

RESOLUTION NO. 10, 2024

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALPARAISO, AUTHORIZING THE ENGAGEMENT OF A CITY COUNCIL ATTORNEY AND OTHER MATTERS

Whereas, the City Council has sought to secure the services of an attorney to provide independent legal representation on an as needed basis;

Whereas, the City Council has identified Greg Sobkowski of Hodges and Davis, PC to fill that role;

Whereas, to provide for the efficient use of Attorney Sobkowski's time and to maximize the value of his services, the City Council wishes to outline the process to engage Attorney Sobkowski and the firm of Hodges & Davis, PC.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Indiana, that

1. The Council President is authorized to sign the *Contract for Employment of Attorney* presented to the Council.

2. Prior to engaging Attorney Sobkowski for a particular matter, the Council member wishing to initiate the engagement shall notify all Council members (via email or other means of written communication) of the intent to secure Attorney Sobkowski and a brief description of the nature of the request. Should any Council member disagree with the proposed engagement, that Council member may contact the Council member wishing to initiate the engagement and share their position. Absent receiving concerns from four or more Council members within **72 hours** of sending written communication of the intent to secure Attorney Sobkowski, the Council member may engage with Attorney Sobkowski.

3. The Council member that engages Attorney Sobkowski shall keep the other City Council members reasonably updated as to the matter and share any written opinions from Attorney Sobkowski with the other City Council members. When communicating with Attorney Sobkowski, there shall be a minimum of **two** City Council members participating.

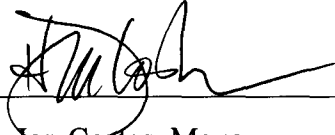
4. The Council acknowledges that certain limited situations may require the need to engage Attorney Sobkowski more quickly. Should that situation arise, the Council members shall take appropriate action to protect the interests of the City Council.

5. Prior to submitting an Invoice from Attorney Sobkowski to the Board of Public Works & Safety for payment, a copy shall be shared with all City Council members. Consistent with the process followed by the Clerk-Treasurer to process invoices, the Council President is authorized to submit invoices from Attorney Sobkowski for payment.

6. The Council recognizes the importance of the Indiana Open Door Law. The process outlined in this Resolution balances the requirements of the Open Door Law with the need

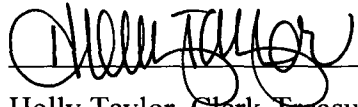
of the Council to receive independent legal counsel. Nothing in this Resolution shall act to limit the protections afforded to the Council under the attorney-client privilege, attorney work product privilege, and other protection.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Porter County, Indiana, by a 6-1 vote, this 8th day of April, 2024.



Jon Costas, Mayor

ATTEST:



Holly Taylor, Clerk-Treasurer