Matthew P. Dregne
Government Law Team Leader

222 West Washington Avenue, Suite 900
P.O. Box 1784
Madison, WI 53701-1784
MDregne@staffordlaw.com
608.259.2618

September 23, 2021

BY EMAIL: TSwadley@ci.stoughton.wi.us

Mayor Tim Swadley
City of Stoughton
207 South Forrest Street
Stoughton, WI 53589

Re: Proposed 2022 Rates for Legal Services

Dear Mayor Swadley,

I have enclosed our proposed rates for legal services for 2022. The enclosed proposed rate schedule is our standard rate schedule we are using for our municipal clients.

The rates the City has paid us for legal services have remained unchanged since 2019. Before 2021, we operated under two consecutive four-year contracts that held rates constant at two-year intervals. We have provided prosecution services and attendance at City council meetings at a fixed monthly rate, and all of our other legal services at a single hourly rate that is below the low end of our typical rate for legal services. For all of these reasons, the rates we are currently charging the City have fallen well behind the rates we charge our other municipal clients, and are not sustainable for our firm.

I have also enclosed a document that describes the average annual hours of work we dedicated to City legal services over a four-year period (2017 through 2020). The document then applies our proposed rates to the average annual hours to describe an estimated budget for 2022 legal services.

It has been a privilege to represent the City of Stoughton. We hope to continue our relationship in 2022.

Sincerely,

STAFFORD ROSENBAUM LLP

Matthew P. Dregne

Enclosures
MPD:pcl
cc: Regina Hirsch, Council President (by email, with enclosures)
Jamin Friedl, Finance Director (by email, with enclosures)

L:\DOCS\005649\000004\CORR\3RS1891.DOCX
0923211619

STAFFORD ROSENBAUM LLP

PROPOSED 2022 MUNICIPAL GENERAL COUNSEL RATES

Type of Services	Description of Services	Hourly Rates	
General Municipal Law Services	Advising on issues of municipal law; attending meetings as directed; drafting municipal ordinances, resolutions, public construction contracts and other instruments as may be required; and performing such other duties as may be prescribed by law or requested.	Partners Associates Paralegals	$220 $190 $135
Prosecutorial Services	Advising on matters relating to the issuance of citations and prosecution of ordinance violations; prosecuting ordinance violations.	Partners Associates Paralegals	$200 $175 $135
Land Use and Development Related Services	Advising and representing in the review, processing and action on land use and development-related matters, including annexation, zoning, land division, tax increment financing and urban service area amendments; negotiating and drafting permits, agreements and other documents relating to land use and development issues.	Partners Associates Paralegals	$280 $220 $145
Additional Services, including Litigation, Environmental and Labor and Employment Services	Rates charged for a particular matter will be *determined on a case-by-case basis*.	Partners Associates Paralegals	

CITY OF STOUGHTON

2022 BUDGET ESTIMATES – USING PROPOSED RATES

1. Annual Hours Worked Based on Four-Year Average (2017-2020)

Type of Work	**Staff**	**Hours**
Council Meetings and Agenda Review	Partner	94
Prosecution	Associates	236
	Paralegals	66
Other Work	Partners	504
	Associates	265
	Paralegals	12

2. Budget Estimates (2022)

Type of Work	**Staff**	**Hours**	**General Fund**	**Chargeback**
Council Meetings and Agenda Review	Partner	94	$20,680	
Prosecution	Associates	236	$47,200	
	Paralegals	66	$8,910	
General Municipal*	Partners	252	$55,440	
	Associates	133	$25,270	
	Paralegals	6	$ 810	
Land Use and Development**	Partners	252		$70,560
	Associates	133		$29,260
	Paralegals	6		$870
TOTALS			$158,310	$100,690

* Assumes 50% of historical average of non-prosecution work would be spent on general municipal work.

** Assumes 50% of historical average of non-prosecution work would be spent on land use and development projects that would be charged back to developers.