

CITY OF MADISON, WISCONSIN

REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

AUTHOR: Jaime L. Staffaroni

DATED: 2/27/2020

TO THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL:

RE: UNLAWFUL TAXATION: Don Millis, Reinhart Boerner Van Dueren, S.C., for Veritas Village, LLC – Excessive Assessment \$318,584.00

Claimant, Veritas Village, LLC is claiming a refund for excessive real property tax pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 74.37 for their 2019 taxes for their property located at 110 N. Livingston St. The claimant alleges that the assessed value of the property is no greater than \$14,375,924. The Claimant is seeking a refund of \$318,584.00 plus interest.

The Claimant challenged the 2019 assessment before the Board of Review. The City Assessor set the assessment at \$25,000,000. The Board of Assessors increased the assessment to \$29,820,000 and the Board of Review reduced the assessment to \$28,500,000. The 2019 real property taxes were \$642,850.59. Veritas Village and the City of Madison are currently involved in an action in Dane County Circuit Court involving the 2018 assessment. *Veritas Village, LLC v. City of Madison*, 2019CV1469.

I have consulted with the Office of the Assessor and we are of the opinion that the Board of Review determined the appropriate assessed value for 2019.

For the foregoing reasons, I recommend denial of the subject claim.

Note: This claim was received on January 7, 2020, and pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 74.37(3)(a) if no action is taken on this claim by the Common Council within ninety (90) days of filing the claim, it is considered disallowed.

Respectfully submitted,


Jaime L. Staffaroni
Assistant City Attorney