

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY MANAGER'S REAPPOINTMENT OF MARSHAL M. PITCHFORD AS THE CITY SOLICITOR AND SPECIAL COUNSEL AND AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH DiCAUDO, PITCHFORD & YODER FOR SOLICITOR, ASSISTANT CITY SOLICITOR, AND SPECIAL COUNSEL LEGAL SERVICES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City is engaged in a wide range of governmental activities that give rise to complex legal issues requiring specialized knowledge and expertise; and

WHEREAS, the City requires high-quality, professional legal services to ensure compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, which is essential to uphold the rule of law, protect the City's legal interests, mitigate risk, ensure transparency, and promote sound governance; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to retain qualified legal counsel capable of providing timely, accurate, and strategic legal advice in support of its operations and public responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the City determined that it was necessary to procure legal services from qualified providers through a fair and competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process; and

WHEREAS, several individuals and firms submitted responses and were each evaluated by a selection committee that assessed each applicant based on their qualifications, demonstrated experience with municipal and public law, and capacity to serve the many and diverse legal needs of the City; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing all submissions and conducting follow-up interviews, the committee identified Marshal M. Pitchford as the top candidate due to his extensive local government experience, proven strategic and effective legal work, and capacity to support both the City's day-to-day legal needs and its special projects; and

WHEREAS, Marshal M. Pitchford and his law firm, DiCaudo, Pitchford & Yoder, LLC, have demonstrated the qualifications, experience, and capacity to provide Solicitor and Special Counsel services in accordance with the City's requirements;

WHEREAS, based upon the City's review process, the City Manager has reappointed Marshal M. Pitchford as City Solicitor, and the City Council desires to confirm such appointment; and,

WHEREAS, the City Manager has recommended that the City Council authorize a new agreement with Mr. Pitchford and DiCaudo, Pitchford & Yoder, LLC for the provision of Solicitor, Assistant Solicitor, and Special Counsel legal services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Hudson, Summit County, Ohio, as follows:

Section 1. The City Manager's re-appointment of Marshal M. Pitchford as City Solicitor for the City of Hudson is confirmed effective June 1, 2026. As Solicitor, Attorney Pitchford shall represent the City of Hudson in all matters, provide counsel to the City and its officials, and is hereby specifically authorized to prosecute and/or defend the City in all suits and legal controversies as he deems proper and/or is directed to do by the City Manager, City Council, or as the circumstances may require. Further, all the City Manager and Attorney Pitchford's actions to date on this topic are hereby ratified and retroactively affirmed, including the filing and any defense of any litigation where the City is a party.

Section 2. Marshal M. Pitchford and DiCaudo, Pitchford & Yoder are hereby re-appointed as outside Special Counsel to the City effective June 1, 2026.

Section 3. The City Manager is hereby authorized to enter an agreement with Marshal Pitchford and DiCaudo, Pitchford & Yoder, LLC to provide legal services to the City of Hudson, in accordance with the terms, scope of services, and compensation contained in the agreement, which is attached as Exhibit "A" and incorporated into this Resolution as though fully rewritten herein.

Section 4. Marshal Pitchford and/or designated and approved law firms shall each be paid compensation as provided in the agreement, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein, and authorization for the same is herein provided.

Section 5. All prior resolutions and ordinances that relate to or in any way conflict with this measure are hereby repealed and rescinded.

Section 6. That the aforesaid recitals are rendered to be the findings of this Council and are hereby incorporated into this Resolution.

Section 7. All formal actions of this Council related to this Resolution and all deliberations of the Council and of any of its Committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 8. This Resolution is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, convenience, and welfare of the City of Hudson and the inhabitants thereof, and for the further reason that this Resolution must be immediately effective in order to secure the immediate legal services provided for herein and continuity of service, which are necessary to preserve and protect the legal interests of the City of Hudson. Therefore, this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) members of Council, except that six (6) affirmative votes shall be required if all members are present; otherwise, it shall be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____

Jeffrey L. Anzevino, Mayor

ATTEST:

Aparna Wheeler, Clerk of Council

I certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly passed by the Council of said Municipality on _____, 2026.

Aparna Wheeler, Clerk of Council