

City of Willoughby Hills

Interoffice Memo

Date: February 12, 2018

To: Council President Fellows, Council Members and Council Clerk

From: Robert M. Weger, Mayor/Safety Director

Subject: Veto on Ordinance 2018-6 – Appropriations for Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff, LLP as Special Counsel to Perform the Services Authorized and Directed in Ordinance 2017-88

I hereby veto Ordinance 2018-6 which appropriates funds necessary to engage the services of Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP. The Court is currently examining the validity of Ordinance 2017-88 and I would not support any appropriations whatsoever for payment of a special counsel for the services listed in the ordinance. I incorporate, as if fully rewritten, my veto on Ordinance 2017-88.

I have previously objected to Ordinance 2017-70 dated October 12, 2017, which concerns Council's unlawful appointment of Stephen L. Byron as the Acting Law Director for the City of Willoughby Hills. Council still has not interviewed my choice of legal counsel to represent the City in Union matters, namely Zashin and Rich. The choice of legal counsel for Union matters is the Mayor's sole and unfettered choice.

I have previously objected to Ordinance 2017-88 adopted January 8, 2018, (subsequently vetoed and set aside), indicating that a special counsel is required to investigate unlawful collusion with regard to the City's Administrative Employees Union and the unsubstantiated suggestion of malpractice by former Law Director Lobe.

The funds for this expenditure have not been appropriated and are, therefore, not available.

I hereby veto Ordinance 2018-6 and ask Council's immediate reconsideration.