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October 17, 2024

The Honorable Common Council of the City of Milwaukee Room 205 - City Hall

RE:

Communications from SEAN McDANIEL

C.I. File No. 1053-2024-656

Dear Sir or Madam:

Sean McDaniel alleges that the City of Milwaukee Forestry section was negligent while removing a tree from a vacant lot at 3317 North Buffum Street in February, 2022. He claims the City crew dropped a tree on his property at 3307 North Buffum Street, causing damages to his fence, porch, and gutter. He is seeking \$25,275.00.

This notice of claim was filed on April 4, 2024. Wis. Stat. § 893.80 (1d) (a) requires that a notice of circumstances of the claim be filed within 120 days after the happening of the event given rise to the claim. This service of notice is untimely.

We have completed an investigation into this matter with the Department of Public Works (DPW) – Forestry section, and the Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS). Forestry records indicate that on January 28, 2022, tree workers from Asplundh Tree Service, contracted by the City of Milwaukee, removed two declining Ash trees from the City of Milwaukee owned vacant lot at 3317 North Buffum Street. Forestry has no record of Mr. McDaniel contacting them at any point before or after the trees were removed. Asplundh submitted photos before and after the trees were removed. There is no evidence of property damage in the photos, and none reported by Asplund.

HEIDI WICK SPOERL KATHRYN Z. BLOCK THOMAS D. MILLER PETER J. BLOCK PATRICK J. MCCLAIN ANDREA J. FOWLER JOANNA FRACZEK HANNAH R. JAHN MEIGHAN M. ANGER ALEXANDER R. CARSON **GREGORY P. KRUSE ALEX T. MUELLER ALEXANDER D. COSSI** LISA A. GILMORE KATHERINE A. HEADLEY SHEILA THOBANI STACY J. MILLER JORDAN M. SCHETTLE THERESA A. MONTAG **ALEXANDER E. FOUNDOS** TRAVIS J. GRESHAM JENNIFER L. WILLIAMS KYLE W. BAILEY JOSEPH M. DOBBS **WILLIAM K. HOTCHKISS** CLINT B. MUCHE TYLER M. HELSEL **ZACHARY A. HATFIELD** MEGHAN C. MCCABE MARIA E. MESOLORAS **CYNTHIA HARRIS ORTEGA OLUWASEUN C. IBITOYE KEVIN P. TODT** Assistant City Attorneys



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DNS has no records of calls or complaints regarding this location. There is no evidence that the City of Milwaukee is liable for damages in this case. Therefore, we recommend the claim be denied.

Very truly yours,

EVAN C. GOYKE

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City Attorney

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JULIE P. WILSON
Deputy City Attorney

ECG/JPW/PK/cdr

Enclosures

1053-2024-656/294087