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City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

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MAYOR

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May 12, 2022

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Councilors:

I respectfully submit this docket item to your Honorable Council requesting the authorization to expend \$20,000 from Law Department Account #0110841-572500 Legal Claims & Settlements to settle a claim of negligence against the City.

In 2018, Ms. Donna Jackson filed a case in Middlesex Superior Court, claiming that she was injured due to the negligence of the City of Newton after she slipped and fell on the walkway in front of Newton Police Headquarters on January 9, 2017. The parties have been exploring settlement in this matter and have arrived at a negotiated compromise of \$20,000, which we believe is reasonable given the circumstances of the case. This will be the full and final settlement of all claims resulting from this incident against the City of Newton.

Given that this litigation is ongoing, I recommend that the City Council convene in executive session to discuss this matter, as it concerns settlement strategy.

Please see the attached memo from Deputy City Solicitor Jonah Temple.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

LAW DEPARTMENT



CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

CITY HALL

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May 12, 2022

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller
City of Newton
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Re: Settlement in *Donna Jackson v. City of Newton, 1881-CV-00554*

Dear Honorable Mayor Fuller:

Ms. Jackson filed the above-referenced case in Middlesex Superior Court in 2018, claiming that she was injured due to the negligence of the City of Newton after she slipped and fell on the walkway in front of Newton Police Headquarters on January 9, 2017.

The parties have been exploring settlement in this matter and have arrived at a negotiated compromise of \$20,000, which we believe is reasonable given the circumstances of the case. Therefore, I respectfully request that you docket this item requesting authorization to settle this matter for \$20,000, as a full and final settlement of all claims resulting from this incident against the City of Newton.

Given that this litigation is ongoing, I recommend that the City Council convene in executive session to discuss this matter, as it concerns settlement strategy.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Jonah M. Temple*
Jonah M. Temple
Deputy City Solicitor