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August 22, 2023

The Honorable Common Council of the City of Milwaukee City Hall – Room 800

RE:

Communications from TOM SOWINSKI

C.I. File No. 1048-2022-1151

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is an addendum to our initial recommendation dated November 15, 2022. Mr. Sowinski alleges that on June 24, 2022, his 12 family unit located at 8409 W. Morgan Avenue sustained a significant amount of damage to the basement, allegedly when Milwaukee Water Works completed a meter exchange. Mr. Sowinski has presented a damage claim in the amount of \$10,791.14, for water turn off, clean up, labor and building supplies. We reinvestigated this matter and propose a revised resolution.

Milwaukee Water Works (MWW) reported that their field staff were assigned to exchange a medium sized meter at the subject property. Approximately one hour after that exchange, a tenant in the building found water pooling across multiple locations in the basement and reported water sprayed from the outlet gaskets/flange of the meter. Building maintenance arrived and shut off the water and called MWW for assistance.

MWW field staff reported back to the location and found the gaskets had risen from the flanges. Field staff removed the meter, installed new gaskets, washers and bolts and ensured that the connection was properly sealed.

HEIDI WICK SPOERL KATHRYN Z. BLOCK THOMAS D. MILLER PETER J. BLOCK PATRICK J. MCCLAIN HANNAH R. JAHN JULIE P. WILSON MEIGHAN M. ANGER ALEXANDER R. CARSON **ALEXANDER T. MUELLER ALEXANDER D. COSSI** LISA A. GILMORE **TAVISS K. SMITH KATHERINE A. HEADLEY** L. ANTHONY JACKSON STACY J. MILLER MICHAEL C. RADAVICH JORDAN M. SCHETTLE THERESA A. MONTAG **ALEXANDER E. FOUNDOS** JAMES D. LEWIS TRAVIS J. GRESHAM **KYLE W. BAILEY** JOSEPH M. DOBBS WILLIAM K. HOTCHKISS CLINT B. MUCHE **JOANNA FRACZEK** Assistant City Attorneys



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On September 8, 2022, our appraisers inspected the claimant's property and assessed the damages up to \$12,419.16.

In conclusion, MWW staff failed to follow standard protocols for exchanging a medium meter. Accordingly, we recommend the claimant's original amount requested of \$10,791.14 be approved for payment.

Very truly yours,

TEARMAN SPENCER

City Attorney

JENNIFER L. WILLIAMS

Deputy City Attorney

TS/JLW/MG/cdr

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