

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-

***RELATIVE TO THE COUNCIL'S TERMINATION OF SEPARATE LEGAL COUNSEL***

BY:

Council Chairman James Perry

**WHEREAS**, at its regular meeting on July 12, 2023, the Niagara Falls City Council appointed attorney Jeffrey Palumbo, of the law firm of Block, Longo, LaMarca & Brzezinski, P.C., to serve on an independent contractor basis as legal counsel to the City Council for the limited purposes of reviewing the City's eminent domain proceeding with Niagara Falls Redevelopment, LLC and Blue Apple Properties, Inc., and related settlement proposals; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Palumbo was retained for that purpose under a retainer agreement that was negotiated by the Mayor pursuant to Section 4.3 (6) of the City Charter and subsequently approved by the City Council on July 26, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council recognizes that, notwithstanding the above, the law firm of Hodgson Russ, LLP, which was retained through the office of the Corporation Counsel, is the sole attorney of record for the City of Niagara Falls, New York, relating to all matters concerning the Centennial Park project, including but not limited to, the acquisition of certain parcels or portions of parcels owned by Niagara Falls Redevelopment, LLC, and Blue Apple Properties, Inc., located at 907 Falls Street and John Daly Boulevard, through eminent domain proceedings; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has therefore determined that the services of Mr. Palumbo are no longer required and should be terminated.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, hereby terminates its engagement with attorney Jeffrey Palumbo, of the law firm of Block, Longo, LaMarca & Brzezinski, P.C., and directs the City Council Chairperson to issue a written notice of said termination to Mr. Palumbo, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Council recognizes that the Law firm of Hodgson Russ, LLP, is the sole attorney of record for the City of Niagara Falls, New York, relating to all matters concerning the Centennial Park project, including but not limited to, the acquisition of certain parcels or portions of parcels owned by Niagara Falls Redevelopment, LLC, and Blue Apple Properties, Inc., located at 907 Falls Street and John Daly Boulevard, through eminent domain proceedings.

Archie \_\_\_\_\_ Bax \_\_\_\_\_ Myles \_\_\_\_\_ Zajac \_\_\_\_\_ Perry \_\_\_\_\_