

77 Main Street
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mayor@villageofwarwick.org
clerk@villageofwarwick.org

VILLAGE OF WARWICK

INCORPORATED 1867

FY25-26 LEGAL COUNSEL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Village of Warwick, New York

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that proposals are sought and requested by the Village of Warwick to provide Legal Counsel to the Village of Warwick Board of Trustees for FY2025-26. Proposals will be received by the Village Clerk electronically at clerk@villageofwarwick.org until 11:00 AM (local time) on December 20, 2024, for "Legal Counsel for FY25-26."

The Request for Proposal is available from the Village Clerk at Village Hall, 77 Main Street, PO Box 369, Warwick, NY, or by contacting clerk@villageofwarwick.org. The Clerk may also be reached at (845) 986-2031 ext. 3. Questions are to be directed in writing to the Village Clerk at the above email, and all questions must be received by December 10, 2024.

All bidding shall be subject to the provisions of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, as amended, and the Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept a proposal that it considers to be in the best interest of the Village of Warwick.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF WARWICK, NEW YORK
RAINA ABRAMSON, VILLAGE CLERK
DATE: November 15, 2024

Village of Warwick, NY

Request for Proposals (RFP) - Legal Counsel for FY2025-26

Issue Date: November 15, 2024

Proposal Due Date: December 20, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

Contact Information: Village Clerk, Raina Abramson

clerk@villageofwarwick.org

(845) 986-2031 ext. 102

I. Introduction and Overview

The Village of Warwick, NY is seeking proposals from qualified legal professionals or firms to provide legal counsel services to the Mayor and Village Board of Trustees for FY2025-26 (June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026). The scope of services will encompass a wide range of legal matters pertinent to the operations and governance of the village.

II. Scope of Services

The selected legal counsel will be expected to provide the following services:

- General legal advice and representation on municipal matters.
- Attendance at Village Board meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. to provide legal guidance as needed.
- Review of Village Board agendas for the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.
- Draft and review ordinances, resolutions, agreements, and other legal documents.
- Advise on compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- Represent the Village in litigation and administrative proceedings.

III. Submission Requirements

Interested parties should submit a proposal that includes the following:

- Cover letter expressing interest in providing legal counsel services to the Village of Warwick.
- Detailed description of the firm or individual's qualifications, including relevant experience and expertise in municipal law.
- Resumes of key personnel who will be involved in providing services to the Village.
- References from similar clients or municipalities.
- Fee structure and billing practices, including hourly rates and any retainer requirements.
- Statement of Non-Collusion: Signed & Notarized 'Statement of Non-Collusion by Bidder' as required in **Appendix B** 'General Instructions for Proposals'.
- Hold Harmless Agreement: Signed and Notarized 'Hold Harmless Agreement' as required in **Appendix B** 'General Instructions for Proposals'.

IV. Insurance Requirements

The selected firm must complete the attached 'Insurance Agreement – Professional Consultants' and provide evidence of insurance coverage as listed in **Appendix A**.

V. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Experience and qualifications of the firm or individual.
- Understanding of municipal law and relevant legal issues.
- Quality and clarity of the proposal.
- References from previous clients.
- Proposed fee structure and overall cost-effectiveness.

VI. Submission Instructions and Deadline

Submit proposals electronically by December 20, 2024, at 11:00 a.m., addressed to Village Clerk, Raina Abramson, at clerk@villageofwarwick.org.

VII. Terms and Conditions

The Village of Warwick reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive any irregularities, and to accept the proposal deemed to be in the best interest of the Village. The issuance of this RFP does not obligate the Village to award a contract or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a proposal in response to this RFP.

For questions or further information, please contact:

Village Clerk, Raina Abramson
Email: clerk@villageofwarwick.org
Phone: (845) 986-2031 ext. 102

APPENDIX A

**VILLAGE OF WARWICK PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT
INSURANCE AGREEMENT**

**INSURANCE AGREEMENT - PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANTS
BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF WARWICK
AND**

Agreement made this _____ day of _____, 202____, by and between the Village Board of the Village of Warwick, NY, a municipal corporation with its principal offices at 77 Main Street, Warwick, NY 10990 (hereinafter the "Municipality") and _____ with its principal offices at _____ (hereinafter "Consultant"), upon the following terms and conditions:

