

**RESOLUTION NO. 012317-1**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH VARNEY AND ASSOCIATES, CPAS, LLC FOR FINANCIAL AUDITING SERVICES FOR YEAR-ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016**

**WHEREAS**, with the adoption of Resolution No. 032816-1, the City Commission approved a Professional Services Agreement with Varney and Associates, CPAs, LLC ("Consultant") for independent auditing services; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission desires to accept an Engagement Letter with Varney and Associates, CPAs, LLC ("Consultant") for the purposes of completing the financial audit for year-ending December 31, 2016.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Commission of the City of Abilene, as follows:

**SECTION ONE. Agreement.** That an Engagement Letter is hereby adopted as attached hereto as Exhibit A.

**SECTION TWO. Implementation.** The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the aforementioned Agreement, and the City Manager shall be authorized to enforce the provisions as provided therein and in applicable resolutions, ordinances, and laws.

**SECTION THREE. Effective Date.** That the effects of this Resolution shall be in full force after its approval by the City Commission.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the Governing Body of the City of Abilene, Kansas this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2016.



*Penny Soukup, CMC*  
Penny Soukup, CMC  
City Clerk

**CITY OF ABILENE, KANSAS**

By: *Dee Marshall*  
Dee Marshall, Mayor

**EXHIBIT A**

**Engagement Letter for Financial Auditing Services**

**January 23, 2017**



January 3, 2017

City of Abilene, Kansas  
PO Box 519  
Abilene, KS 67410

Dear Governing Body Members:

The following represents our understanding of the services we will provide the City of Abilene, Kansas.

You have requested that we audit the summary statement of receipts, expenditures, and unencumbered cash – regulatory basis of City of Abilene, Kansas (the City), as of December 31, 20156, and for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In addition, we will audit the City's compliance over major federal award programs for the period ended December 31, 2016, if required. We are pleased to confirm our acceptance and our understanding of this audit engagement by means of this letter. Our audits will be conducted with the objectives of our expressing an opinion on each opinion unit and an opinion on compliance regarding the City's major federal award programs.

Supplementary information other than required supplementary information (RSI) will accompany City of Abilene, Kansas's basic financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling the supplementary information to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. We intend to provide an opinion on the following supplementary information in relation to the financial statements as a whole:

- Schedule of expenditures – actual and budget (regulatory basis)
- Schedule of individual fund receipts and expenditures – actual and budget (regulatory basis)

#### **Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards**

We will subject the schedule of expenditures of federal awards to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling the schedule to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. We intend to provide an opinion on whether the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented fairly in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

#### **Data Collection Form**

Prior to the completion of our engagement, we will complete the sections of the Data Collection Form that are our responsibility. The form will summarize our audit findings, amounts and conclusions. It is management's responsibility to submit a reporting package including financial statements, schedule of expenditure of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings and corrective action plan along with the Data Collection Form to the federal audit clearinghouse. The financial reporting package must be text searchable, unencrypted, and unlocked. Otherwise, the reporting package will not be accepted by the federal audit clearinghouse. We will assist you in the electronic submission and certification. You may request from us copies of our report for you to include with the reporting package submitted to pass-through entities.

**Data Collection Form (continued)**

The Data Collection Form is required to be submitted within the *earlier* of 30 days after receipt of our auditors' reports or nine months after the end of the audit period, unless specifically waived by a federal cognizant or oversight agency for audits. Data Collection Forms submitted untimely are one of the factors in assessing programs at a higher risk.

**Audit of the Financial Statements**

We will conduct our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAS), the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of America; the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) in accordance with the *Kansas Municipal Audit and Accounting Guide* (KMAAG). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error, fraudulent financial reporting, misappropriation of assets, or violations of laws, governmental regulations, grant agreements, or contractual agreements. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, together with the inherent limitations of internal control, an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements or noncompliance may not be detected exists, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* of the Comptroller General of the United States of America and the KMAAG.

In making our risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the City's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the City's internal control. However, we will communicate to you in writing concerning any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control relevant to the audit of the financial statements that we have identified during the audit.

We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of City of Abilene, Kansas's basic financial statements. Our report will be addressed to the governing body of City of Abilene, Kansas. We cannot provide assurance that unmodified opinions will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinions, add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph(s), or withdraw from the engagement.

