



TO: Personnel Committee
FROM: Kathleen M. McDaniel, City Attorney
RE: City Attorney's Office Update
DATE: May 1, 2020

In addition to drafting legislation as requested by City departments, the City Attorney's Office has worked on the following projects and initiatives since my February 27th update:

Environmental Remediation

- Lemberger Landfill: Reviewing 2020 annual budget and 2021 budget
- Gravel Pit: Submit revised emerging contaminant workplan. Cost recovery efforts continue. Sampling is temporarily suspended given COVID-19 situation, City remains in correspondence with WDNR.
- Emerging Contaminant Concerns: Participate in municipal attorney workgroup, follow rulemaking process at WDNR
- WPS Superfund Site: Participate in internal and external meetings regarding WPS plans

Open Records Requests

- Insurance company for Lakeshore Mall regarding all correspondence between mall owner's attorney and City Attorney's Office
- Attorney B. Kroes, on behalf of Lakeshore Mall, filed a voluminous request regarding weed abatement and rental charges
- AIE consulting for 4606/4626 Calumet Avenue
- Garratt-Callahan for WWTF SIU User List
- Washington Post for April 7 Election Information
- New York Times for April 7 Election Information
- RDM for records related to carbon monoxide at 1112 Washington
- CBRE for Walgreens property records
- Quarles and Brady for 1112 Washington St records
- S. Schupbach for employee records
- Black Knight Real Estate for city tax records

Litigation, Prosecution, and Neighborhood Improvement

- Assist Police with ordinance interpretation questions
- Blighted properties: Lakeshore Mall litigation continues
- Asst. City Attorney working with housing inspector to develop blight plan for corridors
- Advise Police on COVID concerns
- Municipal Court held remote pretrial conferences in April

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Economic Development

- Metal Ware: Meeting postponed due to mutual concern over coronavirus
- Hecker/Viebahn property: Property is closed, working with staff on annexation
- Assist CD Department with other upcoming projects
- R2H Refinance: waiting for recorded mortgage from bank
- Assist with Bayshore Trail development
- Camp Vits property acquisition

LEAN/BPI

- Assisted staff with advice on BPI events as needed
- Follow up on Council document workflow continue

Insurance/Risk Management

- Reviewed claims filed against the City, reported to insurance and Finance as appropriate
- ADA Title II: Audit progress continues, all departments have returned self-audit for general non-discrimination. Effective communication self-audit will be next.
- Secured new equipment breakdown coverage

Labor Matters

- Fire Department bargaining: WERC decision came down, mediation continues
- Transit bargaining: Union voting to ratify
- Police: Request to open bargaining received
- Assist unionized departments with personnel matters as needed
- Provide resolutions to backfill and fill positions where appropriate
- Correspond outside counsel for EEOC/DWD complaint filed by police officer
- Assist HR with COVID policy interpretation

Office Matters/Additional Information

- Staff meetings held via zoom
- Prepared committee reports
- Office has transitioned fully to remote work due to COVID-19

Monthly Reporting

- Since my February 27, 2020 report:
 - 76 Requests for Legal Services received, 49 closed
 - 4 new claims received (2 sewer backups, 1 trip and fall, 1 mailbox)
 - 59 new citations sent over for prosecution, trials adjourned to fall due to coronavirus