

City of Racine, Wisconsin Common Council

AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

5 INTRO TO COUNCIL DATE: June 17, 2025

6 STANDING COMMITTEE DATE: June 23, 2025

7 FINAL ACTION COUNCIL DATE: July 1, 2025

DEPARTMENT: City Attorney's Office

10 Prepai

Prepared By: Deputy City Attorney Marisa L. Roubik

SUBJECT: Communication sponsored by Alder Land on behalf of the City Attorney's Office submitting the claim of Judith Erickson for consideration for disallowance.

 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Claimant Judith Erickson filed a claim with the City requesting \$410.00 in damages to her fence allegedly caused by a snow plow that was plowing the alley behind her residence between 10:00 PM on February 15 and 6:00 AM on February 16, 2025. No City employees reported damaging the Claimant's fence while operating a City-owned snow plow on the dates in question, nor were City-owned snow plows operating in this alley during the timeframe in question. Because there are no witnesses, proof, or evidence that the City caused the alleged damage to the Claimant's fence, it is the recommendation of the City Attorney's Office that this claim be disallowed.

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:

Claimant Judith Erickson, of 2113 Grove Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin 53405, filed a claim with the City on March 17, 2025, requesting \$410.00 in damages to her fence allegedly caused by a snow plow that was plowing the alley behind her residence between 10:00 PM on February 15 and 6:00 AM on February 16, 2025.

City employees are required to report any damage they cause to personal property while operating a City-owned vehicle. However, no City employees reported damaging the Claimant's fence while

31 operating a City-owned snow plow on the dates in question. The Claimant did not indicate that there were any witnesses to the alleged incident occurring. 32 Furthermore, the City's Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department, which is responsible 33 for plowing alleyways in the City, was not plowing alleys during the timeframe in question. Therefore, no 34 City plows were plowing in this alley when the damage occurred, as alleged, between 10:00 PM on 35 36 February 15 and 6:00 AM on February 16, 2025. 37 Because there are no witnesses, proof, or evidence that the City caused the alleged damage to the Claimant's fence, it is the recommendation of the City Attorney's Office that this claim be disallowed. 38 39 40 **BUDGETARY IMPACT:** 41 Assuming the recommendation to disallow this claim is adopted, this item would have a \$0.00 impact on the City's budget. 42 43 44 **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** 45 That the disallowance of this claim be recommended for approval. 46