1. Notwithstanding any terms, conditions or provisions, in any other writing between the parties, the consultant hereby agrees to effectuate the naming of the Municipality as an additional insured on the consultant's insurance policies, with the exception of workers' compensation, N.Y. State Disability and professional liability insurance. If the policy is written on a claims-made basis, the retroactive date must precede the date of the contract
2. The policy naming the Municipality as an additional insured shall:
 - a. Purchase an insurance policy from an A.M. Best rated "Secure" insurer, licensed in New York State. A New York State licensed insurer is preferred. The decision to accept specific insurers lies exclusively with the Municipality.
 - b. State that the organization's coverage shall be primary and non-contributory coverage for the Municipality, its Board, employees and volunteers.
 - c. The Municipality shall be listed as an additional insured by using endorsement CG 2026 or equivalent. A completed copy of the endorsement must be attached to the certificate of insurance.
3.
 - a. The certificate of insurance must describe the specific services provided by the contractor (e.g., auditing, information technology consulting) that are covered by the commercial general liability policy and the umbrella policy.
 - b. At the Municipality's request, the contractor shall provide a copy of the declaration page of the liability policies with a list of endorsements and forms. If so requested, the contractor will provide a copy of the policy endorsements and forms.
4. The consultant agrees to indemnify the Municipality for any applicable deductibles and self-insured retentions.
5. Required Insurance:
 - a. **Commercial General Liability Insurance**
\$1,000,000 per occurrence/ \$2,000,000 aggregate.
 - b. **Workers' Compensation and N.Y.S. Disability**
Statutory Workers' Compensation, Employers' Liability and N.Y.S. Disability Benefits Insurance for all employees. Proof of coverage must be on the approved specific form, as required by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board. ACORD certificates are not acceptable.

A self-employed person and certain partners and corporate officers are excluded from the definition of "employee" pursuant to Workers' Compensation Law Section 2 (4). As such, individuals in such capacity are excluded from Workers' Compensation Law coverage requirements. A person seeking an exemption must file a CE-200 form with the state. The form may be completed and submitted online: http://www.wcb.state.ny.us/content/ebiz/wc_db_exemptions/requestExemptionOverview.jsp

c. **Professional Errors and Omissions Insurance**

\$2,000,000 per occurrence/ \$2,000,000 aggregate for the professional acts of the consultant performed under the contract for the Municipality. If written on a "claims-made" basis, the retroactive date must pre-date the inception of the contract or agreement. Coverage shall remain in effect for two years following the completion of work.

d. **Excess Insurance**

\$_____ each occurrence and aggregate. Excess coverage shall be on a follow-form basis.

6. Consultant acknowledges that failure to obtain such insurance on behalf of the Municipality constitutes a material breach of contract. The consultant is to provide the Municipality with a certificate of insurance, evidencing the above requirements have been met, prior to the commencement of work or use of facilities. The failure of the Municipality to object to the contents of the certificate or the absence of same shall not be deemed a waiver of any and all rights held by the Municipality.
7. The Municipality is a member/owner of the NY Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR). The consultant further acknowledges that the procurement of such insurance as required herein is intended to benefit not only the Municipality but also the NYMIR, as the Municipality's insurer.

Accepted By:

_____:

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Village of Warwick:

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

APPENDIX B

**VILLAGE OF WARWICK GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSALS, STATEMENT OF NON-COLLUSION BY
BIDDER & HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

VILLAGE OF WARWICK

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSALS

Contractors will be bound to the conditions and requirements set forth in these general instructions, and such instructions shall form an integral part of each contract awarded by the Village of Warwick.

PROPOSALS

1. The deadline to submit proposals will be given in the Request for Proposals.
2. All proposals must be submitted in accordance with the instructions provided by the Village of Warwick.
3. All proposals received after the time stated in the Request for Proposals will not be considered and will be returned unopened to the contractor. The contractor assumes the risk of any delay in the mail or in the handling of the mail by the employees of the Village. Whether sent by mail or by means of personal delivery, the contractor assumes responsibility for having his proposal deposited on time at the place specified.
4. All information required by the Request for Proposals, the General and Special Instructions, and the Proposal Form must be given to constitute a proposal.
5. The submission of a proposal will be construed to mean that the contractor is fully informed as to the extent and character of the supplies, materials, or equipment's required and a representation that the contractor can furnish the supplies, materials, or equipment satisfactorily in complete compliance with the specifications.
6. No alteration, erasure, or addition is to be made in the typewritten or printed matter. Deviations from the specifications must be set forth in space provided in the proposal for this purpose.
7. Prices and information required must be legible. Illegible or vague proposals may be rejected. All signatures must be written. Facsimile, printed, or typewritten signatures are not acceptable.
8. No charge will be allowed for federal, state, or municipal sales and excise taxes since the Village is exempt from such taxes. The price proposal shall be net and shall not include the amount of any tax.
9. The contractor's attention is directed to the fact that all applicable Federal and State laws, municipal ordinances, and the rules and regulations of all authorities having jurisdiction over the project shall apply to the contract throughout, and they will be deemed to be included in the contract the same as though herein written out in full.
10. Each envelope containing a Proposal must bear on the outside, the name and address of the Contractor, and the name of the project for which the Proposal is submitted. If forward by mail, the sealed envelope containing the Proposal must be enclosed in another envelope addressed as specified above.

