

ORDINANCE NO. 2023- 17

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A SOLICITOR FOR THE VILLAGE OF CASTALIA AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, Council recognizes that fact that the term of Randal L. Strickler as Solicitor for the Village of Castalia, Ohio, will expire on December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Council has determined that it is necessary to reappoint Mr. Strickler as Solicitor for said Village, pursuant to *section 733.48 of the Ohio Revised Code*, in order to insure no lapse in the representation of the Village in its legal affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Council has further determined that Randal L. Strickler of Randal L. Strickler Co., LLC is desirous of continuing to provide these services to the Village of Castalia and Council is desirous of obtaining said services from Randal L. Strickler of Randal L. Strickler Co., LLC; and

WHEREAS, Council is of the opinion this ordinance should be adopted as an emergency measure to insure no lapse in the representation of the Village in its legal affairs, said representation being necessary to immediate preservation of the public health, safety and general welfare of the Village; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF CASTALIA, STATE OF OHIO:

SECTION 1. That legal counsel be provided for the Village of Castalia, Ohio, and that the person so appointed will be known as the Solicitor for the said Village. Such Solicitor shall be appointed for a term commencing January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2025. Either the Village or the Solicitor shall have the option of terminating such appointment on the giving of thirty (30) days written notice to the other.

SECTION 2. That it be the duty of said Solicitor to act as the legal advisor to and the attorney for the officers of said Village in municipal matters relating to their official duties. He shall prepare and/or approve as to form all contracts, bonds, and other instruments in writing in which the municipal corporation is concerned and shall endorse on each his approval of the form and the correctness thereof. He shall be required to attend the regularly scheduled meetings of Council and such work sessions as the Mayor or Council shall request. The Solicitor shall also attend the regularly scheduled meetings of the Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals and Charter Review Commission at the request of the chairperson of that board or commission.

SECTION 3. That said Solicitor shall receive the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per month compensation as a retainer and shall receive such additional compensation for other services rendered as may be approved by the Village Council.

SECTION 4. That in addition to the retainer set forth in Section 3 above, the Solicitor shall receive one-hundred thirty-five dollars and no/100 (\$135.00) per hour, for the preparation of all legislation, preparation and/or approval as to form of all contracts and bonds, court appearances, research and preparation of legal opinions, other research as requested, all other meetings which the Village may require him to attend, and all other legal work that may be required to be performed on behalf of the Village. As additional compensation, the Village shall enroll the Solicitor in the Ohio Public Employee Retirement System (O.P.E.R.S.) and shall be authorized to deduct the necessary amount prescribed by law from each retainer and the Village shall pay its contribution to O.P.E.R.S. based upon the amount of the retainer only.

SECTION 5. That Randal L. Strickler of RANDAL L. STRICKLER CO., LLC, shall be, and he hereby is, reappointed Village Solicitor for the indefinite term as above set forth.

SECTION 6. That this Council hereby finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the adoption of this Ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of its committees, if any, which resulted in formal action, were taken in meetings open to the public in full compliance with applicable legal requirements, including *section 121.22 of the Revised Code*.

SECTION 7. The Council has further determined that insuring no lapse in the representation of the Village in its legal affairs is necessary for the immediate preservation of the health, public safety and general welfare of the Village, and as such, this Ordinance appointing a solicitor for the Village of Castalia, Ohio is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and it is to take effect immediately upon its adoption and due authentication by the Mayor and Clerk respectively.


MAYOR

ATTEST:


VILLAGE FISCAL OFFICER

Adopted: December 5, 2023