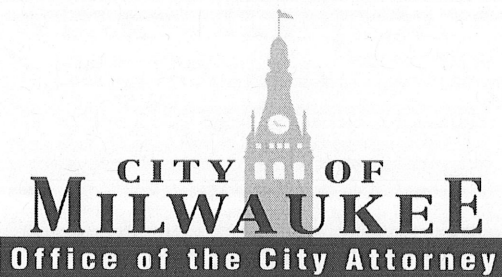


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November 4, 2019

To the Honorable Common Council  
of the City of Milwaukee  
Room 205 – City Hall

Re: **Resolution authorizing settlement of claims in the lawsuit entitled**  
*Whole Foods Market Services, Inc. v. City of Milwaukee*

Dear Council Members:

Enclosed please find a resolution recommending settlement of the above-referenced case, which we ask be introduced and referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Legislation with the following recommendation.

In the above-referenced lawsuit, Whole Foods Market Services, Inc. (“Whole Foods”) claimed the City excessively assessed its property for tax years 2017 and 2018 and sought a refund of \$335,297 plus interest and costs. Whole Foods has also objected to its 2019 assessment and requested a reduction of approximately \$141,000 in taxes.


Whole Foods and the City Assessor have agreed to slightly reduced assessments for the property for tax years 2017-2020, which results in a partial refund of taxes to Whole Foods for the 2017-2018 tax years only in the total amount of \$74,997.62. Although the City would initially have to pay this amount, after the Wisconsin Department of Revenue charges back the reduction in assessments to the other taxation districts, the City’s portion of the \$74,997.62 will be approximately one-third (\$24,999.21).

In consultation with the City Assessor, the City Attorney now recommends settlement of this matter for the proposed refund, inclusive of all interest and costs. In exchange for this settlement and payment, Whole Foods will stipulate to dismiss the case and release all existing claims against the City arising out of this matter.

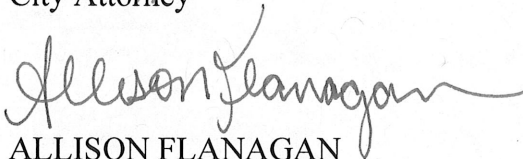


Honorable Common Council  
November 4, 2019  
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Very truly yours,



GRANT F. LANGLEY  
City Attorney



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Assistant City Attorney

AF:mal  
Enclosure

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