

May 4th, 2022

A special council meeting of the Chapman City Council was held on Wednesday, May 4th, 2022, at City Hall at 7:30 pm. Mayor Howard Battishill was present. Councilmembers Christy Loy, James Bell, Tim Jury, and Rick Johnson were present. Also in attendance were City Administrator Bill Flanery, Chapman Police Department Sergeant James Reynolds, and Charles Ault-Duell.

#2 Discussion on new City Attorney

Mr. Ault-Duell stated he has been practicing law for about 15 years and has been in private practice for 10 years. Before moving to private practice, Mr. Ault-Duell was with the County Attorney's Office for about three and half years. Mr. Ault-Duell's current firm has 5 attorneys on the letterhead. The majority of the practice deals with domestic issues.

Councilman Jury asked if Mr. Ault-Duell had any background in municipal employee certifications in electric, water and sewer. Mr. Ault-Duell has worked in corporate compliance but not specifically in municipal compliance. Mr. Ault-Duell stated that he has not represented a Government/Municipality before but has represented several corporate clients.

If the city entered into a contract with Mr. Ault-Duell's firm, Mr. Ault-Duell would be the primary contact for the city and would attend council meetings and municipal court. The firm would be open to the needs of the city. If the city wanted continuity or consistency, the Mr. Ault-Duell would attend the meetings. If the city did not need Mr. Ault-Duell to attend all the meetings or municipal court, Mr. Ault-Duell would act more as a supervisor for the attending attorney.

The main difference between a law firm and a solo attorney is the firm has a deeper bench than the solo attorney. The deeper bench comes with more overhead but also more depth ability to conduct research on different subjects.

The City Administrator, Bill Flanery, will send an email to Mr. Ault-Duell detailing the billable hours for attorney expenses over the past two years. Based on those hours, Mr. Ault-Duell will draft a proposal and send it back on Friday, 6 May 2022.

Mr. Ault-Duell departed the meeting.

#3 Discussion on Director of Public Works Position

Motion by Bell to recess the council into executive session to discuss the Director of Public Works position pursuant to the non-elected personnel matter exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1). The executive session will include Council, Mayor, and the City Administrator, 2nd by Johnson, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried. The open meeting will resume in the city council chambers at 8:17 p.m.

The open meeting resumed at 8:17 p.m. All personnel present prior to the executive session were once again present. No action was taken by the council during executive session.

#4 Adjournment

Motion by Johnson to adjourn, 2nd by Bell, vote: yes, unanimous (4-0). Motion carried.

Howard Battishill, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bill Flanery, City Clerk