city-certified small business enterprise (SBE), shall be signed by the mayor after approval thereof by the city council. When the invitation to bid procedure is utilized, contracts for all such works or improvements at an estimated cost in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), or one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) if contracting with a tier one city certified small business enterprise (SBE) or more shall be awarded to the lowest and best responsible bidder after such public advertisement and competition as may be prescribed by ordinance and there shall be a separate accounting for each work or improvement so executed. The mayor shall have the authority to reject all bids and advertise again. Contract advertisements shall contain a reservation of the foregoing right.
- (d) The mayor has the authority to award all contracts for the purchase of commodities and services with a value not in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), or one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) if contracting with a tier one city certified small business enterprise (SBE) without competitive bids. Whenever the purchase of commodities or services with an estimated cost in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), or one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) if contracting with a tier one city certified small business enterprise (SBE) is contemplated by the city, the council shall reserve the option to utilize the invitation to bid procedure, request for proposals, informal quotes or to authorize the mayor to negotiate, depending upon which alternative is deemed by the council to be in the best interest of the city.
- (e) The mayor has the authority to award all contracts for the purchase of commodities and services with a value not in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), or one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) if contracting with a tier one city certified small business enterprise (SBE) without competitive bids. Whenever the purchase of commodities or services with an estimated cost in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), or one-hundred thousand dollars

(\$100,000.00) if contracting with a tier one city certified small business enterprise (SBE) is contemplated by the city, the council shall reserve the option to utilize the invitation to bid procedure, request for proposals, informal quotes or to authorize the mayor to negotiate, depending upon which alternative is deemed by the council to be in the best interest of the city.

- (f) Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prevent the city from purchasing commodities and/or services under the provisions of state purchasing contracts pursuant to F.S. § 287.042(2), as the same may be amended from time to time, from vendors at federal contract prices, and from any vendor so long as purchases are at or below listed state/federal contract price; from contracts of other municipal governments or other governmental agencies or political subdivisions providing the vendor extends the same terms and conditions of the contract to the city; or from purchasing specialized items from sole source vendors without competitive bids.
- (g) The mayor is hereby authorized to enter into any contract for services or make purchases of commodities that do not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), or one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) if contracting with a tier one city certified small business enterprise (SBE), in any twelve-month period. The twelve-month period limitation applies to the purchase of commodities or services from a single vendor for the same project.
- (h) All purchases are subject to availability of funds in the city's budget.
- (i) **All purchases of legal services through private attorneys, law firms or any other entity shall meet the State of Florida competitive fee requirements and shall be approved by the city attorney. Local attorneys and law firms shall be considered first by the City Attorney; where no local attorneys or firms possess the required level of expertise, the City Attorney shall state such finding in writing prior to looking outside of the Pensacola area. All employees, staff, department heads, the Mayor or his designee, shall submit a request in writing to the City Attorney on a form to be approved by the city council which shall include:**
  - (i) **The nature of the legal services to be provided and the issues involved,**
  - (ii) **The reasons that private legal services are needed rather than those of the City Attorney,**
  - (iii) **The estimated number of hours for the work and the estimated total contract amount for the purchase of the legal services if known.**
- (j) **The City Attorney shall review all requests for outside legal services and shall acknowledge receipt of the request within 5 working days. The City Attorney shall maintain records of all such requests.**
- (k) **All contracts for purchases of outside legal services shall be in writing and shall be reviewed by the City Attorney. Such contracts shall be signed by the Mayor, and shall describe, among other things, the vendor, the type and scope of work, the fees to be charged and the department, office, division or other organizational unit of city government paying for the services.**

SECTION 2. If any word, phrase, clause, paragraph, section or provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid or unconstitutional, such finding shall not affect the other provisions or applications of the ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid or unconstitutional provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared severable.

SECTION 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect on the fifth business day after adoption, unless otherwise provided pursuant to Section 4.03(d) of the City Charter of the City of Pensacola.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
President of the City Council

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk