

September 20, 2000

Michael Ogradowski
3208 North Oakland Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53211
Office (414) 905-1387 Home (414) 332-8330

CITY OF MILWAUKEE

00 SEP 20 PM 4: 32

RONALD D. LEONHARDT
CITY CLERK

Mr. Ron Leonhardt City Clerk
200 East Wells Street Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202 - 3567
ATTN: CLAIMS

Re: Sewer Lateral repair costs of \$6210.00

Property 3330 West Beecher Street, 53211

Tax Key Number 471-0312-0

Dear Mr. Leonhardt,

I am the owner of 3 multifamily properties in the City of Milwaukee, one of them a three family building located at the corner of South 34th and West Beecher Streets which is occupied by long term, elderly tenants. They have been terribly inconvenienced, and I have incurred huge bills because the basement flooded 8 times since May 2000, with rain water and raw sewage because of a broken sanitary lateral pipe that prevented water flow from this property to the city sewer. My claim is that the City of Milwaukee and City employees damaged the lateral in May 2000, acknowledged the damage to me, ignored the problem all summer long, which forced me to take action in August 2000 and accept the responsibility for the necessary sewer repair. I am requesting 100% re-imbursment from the City of Milwaukee.

In May 2000, the city opened the street on 34th in front of my property to install, replace or repair the storm sewer 6-inch pipe. Coincidentally at that time my basement started flooding after heavy rains with sewage back up. I later learned that the 6-inch concrete pipe/ sanitary lateral was crushed by heavy equipment the city used in digging the hole. The enclosed pictures, taken August 30th 2000 (after the street was re-opened), show the recently installed green storm sewer at the top with shattered sanitary lateral pipe at the bottem, a close up of the 3 foot gap in the sanitary lateral pipe, depth of the hole, and the location of the excavation on South 34th Street.

The week of May 15, 2000 was a disaster because the basement filled with over 3 feet of water; Blau plumbing attempted to open the sewer on May 16, 2000 with out success. Roto Rooter came in on May 19th with stronger equipment to open the sewer with out success and called me at 6 PM to report that there was a blockage filled with clay and mud that suggests a broken lateral pipe.

I immediately reported this to the city after-hours switchboard and was told by the receptionist that some one from the sewer department would inspect the situation as soon as possible. I asked her to stress that this was an emergency that needed immediate attention, not only from myself, but from the city as well. The basement was filled with 3 feet of water, items floating in the water included toilet paper and raw sewage, and the two water heater pilot lights were out as well as the two furnaces and the washers and dryers were sitting in water. On a public health level, the tenants had no hot water, couldn't bathe or use the toilets for fear that it would be dumped into the basement.

Over the weekend I, along with my tenants and my friends, spent the entire weekend, pumping out the water, sanitizing the basement, and re-lighting the pilot lights to the water heaters and to the furnaces. I learned that a man from the sewer department inspected the situation and told my tennant Lucille Bieszk that the lateral was damaged and needed repair.

CITY OF MILWAUKEE
RECEIVED

RONALD D. LEONHARDT
CITY CLERK

00 SEP 20 PM 2: 41

CITY OF MILWAUKEE

On Monday May 22, 2000, I phoned the sewer dept. to find out what the inspector had to say about the situation. I was told by the receptionist that the inspector found that the lateral was damaged and needed repair. I asked to talk directly to the inspector to tell him what my tenant was told by the city employee at the job site, that the hole was to be closed on Tuesday, May 23rd. The inspector got on the phone and assured me that he would stop the closure until the lateral was repaired. I was relieved to hear that everything would be taken care of properly after this phone call.

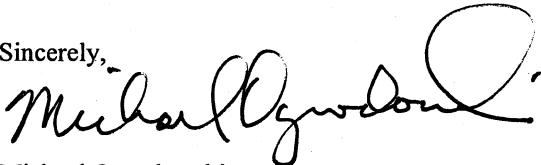
On Friday August 25, 2000 I learned the truth, that the city closed the hole without replacing or repairing the damaged lateral. Lucille Bieszk, my tenant called the city to tell them that once again the basement was filled with water and asked that a representative of the city would come out and inspect the situation. At the property, her son Mark Biesek, talked to the city employee who suggested that the next step would be a snake with a camera to determine what was the location of the blockage. On Monday August 28, 2000 I employed Gene Wagner Plumbing, who located the crushed sanitary lateral 23 feet from my property under the city street. At that time, I authorized the plumbing company to open the hole, assess the damage, and arrange an inspection by the city sewer department. A city employee, after inspection, told the plumbers that the damage was a result of a burst of water pressure, and the city assumed no responsibility at that time. I did the right thing, stopped the insanity, and authorized the replacement of the damaged sanitation lateral.