11. No interpretations of the meaning of the drawings, specifications or others proposal documents will be made to any contractor orally. Every request for such interpretation should be in writing addressed to the Village of Warwick and to be given consideration must be received at least five (5) working days prior to the date fixed for the opening of proposals. Any and all such interpretations and any supplemental instructions will be in the form of written addenda to the specifications which, if issued, will be sent to all prospective contractors (at the respective addresses furnished for such purposes) not later than three working days prior to the date fixed for the opening of proposals. Failure of any contractor to receive any such addendum or interpretation shall not relieve such contractor from any obligation under his proposal as submitted. All addenda so issued shall become part of the contract documents.
12. If the supplies, materials, or equipment are to be delivered over an extended period of time or if the specifications so state, then the successful contractor may be required to execute an agreement in relation to the performance of his/her contract. If the specifications so state, the successful contractor may be required to furnish a performance bond equal to the full amount of the contract to guarantee the faithful performance of such contract. Such performance bond shall be maintained in full force and effect until the contract shall have been fully performed. The surety company furnishing such performance bond shall be authorized to do business in the State of New York and must be satisfactory to the Village of Warwick.
13. All contractors are required to execute a non-collusion certificate pursuant to Section 103 of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York.
14. The contractor agrees to abide by the requirements under Executive Order No. 11246, as amended, including specifically, the provisions of the equal opportunity clause.

INSURANCE

15. Notwithstanding any terms, conditions or provisions, in any other writing between the parties, the contractor/permittee hereby agrees to effectuate the naming of the Village of Warwick as an unrestricted additional insured on the contractor's insurance policies, with the exception of workers' compensation. If the contractor is self-insured, evidence of its status as a self-insured entity shall be provided to municipality. If requested, the contractor must describe its financial condition and the self-insured funding mechanism.
16. The policy naming the municipality as an additional insured shall:
 - a. Be an insurance policy from an A.M. Best rated "secure" insurer, authorized to write business in New York State.
 - b. Contain a 30-day notice of cancellation.
 - c. State that the organization's coverage shall be primary coverage for the Municipality, its Board, employees and volunteers.
 - d. The municipality shall be listed as an additional insured by using endorsement CG 2010 10 85 or equivalent. The certificate must state that this endorsement is being used. If another endorsement is used, a copy shall be included with the certificate of insurance.

- e. The certificate of insurance must describe the specific services provided by the contractor (e.g., roofing, carpentry, plumbing, etc.) that are covered by the commercial general liability policy and the umbrella policy.
 - f. At the Municipality's request, the contractor shall provide a copy of the declaration page of the liability and umbrella policies with a list of endorsements and forms. If so requested, the contractor will provide a copy of the policy endorsements and forms.
17. The contractor/permittee agrees to indemnify the municipality for any applicable deductibles.
18. Required Insurance:
- a. **Commercial General Liability Insurance**
 - i. \$1,000,000 per occurrence/ \$2,000,000 Products/completed operations aggregate and
 - ii. \$2,000,000 general aggregate. The general aggregate is to apply on a per project basis
 - iii. Policy to include full contractual liability coverage.
 - b. **Automobile Liability**
 - i. \$1,000,000 combined single limit for owned, hired and borrowed and non-owned motor vehicles.
 - c. **Excess/Umbrella Insurance**
 - i. \$1,000,000; \$3,000,000; \$5,000,000 each Occurrence and Aggregate depending on the type and size of the project.
 - d. **Workers' Compensation and N.Y.S. Disability**
 - i. Statutory Workers' Compensation, Employers' Liability and N.Y.S. Disability Benefits Insurance for all employees. Proof of coverage must be on the approved specific form, as required by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board. ACORD certificates are not acceptable.
 - e. **Environmental Contractors Liability Insurance & Pollution Liability**
 - i. With coverage for the services rendered for the municipality, including, but not limited to removal, replacement enclosure, encapsulation and/or disposal of hazardous materials, along with any related pollution events, including coverage for third-party liability claims for bodily injury, property damage and clean-up costs. \$2,000,000 per occurrence/\$2,000,000, including products and completed operations. If a retroactive date is used, it must pre-date the inception of the contract. If the contractor is using motor vehicles to be used for transporting hazardous materials, the Contractor shall provide pollution liability broadened coverage (ISO endorsement CA 9948 or equivalent) as well as proof of MCS 90.

