



RESOLUTION #26-01-010

**A RESOLUTION EMPLOYING THE TOWNSHIP'S ATTORNEYS
ON AN ANNUAL BASIS FOR THE YEAR 2026**

The Bethel Township Board of Trustees, Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio met in regular session on the 6th day of January, 2026 with the following Trustees being present: Kama Dick, Julie Reese, and Josh Wilkerson.

Trustee Dick moved for the adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Bethel Township Board of Township Trustees ("Board") is authorized by Section 309.09(B) of the Revised Code to employ attorneys on an annual basis other than the prosecuting attorney to represent the Township and its officers, boards, and commissions in their official capacities and to advise them on legal matters; **AND**

WHEREAS, Section 309.09(B) of the Revised Code provides that no such attorney may be employed except on the order of the Board, duly entered upon its Journal, in which the compensation to be paid for the attorney's legal services shall be fixed; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Board finds it necessary to appoint attorneys to counsel and represent the Township on an annual basis for calendar year 2026 in such matters as the Board or its designee may refer to them. **AND**

WHEREAS, the Board has appropriated the sum of \$25,000.00 for legal services for 2026. **THEREFORE**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of Bethel Township, Miami County, that:

SECTION 1. The law firm of Shipman, Dixon & Livingston Co, L.P.A. ("Firm"), is hereby employed on an annual basis for calendar year 2026 as the Township's legal counsel to represent the Township and its officers, boards, and commissions in their official capacities. And to advise them in connection with such matters as may be referred to Counsel by or on behalf of the Board or its designee. The Township Administrator or a designee appointed by the Board of Trustees of Bethel Township, Miami County shall serve as the direct contact point between legal counsel and the Board.

SECTION 2. The compensation for such counsel during 2026 shall be paid as follows, billed in tenths of an hour: \$200.00 per hour partner time; not to exceed \$200.00 per hour attorney time; \$90.00 per hour paralegal or law clerk time; plus out-of-pocket expense reimbursements; provided that the total compensation shall not exceed ten thousand dollars and zero cents (\$10,000.00) without further action by this Board.

SECTION 3. The attorneys may be discharged at any time by majority vote of the Board and by notifying the Firm in writing.

SECTION 4. The Township Administrator or designee is authorized and directed to sign the Agreement for Legal Services provided by the Firm on behalf of the Bethel Township Trustees.

SECTION 5. The Township Fiscal Officer is directed to send a copy of this signed Resolution and the signed Agreement for Legal Services to the Firm.

SECTION 6. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements including, without limitation, Section 121.22 of the Revised Code.

SECTION 7. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the date of its adoption.

Trustee Wilkerson

seconded the motion and the Board voted as follows upon roll call:

Vote: Trustee Kama Dick
Trustee Julie Reese
Trustee Josh Wilkerson

Y
Y
Y

Kara Diet
Julie Reese
Joshua Wilkerson

Attest: Rhonda Ross

Rhonda Ross, Fiscal Officer
Bethel Township, Miami County, Ohio