

GRANT F. LANGLEY
City Attorney

RUDOLPH M. KONRAD
LINDA ULISS BURKE
VINCENT D. MOSCHELLA
Deputy City Attorneys



THOMAS O. GARTNER
BRUCE D. SCHRIMPF
ROXANE L. CRAWFORD
SUSAN D. BICKERT
STUART S. MUKAMAL
THOMAS J. BEAMISH
MAURITA F. HOUREN
JOHN J. HEINEN
MICHAEL G. TOBIN
DAVID J. STANOSZ
SUSAN E. LAPPEN
JAN A. SMOKOWICZ
PATRICIA A. FRICKER
HEIDI WICK SPOERL
KURT A. BEHLING
GREGG C. HAGOPIAN
ELLEN H. TANGEN
MELANIE R. SWANK
JAY A. UNORA
DONALD L. SCHRIEFER
EDWARD M. EHRlich
LEONARD A. TOKUS
VINCENT J. BOBOT
MIRIAM R. HORWITZ
MARYNELL REGAN
G. O'SULLIVAN-CROWLEY
KATHRYN M. ZALEWSKI
MEGAN T. CRUMP
ELOISA DE LEÓN
ADAM B. STEPHENS
KEVIN P. SULLIVAN
Assistant City Attorneys

October 20, 2006

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

Re: Communication from Attorney Laurie Eggert
Eggert & Cermele, S.C.
for legal fees for Police Officer Thomas KLine
Claim File No. 04-S-98; EC No. 2006

Dear Council Members:


Returned herewith is a document filed by Attorney Laurie A. Eggert for attorney's fees for representing Police Officer Thomas Kline. The claim is in the amount of \$1,326.48, including \$17.48 in disbursements for 11.90 hours of service billed at the rate of \$110.00 per hour. We ask that this matter be introduced and referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Legislation.

We have reviewed this claim and advise that in our opinion, the time spent was reasonable. Legal representation was occasioned by the filing of a citizen's complaint against the officer with the Fire and Police Commission. The complaint was dismissed by the Commission.

As we have advised you under similar circumstances in the past, the Common Council has discretion to reject this claim or to pay it in whole or in part. Wis. Stat. § 895.35, *Bablitch and Bablitch v. Lincoln County*, 82 Wis. 2d 574 (1978). The Common Council continues to have discretion with regard to this claim because the fees were incurred prior to the effective date of 2005 Wisconsin Act 73 (effective June 7, 2006) which now makes such payment mandatory except in certain, statutorily-defined circumstances.

Very truly yours,


GRANT F. LANGLEY
City Attorney


JAN A. SMOKOWICZ
Assistant City Attorney
JAS:enm

Enc.

1032-2004-1087.008/111171

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY