GRANT F. LANGLEY

City Attorney

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



August 19, 2013

The Honorable, Common Council of the City of Milwaukee Room 205 – City Hall

Re: Changes in Contract with Kohn Law Firm, S.C. with Respect to Payment of Fees for Collection of Delinquent Personal and Real Property Taxes.

Dear Council Members:

We ask that the attached resolution be introduced into the Common Council.

The existing contract for collection of delinquent personal and real property taxes contains a fee schedule that reflects a certain timetable for referring delinquent accounts to Kohn Law Firm by the Treasurer's office. This office, Treasurer's office and Kohn Law Firm have agreed to revise the referred timetable, which would afford Kohn Law Firm additional six months to pursue *in personam* collection of delinquent taxes. Kohn Law Firm has agreed to lower their compensation rate in consideration of extending the amount of time allowed for *in personam* collection efforts.

The goal of allowing additional time for *in personam* collection is to reduce the number of *in rem* tax lien foreclosures, by providing taxpayers with more time to make payment arrangements with Kohn Law Firm, while increasing collection of delinquent taxes. The change in the referred timetable will also allow the Treasurer's office to utilize the Tax Refund Intercept Program (TRIP) for the collection of delinquent real estate taxes.

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Attached is a resolution authorizing changes in the current contract with the Kohn Law Firm.

Very truly yours,

GRANT F. LANGLEY City Attorney

JOANNA GIBELEV Assistant City Attorney

JG:wt:194936

c: James Owczarski, City Clerk Jim Klajbor

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