

9/3/2020 4:18 PM

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TORRINGTON TOWN CLERK

MEMO

TO: Elinor Carbone, Mayor
City Council
FROM: Victor M. Muschell, Corp. Counsel
DATE: September 3, 2020
RE: Hiring of outside Counsel for Tax Appeals

As is usually the case in a year of a 10 year revaluation of the City's taxable properties the City is experiencing a number of assessment appeals; fourteen as of this date. All of these concern commercial property. The Charter provision concerning the appointment of the City's Corporation Counsel provides the Board of Councilmen may by resolution provide, in special circumstances, for the temporary employment of counsel other than the Corporation Counsel. City Charter TITLE VI, Sec. C6-1

I am recommending that the Council approve the temporary employment of counsel to defend the City on these claims because of the inordinate time involved to process these cases by my office and the particular expertise more likely to be found in counsel having more experience in these types of cases. I have been in contact with a number of attorneys to determine a fair price for this work and am confident I will be able to cover the cost within the allocation my budget provides for the hiring of outside counsel.

in Title VI, Corporation counsel, Section C6-1- Appointment ;Powers