- f. **Owners Contractors Protective Insurance** (Required for large construction projects.)
 - i. \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$2,000,000 aggregate; the Municipality as the named insured.

- g. **Bid, Performance and Labor & Material Bonds**

- i. If required in the specifications, these bonds shall be provided by a New York State admitted surety company, in good standing.

- 19. Contractor acknowledges that failure to obtain such insurance on behalf of the municipality constitutes a material breach of contract. The contractor/permittee is to provide the municipality with a certificate of insurance, evidencing the above requirements have been met, prior to the commencement of work or use of facilities. The failure of the municipality to object to the contents of the certificate or the absence of same shall not be deemed a waiver of any and all rights held by the municipality.
- 20. The municipality is a member/owner of the NY Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR). The contractor further acknowledges that the procurement of such insurance as required herein is intended to benefit not only the municipality but also the NYMIR, as the municipality's insurer

LABOR STANDARDS

- 21. The wages to be paid by the contractor shall be not less than the prevailing rate of wages as defined by the New York State Department of Labor. No employee shall be deemed to be an apprentice unless he is individually registered in an apprenticeship program which is duly registered with the commissioner of labor.
- 22. The contractor shall maintain documentation which demonstrates compliance with hour and wage requirements. Such documentation shall be submitted to the Village for review.
- 23. In the hiring of employees for the performance of work under this contract or subcontract hereunder, neither the contractor or any subcontractor, shall by reason of race or color discriminate against any citizen of the State of New York who is qualified and available to perform the work to which the employment relates, nor shall the contractor, any subcontractor, or any person acting on behalf of the contractor or subcontractor discriminate in any manner against or intimidate any employee hired for the performance of work under this contract on account of age, race, creed, color, national origin or sex, in accordance with Executive Law 296, Sections 20 through 23.

AWARDS

- 24. Award will be made to the lowest responsible contractor, as will best promote the public interest, taking into consideration the reliability of the contractor, the quality of the materials, equipment, or supplies to be furnished, their conformity with the specifications, the purpose of which is required, and the terms of delivery.
- 25. The Village of Warwick reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. The Village may consider informal any Proposal not prepared and submitted in accordance with the provisions hereof.

Also reserved is the right to reject, for cause, any proposal in whole or part; to waive any informalities, technicalities, qualifications, irregularities, and omissions if in its judgment the best interests of the Village will be served.

26. Any Proposal may be withdrawn prior to the above scheduled time for the opening of the Proposals or authorized postponements thereof. No Contractor may withdraw a Proposal within 45 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

CONTRACTS

27. A contract shall bind the successful contractor on his part to furnish and deliver at the prices and in accordance with the conditions of this proposal. Contract shall bind the Village on its part to order from the successful contractor and to pay at the contract prices, unless otherwise specified.
28. The placing in the mail of a notice of award to the successful contractor, to the address given in his proposal, will be considered sufficient notice of acceptance of this proposal.
29. A contract may be cancelled for non-performance.
30. No items are to be shipped or delivered until receipt of an official purchase order from the Village of Warwick.
31. It is mutually understood and agreed that the successful contractor shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet or otherwise dispose of the contract of his/her right, title or interest therein, or his power to execute such contract, to any other person, company or corporation, without the previous written consent of the Village of Warwick.

INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT

32. All equipment will be purchased at the discretion of the Village of Warwick.
33. The successful contractor shall clean up and remove all debris and rubbish resulting from his/her work from time to time as required or directed. Upon completion of the work the premise shall be left in neat, unobstructed condition, and the building room cleaned, and everything in perfect repair order. Materials are the property of the successful contractor unless otherwise specified.
34. Equipment, supplies, and materials shall be stored at the site only on the approval of the Village and at the successful contractor's risk. In general, on-site storage should be avoided to prevent possible damage or loss of materials.
35. Work shall be progressed so as to cause the least inconvenience to the Village and with proper consideration for the rights of other successful contractors or workmen. The successful contractor shall keep in touch with the entire operation and install his work promptly.
36. Contractors shall acquaint themselves with conditions found at the site and shall assume all responsibility for placing and installing the equipment in locations required.