In accordance with the requirements of *Government Auditing Standards*, we will also issue a written report describing the scope of our testing over internal control over financial reporting and over compliance with laws, regulations, and provisions of grants and contracts, including the results of that testing. However, providing an opinion on internal control and compliance over financial reporting will not be an objective of the audit and, therefore, no such opinion will be expressed.

**Audit of Major Program Compliance**

Our audit of City of Abilene, Kansas's major federal award program(s) compliance will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Single Audit Act, as amended; and the Uniform Guidance, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major programs in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such an opinion on major federal award program compliance and to render the required reports. We cannot provide assurance that an unmodified opinion on

**Audit of Major Program Compliance (continued)**

compliance will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinion or withdraw from the engagement.

The Uniform Guidance requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the City has complied with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to major federal award programs. Our procedures will consist of determining major federal programs and performing the applicable procedures described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget *OMB Compliance Supplement* for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of the City's major programs. The purpose of those procedures will be to express an opinion on the City's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

Also, as required by the Uniform Guidance, we will perform tests of controls to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements applicable to each of the City's major federal award programs. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on these controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report.

We will issue a report on compliance that will include an opinion or disclaimer of opinion regarding the City's major federal award programs, and a report on internal controls over compliance that will report any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses identified; however, such report will not express an opinion on internal control.

**Management's Responsibilities**

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that management and, when appropriate, those charged with governance acknowledge and understand that they have responsibility:

1. For the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America;
2. For the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to error fraudulent financial reporting, misappropriation of assets, or violations of laws, governmental regulations, grant agreements, or contractual agreements;
3. For safeguarding assets;
4. For identifying all federal awards expended during the period including federal awards and funding increments received prior to December 26, 2014, and those received in accordance with the Uniform Guidance generally received after December 26, 2014;
5. For preparing the schedule of expenses of federal awards (including notes and noncash assistance received) in accordance with the Uniform Guidance requirements;
6. For the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control over compliance;
7. For identifying and ensuring that the City complies with laws, regulations, grants, and contracts applicable to its activities and its federal award programs;
8. For following up and taking corrective action on reported audit findings from prior periods and preparing a summary schedule of prior audit findings;
9. For following up and taking corrective action on current year audit findings and preparing a corrective action plan for such findings;
10. For submitting the reporting package and data collection form to the appropriate parties;

**Management's Responsibilities (continued)**

11. For making the auditor aware of any significant vendor relationships where the vendor is responsible for program compliance;
12. To provide us with:
  - a. Access to all information of which management is aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, and relevant to federal award programs, such as records, documentation, and other matters;
  - b. Additional information that we may request from management for the purpose of the audit; and
  - c. Unrestricted access to persons within the City from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
  - d. For adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the current year period(s) under audit are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole; and
  - e. For confirming your understanding of your responsibilities as defined in this letter to us in your management representation letter.

With regard to the supplementary information referred to above, you acknowledge and understand your responsibility (a) for the preparation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria, (b) to provide us with the appropriate written representations regarding supplementary information, (c) to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains the supplementary information and that indicates that we have reported on such supplementary information, and (d) to present the supplementary information with the audited financial statements, or if the supplementary information will not be presented with the audited financial statements, to make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date of issuance by you of the supplementary information and our report thereon.

As part of our audit process, we will request from management and, when appropriate, those charged with governance, written confirmation concerning representations made to us in connection with the audit.

We understand that your employees will prepare all confirmations we request and will locate any documents or invoices selected by us for testing.

If you intend to publish or otherwise reproduce the financial statements and make reference to our firm, you agree to provide us with printers' proofs or masters for our review and approval before printing. You also agree to provide us with a copy of the final reproduced material for our approval before it is distributed.

**Fees and Timing**

April G. Swartz, CPA, is the engagement partner for the audit services specified in this letter. Her responsibilities include supervising Varney & Associates, CPAs, LLC's services performed as part of this engagement and signing or authorizing another qualified firm representative to sign the audit report.

