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August 27, 2020

Stanford Law Offices, S.C.  
c/o Peter A. Stanford, Esq.  
225 East Fairmont Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53217

*Mailed*  
*8-27-2020*

RE: C.I. File No. 1048-2020-793  
Communications from Attorney Peter A. Stanford on behalf of Sally Ward

Dear Attorney Stanford:

We are in receipt of your claim for damages that resulted from a water main break occurring on December 28, 2019 in the vicinity of West Dixon at South Hawley Road.

Milwaukee Water Works conducted and completed their investigation of this matter. On December 28, 2019, at 9:03 a.m. Milwaukee Water Works Distribution Control Center call log indicated that Milwaukee Police Department reported water surfacing in the street at South Hawley Road and West Adler Street. At 9:04 a.m., Milwaukee Water Works requested barricades, a salter, and DPW-Sewers to unclog the catch basins within the public right of way, however crews were not able to clear catch basins on private property that were not within the City's jurisdiction. Milwaukee Water Works investigation revealed a break in a 16" diameter water main located in West Dixon Street at South Hawley Road, which caused water to affect surrounding areas.

By mid-morning of the same day, the 48" diameter valve at North Hawley Road and West Fairview Avenue was turned off, as well as the 48" diameter valve at South 55<sup>th</sup> Street and W. National Avenue. It takes two persons approximately 2 hours to completely shut off a 48" diameter valve once the valves were turned off, the water subsided. Traffic control closed down South Hawley Road from West Dixon Street to West Adler Street.

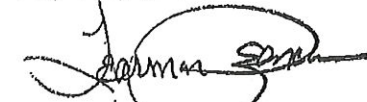


Mid-City Corporation was contracted to repair the main break and responded to the site at 11:06 a.m. A new valve was installed in West Dixon Street and South Hawley Road to return water service to the area while repairs were made. Water was restored to residents within the impacted area at approximately 10:30 p.m.

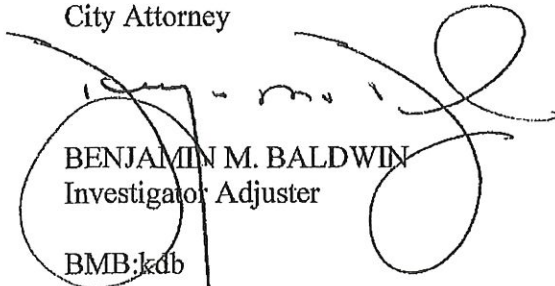
Milwaukee Water Works concluded its internal and external investigation into the 16" water main break that occurred on December 28, 2019 in South Hawley Road and West Dixon Street. The result of the investigation did not indicate that Milwaukee Water Works could or should have been aware of pipe failure prior to water surfacing on South Hawley Road, nor did the investigation indicate the piping differed from manufacturer or installation specifications. As such, the City cannot accept liability for the damages being claimed from the December 28, 2019 water main break. Therefore, we are denying your claim.

If you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so by sending a written statement requesting a hearing within 21 days of the postmarked date of this letter to the Milwaukee City Clerk, 200 East Wells Street, Room 205; Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202. Please include a photocopy of this letter's envelope, showing the postmark, and retain the original in the event further proof is needed.

Very truly yours,



TEARMAN SPENCER  
City Attorney



BENJAMIN M. BALDWIN  
Investigator Adjuster

BMB:kdb

c: Karen Dettmer, P.E. (Water Superintendent)

