STATE OF GEORGIA
HENRY COUNTY
CITY OF STOCKBRIDGE

RESOLUTION NO. R17-786

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE CITY AUDITOR FOR THE 2016 FISCAL YEAR; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR MAYOR PRO TEM TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE PURPOSE OF THIS RESOLUTION; AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST SIGNATURES AND AFFIX THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE CITY, AS NECESSARY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS RESOLUTION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, The City of Stockbridge ("City") is a municipal corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia and is charged with providing public services to residents located within the corporate limits of the City;

WHEREAS, Section 6.29 of the City Charter provides that there shall be an annual independent audit of all city accounts and financial transactions by a certified public accountant selected by the City Council;

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that accountants at the accounting firm of Mauldin & Jenkins are certified public accountants and capable of providing an audit of the City's accounts and financial transactions;

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to appoint the independent accounting firm of **Mauldin & Jenkins** as the City Auditor for the 2016 Fiscal Year; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the foregoing appointment is necessary and beneficial to its citizens and to the efficient operation of the City.

THEREFORE, IT IS NOW RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STOCKBRIDGE GEORGIA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. **Appointment** - The City Council hereby appoints Mauldin & Jenkins as the City Auditor for the 2016 Fiscal Year.

SECTION 2. **Approval of Execution** - The Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem is hereby authorized to sign all documents and to perform all other necessary acts necessary to effectuate this Resolution on behalf of the City of Stockbridge. The City Clerk is authorized to execute, attest to, and seal any document which may be necessary to effectuate this Resolution.

SECTION 3. **Severability** - To the extent any portion of this Resolution is declared to be invalid, unenforceable, or non-binding, that shall not affect the remaining portions of this Resolution.

SECTION 4. **Repeal of Conflicting Provisions** – All City Resolutions inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. **Effective Date**. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Stockbridge as provided in the City Charter.

SO RESOLVED this 31st day of January, 2017.

JUDY NEAL, Mayor

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

VANESSA HOLIDAY, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MICHAEL WILLIAMS, City Attorney

MAULDIN & JENKINS

December 30, 2016

Honorable Mayor and Members of the
City Council and City Administrator
City of Stockbridge, Georgia
4640 North Henry Boulevard
Stockbridge, Georgia 30281

Attn: Michael Harris, City Manager

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide the City of Stockbridge, Georgia (the City) for the year ended December 31, 2016. We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, including the notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements, of the City of Stockbridge, Georgia as of and for the year then ended. These statements will include the budgetary comparison information for the General Fund. Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States of America provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to supplement the City's basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to the City's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by generally accepted accounting principles and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

1. Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A).
2. Schedule of Changes in the City's Net Pension Liability and Related Ratios
3. Schedule of City Contributions – Pension Plan

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information other than RSI that accompanies the City's financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the

financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole:

1. Schedule of Projects Constructed with Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Proceeds.
2. Combining and individual fund statements

Audit Objectives

The objective of our audit is the expression of opinions as to whether your basic financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and to report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and will include tests of the accounting records of the City of Stockbridge, Georgia and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the City's financial statements. Our report will be addressed to the Members of the City Council for the City of Stockbridge, Georgia. We cannot provide assurance that unmodified opinions will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinions or add emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraphs. If our opinions on the financial statements are other than unmodified, we will fully discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or to issue reports, or may withdraw from this engagement.

We will also provide a report (that does not include an opinion) on internal control related to the financial statements and compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements as required by *Government Auditing Standards.* The report on internal control and on compliance and other matters will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, and that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control over financial reporting and compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

If during our audit we become aware that the City is subject to an audit requirement that is not encompassed in the terms of this engagement, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance that an audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* may not satisfy the relevant legal, regulatory, or contractual requirements.

Management Responsibilities
Management is responsible for the basic financial statements and all accompanying information as well as all representations contained therein.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, including evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities, to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; following laws and regulations; and ensuring that management and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; and for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and all necessary accompanying information in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements.

Management is also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

Your responsibilities also include identifying significant vendor relationships in which the vendor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the written representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the entity complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants and for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud, and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts or grant agreements, or abuse that we report.

You are responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that

includes our report thereon or make the audited financial statements readily available to users of the supplementary information no later than the date the supplementary information is issued with our report thereon.. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes): and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying and providing report copies of previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions, for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on your website, you understand that electronic sites are a means to distribute information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in these sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities relating to the financial statements and related notes and any other nonaudit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements and related notes and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. You agree to oversee the nonaudit services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.

Audit Procedures—General

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. 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. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or

employees acting on behalf of the entity. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

Because of the inherent limitation of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*.. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors and any fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform you of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential, and of any material abuse that comes to our attention. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about your responsibilities for the financial statements; compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and other responsibilities required by generally accepted auditing standards.

Audit Procedures—Internal Controls

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the entity and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards.*

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards and *Government Auditing Standards*.

Audit Procedures—Compliance
As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of City of Stockbridge, Georgia's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. However, the objective of our audit will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

Other Services
We will also assist in preparing the financial statements and related notes of the City in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles based on information provided by you. These nonaudit services do not constitute an audit under *Government Auditing Standards* and such services will not be conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Audit Administration, Fees, and Other
We understand that your employees will prepare all cash or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

We will provide copies of our reports to the City of Stockbridge, Georgia; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing privileged and confidential information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Mauldin & Jenkins and constitutes confidential information. However, pursuant to authority given by law or regulation, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Mauldin & Jenkins personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of five years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by a regulatory body. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

We expect to begin our audit on approximately March 6, 2017 and to issue our reports no later than June 30, 2017. Miller G. Edwards is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the reports or authorizing another individual to sign them. Our fee for these services will be based on actual time spent at our quoted hourly rates, plus travel and other out-of-pocket costs (such as report production, typing, postage, etc.) Our hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of

the personnel assigned to your audit. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered as work progresses and are payable upon presentation. The above fees are based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel (including incomplete or untimely receipt by us of the information on the respective client participation listings to be prepared annually) and the assumption that unexpected circumstances (including scope changes) will not be encountered during the audit. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with management and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs.

As a result of our prior or future services to you, we might be requested or required to provide information or documents to you or a third party in a legal, administrative, arbitration, or similar proceeding in which we are not a party. If this occurs, our efforts in complying with such requests will be deemed billable to you as a separate engagement. We shall be entitled to compensation for our time and reasonable reimbursement for our expenses (including legal fees) in complying with the request. For all requests we will observe the confidentiality requirements of our profession and will notify you promptly of the request.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to the City of Stockbridge, Georgia and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Sincerely,

MAULDIN & JENKINS, LLC

Miller G. Edwards

MGE:hmp
Enclosure

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of the City of Stockbridge, Georgia.

By: _____

Title: _____