

**Lanesboro City Council
Special Meeting
Tuesday, January 18, 2022 5:15 p.m.
Lanesboro Community Center Meeting Room**

Present: Jason Resseman, Chase Bakke, Mitchell Walbridge, Joe Goetzke, and Mindy Albrecht-Benson

Absent: None

Visitors: Attorney Joseph O’Koren and Attorney Hannah Felix

Call the Special Meeting to Order: Mayor Resseman called the Special Meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

A. Discuss Legal Strategy regarding threatened litigation regarding employment and personnel concerns: Mayor Resseman stated:

This properly noticed special meeting of the City Council of the City of Lanesboro will be closed pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 3 (b) under the attorney/client privilege exception to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law.

The city's need for confidentiality outweighs the purposes served by the open-meeting law in this case based on the following:

- Absolute confidentiality is necessary so that the City Council and legal counsel can have a candid and open discussion to determine the available legal options to handle the pending litigation, including strategy and any possible areas of resolution.
- The purpose of the closed meeting is not to make a decision behind closed-doors, but instead is to determine the legal options for handling the referenced pending litigation.
- The only business to be discussed in this meeting is the pending litigation.
- An open session would be detrimental because it may take place in the presence of individuals involved in the pending litigation.
- A closed session would benefit the public because the ultimate outcome of the pending litigation may impact the finances and regulatory authority of the City.

I will now entertain a motion to close this portion of the meeting.

Member Bakke motioned to close the meeting. Member Albrecht-Benson seconded the motion.

Motion carried with all in favor. The City Council will now go into a closed session. The time is 5:16 p.m.

Only the officials and consultants of the City who reasonably require access to this data may be in attendance at any portion of the meeting for this agenda item.

This portion of the meeting should not be taped or otherwise electronically recorded since it has been closed under the attorney-client privilege.

The minutes of this portion of the meeting should reflect only that a meeting was held with its date, time and location; who was present at the meeting; and the purpose of the meeting.

In addition to the City Council, the following persons are present for the closed meeting:

Hannah Felix, legal counsel for the City on this matter from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust and Attorney Joseph O’Koren Attorney for the City of Lanesboro.

The closed meeting was adjourned into open session at 5:30 p.m.

Adjourn: Member Walbridge motioned to adjourn the special meeting at 5:30 p.m. Member Goetzke seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Peterson
City Administrator/Clerk