

CITY OF MADISON, WISCONSIN

REPORT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

AUTHOR: Jaime L. Staffaroni

DATED: March 3, 2021

TO THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL:

RE: EXCESSIVE ASSESSMENT: Robert L. Gordon, Michael Best & Friedrich, LLP,
attorney for Russ Darrow Madison, LLC – \$45,144

Claimant Russ Darrow Madison, LLC is claiming a refund for excessive real property tax pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 74.37 for their 2020 taxes for their property located at 6517 Odana Road. The claimant alleges that the assessed value should be no higher than \$1,511,700 for 2020, and the property taxes should be no higher than \$33,885. The Claimant is seeking a refund of \$45,144 plus interest.

The Claimant challenged the 2020 assessment before the Board of Review. The City Assessor set the assessment at \$3,521,000, and the Board of Review sustained the assessment. The 2020 real property taxes were \$79,028.84. The Claimant also alleges that the assessed value of the property established by the Office of the Assessor and sustained by the Board of Review violates Article VIII, Section 1 (“Uniformity Clause”) of the Wisconsin Constitution.

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 2020.

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

Note: This claim was received on January 29, 2021, 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