

**TOWN OF ASTATULA
MAYOR AND TOWN
COUNCIL MINUTES**



**SPECIAL SESSION
MONDAY JULY 29, 2019
TOWN HALL**

Having been duly advertised as required by law, Mayor Natale called the Special Session meeting to order at 6.04pm. The invocation was given by Councilman Mack and the Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:

Robert Natale, Mayor
Mitchell Mack, Vice-Mayor
Kimberly Kobera
Gayle Sikkema
Stephen Cross

Staff Present:

Graham Wells, Town Clerk

Roll Call was performed, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

AGENDA REVIEW

There were no amendments to the agenda. Mayor Natale introduced Attorney's Heather Ramos and Tom Wilkes from Gray Robinson and invited them to make their presentation to Council.

NEW BUSINESS

PRESENTATION BY HEATHER RAMOS FROM ATTORNEY FIRM GRAY ROBINSON.

Ms. Ramos introduced her firm through a short PowerPoint presentation highlighting the board areas of law that they covered. She cited the benefits of engaging a big firm where much of the areas of law that the Town would encounter is under one roof. She introduced Tom Wilkes who would be looking after the Town on a day to day basis, his background, experience, expertise and the other agencies that he currently covers. She did the same for herself and explained that they would jointly service the Town's needs. Mayor Natale then opened the floor for questions from Council.

QUESTION, DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO ENGAGE GRAY ROBINSON AS THE TOWN'S ATTORNEY'S WITH EFFECT FROM AUGUST 1, 2019.

Councilman Cross asked if they had researched any conflicts that might come up. Ms. Ramos responded that they had and there were none. The Mayor explained that a rate for each regular Council meeting had been negotiated which included attendance, travel and reviewing the council packet.

Any other costs would be charged at their hourly rates per the agreement. There being no further questions a motion to engage Gray Robinson as the Town's Attorney's was requested. Before the vote was taken, Councilman Cross wanted council to be aware that his wife worked for Gray Robinson and has at times worked for both attorney's and was happy to recuse himself if Council requested him to. This was discussed and Council felt that there was not a conflict.

MOTION by Councilman Cross to engage Gray Robinson as the Town's Attorney's with effect from August 1, 2019; SECONDED by Councilwoman Sikkema

A Roll Call Vote Was Taken

Cross YES

Mack YES

Kobera YES

Sikkema YES

Natale YES

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

REVIEW

- a. Items for Workshops and possible dates - NONE
- b. Items for the next Council meeting - NONE
- c. Review of items needing Special Meetings and possible dates - NONE

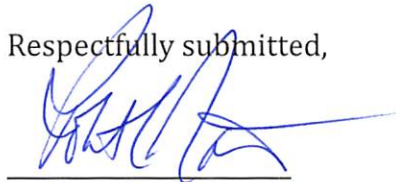
COUNCIL MEMBER MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

Councilman Mack raised the issues that Town Staff have had with Mrs. Dunham with respect to County Materials and requested that Council should engage her at the next Council meeting as this is an open code enforcement case.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Mayor Natale adjourned the meeting at 6:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert C. Natale. Mayor

ATTEST:



Graham Wells, Town Clerk

