

RESOLUTION NO. 1177-21

OPIOID LAWSUIT SETTLEMENT AUTHORIZATION

WHEREAS, the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners passed Resolution 1113-18 on July 16, 2018, authorizing the Town of Bel Air to enter into an agreement to retain the law firms of Motley Rice, LLC; Fears/Nachawati Law Firm, PLLC; Law Office of Ferrer, Poirot & Wansbrough; The Kane Law Group; and McNamee Hosea as special counsel to pursue the opioid litigation; and

WHEREAS, on July 21, 2021 three large U.S. drug distributors and drugmaker Johnson & Johnson/Jansen unveiled a proposal to proceed with a \$26 billion settlement resolving claims that they have engaged in fraudulent and/or reckless marketing and/or distribution of opioids that have resulted in addictions and overdoses; and

WHEREAS, these actions, conduct and misconduct have resulted in significant financial costs in the past to the Town of Bel Air and will undoubtedly result in significant financial costs in the future; and

WHEREAS, Special Counsel has recommended that the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners support the adoption and approval of the Distributers and the Janssen Settlements in their entirety; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners support the adoption and approval of the Distributers and the Jansen Settlements, in their entirety and authorize the Town Administrator of the Town of Bel Air, special counsel and staff to execute and deliver the settlement recommended for approval by special counsel in the above referenced case and to approve such terms and provisions for the full and final settlement of all matters set forth therein.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners that this Resolution shall take effect on December 20, 2021.

ENACTMENT: December 20, 2021

EFFECTIVE: December 20, 2021

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

Kevin M. Bianca, Chair
Board of Town Commissioners

Michael Krantz, Town Clerk