I saw the street open in May and I was assured that the damage would be repaired. The work was never done and the street was closed, which caused duplicate cost and unnecessary aggravation. I have incurred plumbing repair costs of \$6210.47, due to the negligent actions of the city and city employees. I am enclosing three original bills and four photographs to substantiate my claim.

I spoke to Alderman Bob Donovan about the matter. I have given a verbal report about the situation to Tony Zielinski which was recorded on Wednesday, August 30th.

I would appreciate your favorable response.

Sincerely,



Michael Ogrodowski

Enclosures: 4 photographs taken August 30th, 2000
3 original plumbing bills



11030 W. Lincoln Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53227

INVOICE

No 81190

Milwaukee: (414) 541-4477
Waukesha: (414) 548-3660

INVOICE DATE 5-19-06	PHONE 678-3388	P.O. #	START TIME 3:55
CUSTOMER NAME Lucille Bieszk			FINISH TIME 5:55
JOB ADDRESS (STREET, ZIP) 3330 W. Beecher			
BILLING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT) (STREET, CITY, ZIP)			
SERVICE PERFORMED			PRICE
Sewer clean from clo in			0
stack out \approx 30'-40'. Pulled			
Back mud and clay. Sewer not			
open. Looks like city did some			
work in the street.			125.00
Extra hour			70.00
PARTS/PRODUCTS			
Extra Man No Charge			N/C
TRUCK # 11	SUBTOTAL \$ 195.00		
SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE RR	TAX \$		
WARRANTY (IF APPLICABLE) N/A	TOTAL \$ 195.00		

RETAIN RECEIPT FOR WARRANTY PURPOSES.
\$20.00 CHARGE FOR RETURNED CHECKS. PAYMENT IS
DUE WITHIN 30 DAYS. SERVICE CHARGE OF 1 1/2% PER
MONTH (18% APR) ON ALL INVOICES OVER 30 DAYS OLD.

VISA/MASTERCARD
 CHECK # 1822

CASH
 CHARGE

Date: 5-19-00
Signature: Lucille Bieszk

PAID

Gene A. Wagner Plumbing Co., Inc.
2017 So. 60th St.
Milwaukee, Wi. 53219
414-541-9217
414-541-9486 FAX
M.P. #222399

DATE: August 31, 2000
JOB #: 35300
NAME: Michael Ogradowski
3208 No. Oakland
Milwaukee, Wi. 53211

BUILDING ADDRESS
3330 W. BECHER ST.
TAX KEY 471-0312-0

JOB ADDRESS: 2078 So. 34th St.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: 8/29/00 and 8/30/00, Sanitary sewer
repair in road at water main.

Buster	125.00
Backhoe	400.00
Dump Truck	400.00
Stone	213.75
Pump	35.00
Barricades	35.50
1 - 6" PVC x PVC fernco	28.95
1 - 6" Clay x PVC fernco	28.95
1 - 6' PVC 45o ell	13.75
8' - 6" PVC pipe	31.60
Dump Tickets	100.00
2 - 3 x 2 Cast iron gages adpt.	47.50
Concrete	689.20
Permits	369.00

	2,518.20
	TAX 68.56
Plumbers Service 39 Hours @78.50	3,061.50

	TOTAL \$5,648.26

Balance Now Due: \$5,648.26

PAID IN Full
CK# 7110
9/14/00
L. Rangan

Gene A. Wagner Plumbing Co., Inc.
2017 So. 60th St.
Milwaukee, Wi. 53219
414-541-9217
414-541-9486 FAX
M.P. #222399

DATE: August 31, 2000

JOB #: 35470

NAME: Michael Ogradowski
3208 No. Oakland
Milwaukee Wi. 53211

JOB ADDRESS: 2078 So. 34th St.

BUILDING ADDRESS: 3330 W. PLUMBERS TAX 471-5312

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: 8/23/00, Plugged sewer, sewer does not run off, need to have sewer televised. 8/25/00, Televiser sewer, need to repair broken.

8/23/00	
Sewer Machine	25.00
Plumbers Service 1/2 Hour @O.T. @100.50	50.25
8/25/00	
Camera	150.00
Plumbers Service 1 1/2 Hours @78.50	117.75

	343.00
TAX	19.21

TOTAL	\$362.21

PAID IN FULL

CK# 7110

9/14/00

L. Regan

Balance Now Due: \$362.21

