



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Council Session

## Item I-1

**#2016-12 - Consideration of Appointment of Jerry Janulewicz as  
City Attorney**

Staff Contact: Mayor Jeremy Jensen

# Council Agenda Memo

**From:** Mayor Jeremy Jensen  
**Meeting:** January 12, 2016  
**Subject:** Appointment of Jerry Janulewicz as City Attorney  
**Presenter(s):** Mayor Jeremy Jensen

## Background

On November 10, 2015 Council approved the appointment of Dan Brotzman for the City Attorney position. Shortly before Christmas the City received notice that Mr. Brotzman would not be taking the position. Mr. Brotzman has decided to stay in Colorado to be near a family member who is ill. As a result, the City Attorney position was re-opened and a new finalist has been identified.

Under Neb. Rev. Stat., §16-308 and Grand Island City Code, §2-30, the office of City Attorney, for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, is an appointed position. The position is appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Council and serves through the Mayor's term.

## Discussion

I am pleased to present Jerry Janulewicz as my choice for appointment to the City Attorney position.

Janulewicz currently is a partner at Mayer, Burns, Koenig and Janulewicz law firm in Grand Island since 2004. Prior to going into private practice, Janulewicz was Hall County attorney from 2000 to 2004. As county attorney Janulewicz supervised the staff of deputy county attorneys and support staff, was responsible for prosecution of criminal offenses, provided general legal counsel to county officials, served as chief negotiator in labor negotiations, and served as the county coroner.

From 1985 to 1995 Janulewicz was a deputy Hall County attorney and was appointed chief deputy Hall County attorney in 1995 where he served until 2000. Throughout his service as deputy county attorney, chief deputy, and county attorney, Janulewicz duties primarily involved advising county officials on legal matters, negotiating and preparing contracts, and representing Hall County in civil matters.

Janulewicz earned a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and earned with distinction his Juris Doctorate from the University of Nebraska College of Law.

Besides Janulewicz's extensive work experience in the legal field, he has been very involved in the Grand Island community serving on the Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer board of trustees, a member of the Senior Citizens Industries board of directors, and a newly appointed member on the Third City Community Clinic board of directors. In addition, Janulewicz volunteers for the Nebraska State Bar citizens self help desk.

Janulewicz is a member of the Nebraska State Bar Association, member of the Nebraska State Bar Association House of Delegates from 1991 to 2007, and a member of the Nebraska State Bar Association Executive Council from 1996 to 2002.

Pending City Council approval Janulewicz's employment will commence in January 19, 2016. His starting salary will be at step fifteen of the City Attorney pay scale which is \$124,489.13 annually. As City Attorney he will supervise the legal department staff.

Mr. Janulewicz will bring a career worth of knowledge and experience to the position. Furthermore he will be a great addition to our leadership team.

### **Alternatives**

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue

### **Recommendation**

I recommend the approval of Jerry Janulewicz as the City Attorney.

### **Sample Motion**

Move to approve Jerry Janulewicz as the City Attorney.

RESOLUTION 2016-12

WHEREAS, under Neb. Rev. Stat., §16-308, the office of City Attorney, for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, is an appointed position; and

WHEREAS, under Grand Island City Code, §2-30, the office of City Attorney, for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, is an appointed position; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor, with the approval of the City Council, may appoint the position of City Attorney; and

WHEREAS, this position appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council shall hold the position to which they may be appointed until the end of the Mayor's term of office; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution #2015-316 Daniel Brotzman was appointed as City Attorney; and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2015, Daniel Brotzman rescinded his acceptance of the position of City Attorney for Grand Island; and

WHEREAS, Resolution #2015-316 for the appointment of Daniel Brotzman as City Attorney is rescinded; and

WHEREAS, Jerom Janulewicz has accepted the offer of the position of City Attorney for the City of Grand Island; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Janulewicz is prepared to start work on January 19, 2016 at Step 15 of the City Attorney salary table of \$124,489.13; and

WHEREAS, this position appointed by the Mayor may be removed at any time by the Mayor with approval of a majority of the City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, that Resolution #2015-316 is hereby rescinded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Jerom Janulewicz is hereby duly appointed the City Attorney for the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, at Step 15 of the City Attorney salary table until the end of the Mayor Jeremy Jensen's current term of office.

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Approved as to Form	☐ _____
January 8, 2016	☐ City Attorney

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, January 12, 2016.

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Jeremy L. Jensen, Mayor

Attest:

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RaNae Edwards, City Clerk