

3/4/26

Councilmember BRAY offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION APPOINTING SPECIAL LABOR COUNSEL

WHEREAS, the Borough of West Long Branch has the necessity of retaining special counsel to provide advice to the Borough and certain of its officials, and also to represent the Borough's interest in labor-related issues; and

WHEREAS, funds are or will be available for this purpose from the budgeted line item for legal representation; and

WHEREAS, the Borough solicited Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for Special Labor Counsel services and reviewed the proposals received in connection therewith; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor submitted the names of SERAPHEMA MENNA (Lead Counsel) and ANDREW BROWN, of the firm SCARCINI HOLLENBECK; RICHARD FLAUM, of the firm DIFRANCESCO, BATEMAN, KUNZMAN, DAVIS, LEHR & FLAUM; and JAMES L. PLOSIA, JR., of the firm PLOSIA COHEN, LLC, for appointment as Special Labor Counsel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of West Long Branch that SERAPHEMA MENNA (Lead Counsel) and ANDREW BROWN, of the firm SCARCINI HOLLENBECK; RICHARD FLAUM, of the firm DIFRANCESCO, BATEMAN, KUNZMAN, DAVIS, LEHR & FLAUM; and JAMES L. PLOSIA, JR., of the firm PLOSIA COHEN, LLC, be appointed as Special Labor Counsel to provide advice on an as needed basis to the Borough and certain of its officials and to represent the Borough's interest in labor-related issues, if necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SERAPHEMA MENNA, ANDREW BROWN, RICHARD FLAUM, and JAMES L. PLOSIA, JR., be compensated in accordance with the terms of Resolution No. R-26-29 (i.e., at the rate of \$170.00 per hour, plus costs); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED these appointments are made without competitive bidding as a "professional service" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq.) because they are persons authorized by law to the practice of the legal profession, and that Requests for Proposals were solicited and considered in connection with these appointments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution or its contents be published on the official legal notices page on the Borough website as required by law.

Seconded by Councilmember GOMEZ and carried upon the following roll call vote:

AYES: BRAY, GOMEZ, PENTA, RUANE, SNIFFEN
NAYS: NONE
ABSENT: CIOFFI
ABSTAIN: NONE

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of the original resolution as adopted by the West Long Branch Borough Council on March 4, 2026.

Carolyn Kelly
BOROUGH CLERK

