

SUDBURY HOUSING AUTHORITY

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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING

February 28, 2018

The SHA met in open session at 55 Hudson Road, Sudbury, at 2:00 p.m. Those present were: Chair: S. Cline; Vice Chair: L. Pastuszek; Treasurer: S. Swanger; Member: K. Kang; Member: A. Lepak; Executive Director: S. Cusolito

Also present: Associate Member T. Layden, Guest Courtney Mayo, Esq.

NEW BUSINESS

FISH 288061, 667 ADA Doors: A motion was made by S. Swanger, seconded by K. Kang, and unanimously voted, to accept the lowest qualified, responsive bid in the amount of \$15,240 from St. John Corporation and to authorize S. Cusolito to sign on behalf of the SHA.

The SHA received five responses, ranging from the low bid of \$15,240 to a high of \$22,200.

Guest Courtney Mayo, Hassett & Donnelly: S. Cusolito conferred with DHCD risk manager Sarah O'Leary about some potential legal risks and was advised that the SHA had the option to utilize the regional attorney or hire its own attorney to handle such matters. Following discussion with regional attorney Andrew Bailey and attorneys from KP Law and Hassett & Donnelly, Courtney Mayo, a partner at Hassett & Donnelly, was invited to meet with the Board.

Attorney Mayo informed the Board that Hassett & Donnelly serves as panel counsel for DHCD and would be willing to extend the associated reduced hourly rate to the SHA. She provided an overview of experience related to MCAD and other claims against which housing authorities are particularly vulnerable. She also discussed the general process and timeline through which discrimination claims are handled by MCAD and the cost-benefit rationale around settling vs. contesting claims.

Attorney Mayo offered to excuse herself to permit the Board to discuss entering into an agreement for representation by Hassett & Donnelly. The time was 3:35 p.m.

A motion was made by L. Pastuszek, seconded by S. Swanger, and unanimously voted, to engage Hassett & Donnelly to enter an appearance and defend the Sudbury Housing Authority against an alleged discrimination action at a rate of \$135/hour.

Attorney Mayo rejoined the meeting at 3:45 p.m. and the vote was announced. Hassett & Donnelly is conferring with DHCD about covering SHA's legal fees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Adjourn: A motion was made by S. Swanger, seconded by L. Pastuszek, and unanimously voted to adjourn the February 28, 2018 Special Session and move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing

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potential litigation, as to do so in open session might compromise the position of the Housing Authority, not to return to open session. The time was 3:45 p.m.

Yes: S. Cline

Yes: K. Kang

Yes: A. Lepak

Yes: L. Pastuszek

Yes: S. Swanger

Minutes prepared by S. Cusolito, Executive Director

Voted June 12, 2018