Our fees are based on the amount of time required at various levels of responsibility, plus actual out-of-pocket expenses, not exceeding \$13,000. In addition, we will bill an additional \$1,500 per major program for the Single Audit. We will notify you immediately of any circumstances we encounter that could significantly affect this initial fee estimate. Whenever possible, we will attempt to use City of Abilene, Kansas's personnel to assist in the preparation of schedules and analyses of accounts. This effort could substantially reduce our time requirements and facilitate the timely conclusion of the audit.

**Fees and Timing (continued)**

With respect to any nonattest services we perform, City of Abilene, Kansas 's management is responsible for (a) making all management decisions and performing all management functions; (b) assigning a competent individual to oversee the services; (c) evaluating the adequacy of the services performed; (d) evaluating and accepting responsibility for the results of the services performed; and (e) establishing and maintaining internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities.

**Other Matters**

During the course of the engagement, we may communicate with you or your personnel via fax or e-mail, and you should be aware that communication in those mediums contains a risk of misdirected or intercepted communications.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Varney & Associates, CPAs, LLC and constitutes confidential information. However, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to federal agencies and the U.S. Government Accountability Office pursuant to authority given to it by law or regulation, or to peer reviewers. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Varney & Associates, CPAs, LLC's personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to these agencies and regulators. The regulators and agencies may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies of information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies. We agree to retain our audit documentation or work papers for a period of at least five years from the date of our report.

Further, we will be available during the year to consult with you on financial management and accounting matters of a routine nature.

During the course of the audit, we may observe opportunities for economy in, or improved controls over, your operations. We will bring such matters to the attention of the appropriate level of management, either orally or in writing.

We agree to retain our audit documentation or work papers for a period of at least five years from the date of our report.

At the conclusion of our audit engagement, we will communicate to the governing body the following significant findings from the audit:

- Our view about the qualitative aspects of the City's significant accounting practices;
- Significant difficulties, if any, encountered during the audit;
- Uncorrected misstatements, other than those we believe are trivial, if any;
- Disagreements with management, if any;
- Other findings or issues, if any, arising from the audit that are, in our professional judgment, significant and relevant to those charged with governance regarding their oversight of the financial reporting process;
- Material, corrected misstatements that were brought to the attention of management as a result of our audit procedures;
- Representations we requested from management;
- Management's consultations with other accountants, if any; and
- Significant issues, if any, arising from the audit that were discussed, or the subject of correspondence, with management.

In accordance with the requirements of *Government Auditing Standards*, we have attached a copy of our latest external peer review report of our firm for your consideration and files.

January 3, 2017  
City of Abilene, Kansas  
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Please sign and return the attached copy of this letter to indicate your acknowledgment of, and agreement with, the arrangements for our audit of the financial statements compliance over major federal award programs including our respective responsibilities.

We appreciate the opportunity to be your financial statement auditors and look forward to working with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

*Varney & Associates, CPAs*

Certified Public Accountants

Encls. (as noted)

**RESPONSE:**

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of City of Abilene, Kansas

Acknowledged and agreed on behalf of City of Abilene, Kansas by:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Alan Marshall*

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

*Mayor*

**HAY·RICE & ASSOCIATES**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

CHARTERED

LIBERAL  
J.H. HAY, CPA  
STEPHEN G. RICE, CPA  
CRAIG HAY, CPA  
DUSTIN ORMISTON, CPA  
RODNEY K. HAY, CPA

21 PLAZA DRIVE  
P.O. BOX 2707  
LIBERAL, KS 67905-2707  
(620) 624-8471  
FAX (620) 624-9260  
HRA@hayrice.com

**System Review Report**

August 20, 2014

To the Owners  
Varney & Associates, CPA's, LLC  
and the Peer Review Committee of the  
Kansas Society of Certified Public Accountants

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Varney & Associates, CPA's, LLC (the firm) in effect for the year ended June 30, 2014. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. As a part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of procedures. The firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review. The nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review are described in the standards at [www.aicpa.org/prsummary](http://www.aicpa.org/prsummary).

As required by the standards, engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*; audits of employee benefit plans, and audits performed under FDICIA, and examinations of service organizations [Service Organizations Control (SOC) 1 engagements].

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Varney & Associates, CPA's, LLC, in effect for the year ended June 30, 2014, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)* or *fail*. Varney & Associates, CPA's, LLC has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

*Hay·Rice & Associates, Chartered*

Hay·Rice & Associates, Chartered