

January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Town Council  
Regular Meeting  
Res. No.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION OF CHAP PETERSEN AS SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR  
PENDING VESTED RIGHTS LITIGATION**

**WHEREAS**, Warrenton, VA (Hereinafter "the Town") is a municipal corporation located within the County of Fauquier; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Warrenton is currently engaged in legal proceedings regarding a determination of vested rights (the "Litigation"); and

**WHEREAS**, J. Chapman "Chap" Petersen has served as the primary representative attorney for the Town in this matter, providing specialized expertise in Virginia land use law and municipal litigation; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Petersen has developed an intimate and comprehensive understanding of the specific facts, historical record, and legal nuances unique to this case; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council finds that the continuity of legal representation is essential to the protection of the Town's interests, the efficient management of the legal budget, and the successful resolution of the matter; and

**WHEREAS**, a change in legal counsel at this stage would result in a significant loss of institutional knowledge and necessitate additional costs for new counsel to become familiar with the case file;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of Warrenton, Virginia, that:

1. Retention of Counsel: The Town Council hereby requests and authorizes the continued retention of Chap Petersen (and his firm) as Special Counsel to represent the Town of Warrenton in the ongoing vested rights litigation.
2. Authorization: The Town Manager and the Town Attorney are hereby authorized to take all necessary steps to ensure the continuity of Mr. Petersen's representation, including the execution of any necessary engagement agreements or amendments.
3. Effective Date: This resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

ATTACHMENT: None

**Votes:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Absent from Vote:**

**For Information:**

Town Manager

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Recorder