GUARANTEES BY THE SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR

37. The successful contractor guarantees:

- a. His/her products against defective material or workmanship and to repair or replace any damages or marring occasioned in transit,
- b. To furnish adequate protection from damage for all work and to repair damages of any kind for which he/she or his/her workmen are responsible, to the building or equipment, to his/her own work, or to the work of other successful contractors or workmen,
- c. To carry adequate insurance to protect the Village from loss in case of accident, fire, theft, etc.,
- d. The equipment or materials delivered is standard, new, latest model, or regular stock product or as required by the specifications, also that no attachment or part has been substituted or applied contrary to the manufacturer's recommendations and standard practice,
- e. Any merchandise provided the contract, which is or becomes defective during the guarantee period, shall be replaced by the successful contractor free of charge with the specific understanding that all replacements shall carry the same guarantee as the original equipment. The successful contractor shall make any replacement immediately upon receiving notice from the Village.

38. The successful contractor shall not be held responsible for any delays by wars, acts of public enemies, strikes, floods, fires, act of God, or for any other acts not within the control of the successful contractor and which by the exercise of reasonable diligence he/she is unable to prevent.

PAYMENTS

39. Payment will be made only after correct presentation of Vouchers and/or invoices as may be required.

40. Payments of any claim shall not preclude the Village from making claim for adjustment of any item found to not have been in accordance with the specifications.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

41. By submission of this bid, each bidder and each person signing on behalf of any bidder certifies, and in the case of a joint bid, each party thereto certifies as to its own organization, under penalty of perjury, that the bidder has and has implemented a written policy addressing sexual harassment prevention in the workplace and provides annual sexual harassment prevention training to all its employees. Such policy shall, at minimum, meet the requirements of Section 201-G of the New York State Labor Law.

**STATEMENT OF NON-COLLUSION BY BIDDER
PURSUANT TO SECTION 103-D
GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW**

PROJECT TITLE: _____

I, _____ of the (Town, Village, City) of _____ in the County of _____ and the State of _____ of full age, being duly sworn according to law on my oath depose and say that:

I am _____, an officer of the firm of _____ the bidder making the Proposal for the above named work, and that I executed the said Proposal with full authority to do so; that said bidder has not, directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise in connection with the above named work; and that all statements contained in said Proposal and in this affidavit are true and correct, and made with the full knowledge that Village of Warwick as Owner relies upon the truth of the statements contained in said Proposal and in the statements contained in this affidavit in awarding the contract for said work.

The prices in this bid have been arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communication, or agreement for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices with any bidder, with any competitor;

Unless otherwise require by law, the prices which have been quoted in this bid have not been knowingly disclosed by the bidder, and will not knowingly be disclosed by the bidder prior to opening, directly or indirectly, to any other bidder or to any competitor;

No attempt has been made or will be made by the bidder to induce any other person, partnership or corporation to submit or not to submit a bid for the purpose of restricting competition;

I further warrant that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure such contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except bonafide employees or bonafide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by _____.

(Name of Contractor)

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Sworn to me this _____ day of _____, 20____

Notary Public

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

(This form must be signed and notarized – submit with proposal)

It is hereby agreed and understood that the Contractor agrees to hold harmless and indemnify the Village of Warwick, or any officer, agent, servant, or employee of the Village of Warwick from and against any and all liability, loss, damage, claim or action, to the extent permissible by law, arising out of operations performed or services provided by the Contractor under the contract or which may arise out of:

1. Any injury to person or property sustained by the Contractor, its agents, servants, or employees of by any person, firm, or corporation employed directly or indirectly by them upon or in connection with their performance under the contract, however caused;
2. Any injury to person or property sustained by any person, firm, or corporation, caused by any act, default, error or omission of the Contractor, its agents, servants, or employees or any person, firm, or corporation employed directly or indirectly by them upon or in connection with their performance under the contract.

The assumption of indemnity, liability and loss hereunder shall survive the Contractor's completion of service or other performance hereunder and any termination of this contract.

The contractor at its own expense and risk shall defend any legal proceedings that may be brought against the Village of Warwick or any officer, agent, servant, or employee of the Village of Warwick on any claim or demand, and shall satisfy any judgment that may be rendered against the Village of Warwick or any officer, agent, servant, or employee of the Village of Warwick.

This Indemnification, Defense, and Hold Harmless Agreement shall apply to any lawsuit, action, proceeding, liability, judgment, claim, or demand, of whatever name or nature, notwithstanding that Contractor may deem the same to be frivolous or without merit. It is intended that this Agreement be interpreted in the broadest manner possible so as to insulate all of the entities, parties, and individuals named above from any liability, cost, or judgment, monetary or otherwise, as the same may relate to the personnel and services provided by the Contractor.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Sworn to me this _____ day of _____, 20____

Notary Public