FROM:  MAYOR  

SUBJECT:  GRANT AGREEMENT WITH HENNING, INC. FOR FORMER GOLDEN LION HOTEL STARTUP FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE (MOA) ANCHORAGE HEALTH DEPARTMENT (AHD) ($250,000).

On April 25, 2023, the Assembly appropriated $250,000 for startup costs to get the former Golden Lion Hotel up and running as low-income housing under AR 2023-102(S). The Anchorage Health Department (AHD) requests approval of a grant agreement with Henning, Inc. in the amount of $250,000 for startup expenses to transition the Golden Lion Hotel into affordable housing. The grant period will begin upon execution of the grant agreement and run through December 31, 2023.

Funds under this grant will be allocated to essential items needed to open the former Golden Lion Hotel as affordable housing for the city’s most vulnerable. Funds will be used to upgrade the hotel facilities through the installation of necessary furniture, fixtures, other in-room necessities, and commercial-grade washer and dryer units for the facility. Grant funds will also be used to hire and train dedicated staff members who will provide resident support services. Funds may also be used for expenses such as licensing fees, permits, utility connections, initial supply purchases, and essential administrative software or equipment required for efficient management.

The grant will allow AHD to strategically and prudently deploy the allocated funds to transform the Golden Lion Hotel into affordable housing for the community. The allocation of resources towards room upgrades, commercial washers and dryers, staffing, and initial operational expenses will play a pivotal role in creating a comfortable and sustainable living space that meets the needs of residents seeking affordable housing solutions.

Recommended by:  Kimberly Rash, Acting Director, AHD  
Fund Concurrence:  Alden Thern, Acting CFO  
Concur:  Kent Kohlhase, P.E., Municipal Manager  
Respectfully submitted:  Dave Bronson, Mayor