

## CHAPTER 20

### CITY ATTORNEY

20.01 Appointment and Compensation  
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20.04 Ordinance Preparation  
20.05 Review and Comment

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20.07 Attendance at Council Meetings  
20.08 Prepare Documents  
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**20.01 APPOINTMENT AND COMPENSATION.** The Council shall appoint by majority vote a City Attorney to serve for a term of two years. The City Attorney shall receive such compensation as established by resolution of the Council.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**20.02 ATTORNEY FOR CITY.** The City Attorney shall act as attorney for the City in all matters affecting the City's interest and appear on behalf of the City before any court, tribunal, commission or board. The City Attorney shall prosecute or defend all actions and proceedings when so requested by the Mayor or Council.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**20.03 POWER OF ATTORNEY.** The City Attorney shall sign the name of the City to all appeal bonds and to all other bonds or papers of any kind that may be essential to the prosecution of any cause in court, and when so signed the City shall be bound upon the same.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**20.04 ORDINANCE PREPARATION.** The City Attorney shall prepare those ordinances which the Council may desire and direct to be prepared and report to the Council upon all such ordinances before their final passage by the Council and publication.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**20.05 REVIEW AND COMMENT.** The City Attorney shall, upon request, make a report to the Council giving an opinion on all contracts, documents, resolutions, or ordinances submitted to or coming under the City Attorney's notice.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**20.06 PROVIDE LEGAL OPINION.** The City Attorney shall give advice or a written legal opinion on City contracts and all questions of law relating to City matters submitted by the Mayor or Council.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**20.07 ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS.** The City Attorney shall attend meetings of the Council at the request of the Mayor or Council.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**20.08 PREPARE DOCUMENTS.** The City Attorney shall, upon request, formulate drafts for contracts, forms and other writings which may be required for the use of the City.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**20.09 REPRESENTATION OF CITY EMPLOYEES.** The City Attorney shall not appear on behalf of any City officer or employee before any court or tribunal for the purely private benefit of said officer or employee. The City Attorney shall, however, if directed by the Council, appear to defend any City officer or employee in any cause of action arising out of or in the course of the performance of the duties of his or her office or employment.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 670.8)*