

TO: Personnel Committee

FROM: Kathleen M. McDaniel, City Attorney

RE: City Attorney's Office Update

DATE: July 30, 2021

In addition to drafting legislation and reviewing contracts as requested by City departments, the City Attorney's Office has worked on the following projects and initiatives since my April 29, 2021 update:

### **Environmental Remediation**

- Lemberger Landfill: Work continues as planned.
- Gravel Pit: Meetings scheduled with Town of Manitowoc and Town of Newton in August. Newell cost recovery continues. Water main approval is still waiting on the Public Service Commission.
- WPS Superfund Site: No update from last month.

## **Open Records Requests**

- Attorney Ralph Sczygelski re 707 Franklin St
- ETS Environmental re 1500 N 30<sup>th</sup> St

## Litigation, Prosecution, and Neighborhood Improvement

- Assist Police with ordinance interpretation questions
- Blighted properties: Asst. City Attorney continues to work with Housing Inspector and Crime Prevention Sergeant to address, see updates from Chief Blaser to Public Safety for razing information
- Address nuisance property on New York St and property with excessive animals
- Wisconsin Legislature is attempting to pass a bill that would curtail the City's raze authority, ACA Majerus testified against this bill on behalf of the League

### **Economic Development**

- Assist CD Department with proposed upcoming projects
  - o Metal Ware ongoing
  - o Petskull closed
  - o River North Apartments ongoing
- Work has begun to revise the sewer connection ordinance, which has not been updated in 20 years

### LEAN/BPI

- Assisted staff with advice on BPI events as needed
- Asst. City Attorney serving as chair of BPI committee

# Insurance/Risk Management

- Reviewed claims filed against the City, reported to insurance and Finance as appropriate
- ADA Title II work in progress, bimonthly meetings scheduled

#### **Labor Matters**

- Fire: Bargaining continues, union has brought in representative from PFFW
- Assist unionized departments with personnel matters as needed
- Assist HR with policy interpretation and discipline as necessary

## Office Matters/Additional Information

- Intern will be finishing up in August
- Both attorneys will be attending League of WI Municipalities Institute at the end of the month

# Monthly Reporting on Workload

- 40 Requests for Legal Services received, 29 closed
- 17 new litigation matters (15 animal bites, two claims)
- 35 new citations sent over for prosecution, trials scheduled into December 2021 and four additional trial dates added