

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PEQUOT LAKES CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020  
PEQUOT LAKES CITY HALL**

Members Present: Mayor Tayloe, Council Members Clement, Pederson, Seils, and Swanson

Staff Present: Nancy Malecha, City Administrator; Chelsea Bodin, City Attorney (via teleconference)

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Tayloe called the special meeting of the Pequot Lakes City Council to order at 6:30 p.m.

1.1. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Tayloe led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Consider Agenda

**COUNCIL MEMBER SEILS MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COUNCIL MEMBER CLEMENT SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

3. Threatened Litigation from City of Pequot Lakes Employee Related to Employment with the City Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, Subd. 3(b)

Mayor Tayloe stated that the City's need for absolute confidentiality outweighs the purposes served by the open meeting law in this case based on the following.

- The City Council and legal counsel, participating by teleconference, need to have a candid and open discussion to determine the available legal options to handle threatened litigation from a former City of Pequot Lakes employee related to employment with the City based on actions the City has already taken, including response strategy and possible areas of reconciliation.
- The purpose of the closed meeting is not to make a decision behind closed-doors, but instead the purpose of the meeting is to determine the legal options for handling the threatened litigation.
- The only business to be discussed is the threatened litigation.
- An open session would be detrimental because it may take place in the presence of individuals involved in the threatened litigation.
- A closed session would benefit the public because the ultimate outcome of the threatened litigation may impact the finances, operations, and reputation of the City.

**COUNCIL MEMBER CLEMENT MOVED TO CLOSE THIS PORTION OF THE MEETING. COUNCIL MEMBER SEILS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

The Council went into closed session at 6:31 p.m.

Present at the closed session were: Council Member Pete Clement, Council Member Mimi Swanson, Mayor James Tayloe, Council Member Cheri Seils, Council Member Scott Pederson, City Administrator Nancy Malecha, and City Attorney Chelsea Bodin (via teleconference).

The Council discussed the agenda item.

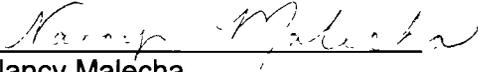
The Council went into open session at 7:16 p.m.

4. Adjourn

**COUNCIL MEMBER SEILS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PEQUOT LAKES CITY COUNCIL. COUNCIL MEMBER SWANSON SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

The special meeting of the City Council adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Nancy Malecha  
City Administrator

  
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James Tayloe  
Mayor