



City of Naples

City Council Chamber
735 Eighth Street South
Naples, Florida 34102

Auditor Selection Committee Meeting – May 7, 2026 – 2:02 p.m.

It is noted for the record that all documentation electronically appended hereto is also contained in the file for this meeting with the City Clerk's Office.

1) Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Ted Blankenship, Chair

Daniel Barone

Joseph Murray

Staff Members Present:

Stefan Massol, Finance Director

Somer Adams, Bids and Grants Coordinator

Felix Gomez, Procurement and Contracts Mgr

Ali Duran, Executive Assistant

Others Present:

Mohamed Shalambad Malik

2) Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Mayor Blankenship led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) Public Comment

Mohamed Shalambad Malik expressed concern that individuals incarcerated for probation violations were not being treated equally, noting that some detainees were eligible for release on bond while others were not. He requested guidance regarding the equal application of release options for all detainees. Chair Blankenship directed Mr. Malik to the City Manager and indicated that his comments would be forwarded to the City Attorney and City Manager for review.

It is noted for the record that Items 4 and 5 were discussed concurrently.

4) Review and Evaluation of Proposals

4.A) Review of Proposals Received for RFP 26-021

4.B) Discussion of Committee Scoring Sheets for RFP 26-021

4.C) Make Recommendations of Award (if possible) or Select Finalists for Subsequent Interviews

5) Draft Finalist Interview Questions (if necessary) and Confirm or Cancel Future Meeting Date of May 11, 2026.

Procurement and Contracts Manager Felix Gomez provided an overview of the procedure for evaluating the proposals and the options in moving forward with interviewing and/or sending a recommendation to City Council; the Committee agreed to interview the top three candidates. Members discussed how they reviewed and rated the proposals. The top four firms in no ranking order for each Member were as follows:

Members Barone and Murray:

CliftonLarsonAllen

Forvis Mazars

Maudlin & Jenkins

Purvis Gray & Company

Chair Blankenship:

Cherry Beckaert

CBIZ

CliftonLarsonAllen

Purvis Gray & Company

Responding to questions, Finance Director Stefan Massol stated that the selected firm would also audit the Community Redevelopment Agency and conduct a single audit (subpart F audit) relating to the grants the City had received. Members then provided the scoring sheets, and the ranking was as follows.

1. CliftonLarsonAllen
2. Purvis Gray & Company
3. Forvis Mazars
4. Mauldin & Jenkins
5. Cherry Bekaert
6. (Tie) CBIZ and Carr, Riggs & Ingram
8. (Tie) Citrin Cooperman and HBK

Chair Blankenship expressed concern regarding a potential conflict of interest involving Forvis Mazars, noting that the City was engaged in litigation with the Naples Airport Authority at that time and that the Authority was listed as a client of the firm. Members decided that they would like to interview the top three firms. At the direction of Procurement and Contracts Manager Gomez, Members confirmed that their scoring sheets were correct.

Members discussed information they would like to obtain during the interviews, including how each firm would tailor its audit approach to the City, the specific use of artificial intelligence in the auditing process, examples of management letter comments provided to other clients that contributed to operational improvements, and a list of the firm's employees who would be assigned to conduct the audit, along with the amount of time each employee would be dedicated to the audit process. The Committee agreed to limit presentations to 30 minutes.

MOTION by Blankenship to INVITE the attendance of CliftonLarsonAllen, Purvis Gray & Company, and Forvis Mazars to the May 11, 2026 Auditor Selection Committee Meeting to be interviewed; seconded by Barone and unanimously carried all Members present and voting (Barone-yes, Murray-yes, Blankenship-yes).

[26-021 Individual Scoring Sheets](#) 

6) Adjourn

3:02 p.m.

Ted Blankenship, Chair

Patricia L. Rambosk, City Clerk

Minutes prepared by:

Ali Duran, Executive Assistant

Minutes Approved: _____.