

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES RELATING TO A SUMMIT COUNTY LAWSUIT AGAINST MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS OF PRESCRIPTION OPIATES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, drug addictions, overdoses, and deaths attributed to the nation's opioid epidemic have resulted in substantial costs for emergency medical services, emergency room visits, addiction treatment drugs and recovery programs, coroner and medical examiner services, drug courts, law enforcement, prosecution, corrections, drug disposal, foster care placements for children of parents addicted to opioids; and individuals affected by the opioid epidemic have endured much pain and have been impacted by significant quality of life issues; and

WHEREAS, government officials at the federal, state, county, and local levels have acknowledged the opioid epidemic; and

WHEREAS, Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro has signed an executive order declaring a state of emergency due to the opioid epidemic and has announced the County's intent to initiate legal action against manufacturers and distributors of prescription opiates in order to hold them responsible for causing the current crisis and for profiting from the misery of affected citizens; and

WHEREAS, the County has invited local governments to formally join in this legal action; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has encouraged City Council to formally join the County and other local governments in the legal action; and

WHEREAS, City Council recognizes the public health crisis that exists due to the opioid epidemic and the importance of protecting local citizens; and

WHEREAS, City Council desires to join Summit County and other political subdivisions in a lawsuit against manufacturers and distributors of prescription opiates; and

WHEREAS, City Council wishes to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract for legal services relating to said lawsuit for which the City will incur no costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of Hudson, Summit County, State of Ohio, that:

Section 1. The City Manager is authorized to enter into a contract for legal services relating to a lawsuit against manufacturers and distributors of prescription opiates in a format as determined by Summit County and at no cost to the City.

Section 2. The Clerk of Council is hereby directed to serve a certified copy of this Resolution by certified mail or commercial carrier (i.e., Fed Ex) as well as by electronic means on Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro.

Section 3. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees or subcommittees 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 4. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace and general welfare of the inhabitants of the City of Hudson such emergency being for the reason that in order to participate in a lawsuit to be filed by Summit County within thirty (30) days, it is necessary that this Resolution become effective at the earliest time permitted by law. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of at least five (5) members of the Council, or six (6) affirmative votes if all members are present, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

PASSED:

David A. Basil, Mayor

ATTEST:

Elizabeth Slagle, Clerk of Council

I certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 17-177 was duly passed by the Council of said Municipality on _____, 2017.

Elizabeth Slagle, Clerk of Council