RESOLUTION NO. <u>2014 – 003</u>

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA APPROVING A ONE YEAR SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHERN STRATEGY GROUP TO PROVIDE TALLAHASSEE GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND LOBBYING SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND TOWN ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town finds itself in need of immediate Tallahassee governmental relations and lobbying services; and

WHEREAS, for over seven years the Town was competently represented in Tallahassee by Nelson Diaz and Edgar Castro; and

WHEREAS, Nelson Diaz and Edgar Castro have recently left their former firm and have joined Southern Strategy Group, a premier company specializing in governmental relations and lobbying services; and

WHEREAS, Florida legislative committees commence next week and the Town does not have the time to re-procure these services or to educate new individuals pertaining to all of the Town's issues; and

WHEREAS, neither Nelson Diaz nor Edgar Castro represent any other municipalities, which protects the Town from potential conflicts of interest; and

WHEARAS, their backgrounds in Tallahassee representation is unsurpassed; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council believes that it is in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of its residents to hire Southern Strategy Group on to provide the Town with Tallahassee governmental relations and lobbying services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida:

Section 1: The above referenced recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2: The Town Council hereby approves a sole source Agreement between the Town and Southern Strategies Group for Tallahassee governmental

relations and lobbying services, in substantially the same form as that attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

Section 3: The Town Council hereby authorizes the Mayor, Town Administrator and Town Attorney to execute the Agreement in substantially the same form as that attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and to make such modifications, additions and/or deletions which they deem necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

Section 4: This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, this <u>10th</u> day of <u>October</u>, 2013, on a motion by <u>Council Member</u> <u>McKay</u> and seconded by <u>Vice Mayor Breitkreuz</u>.

YES Ayes <u>5</u> Nelson 0 Breitkreuz YES Nays 0 Absent McKay YES Jablonski YES Fisikelli YES Jeff Nelson, Mavor ATTEST: Erika Gonzalez-Santamaria, CMC, Town Clerk Approved as to Form and Correctness: Keith Poliakoff, J.D., Town Attorney 11251440.1