

Sparks City Council Meeting
2/13/2023 2:00 PM

9.4. Consideration, discussion, and possible approval or rejection of an offer to settle threatened litigation in the amount of \$441,218.83 related to claims asserted by Mark Lawson. (For Possible Action)

Item Title: Consideration, discussion, and possible approval or rejection of an offer to settle threatened litigation in the amount of \$441,218.83 related to claims asserted by Mark Lawson. (For Possible Action)
Petitioner/Presenter: Wes Duncan, City Attorney/Wes Duncan, City Attorney
Recommendation: Staff recommends that the City Council either (1) accept the offer to settle the threatened litigation in the amount of \$441,218.83 contingent on the negotiation, drafting, and final approval of the necessary settlement agreement and release documents; or (2) or reject the offer to settle the threatened litigation.
Financial Impact: \$None. Financial Explanation:
Business Impact: A Business Impact Statement is not required because this is not a rule.
Agenda Item Brief: This agenda item seeks City Council direction in response to an offer to settle threatened litigation in the amount of \$441,218.83 related to claims asserted by Mark Lawson.

Background:

The City Attorney's Office received a letter from Hutchison & Steffen Attorneys, dated January 19, 2023, addressed to Wes Duncan, City Attorney, which asserted claims by Mark Lawson against the City of Sparks, as detailed in said January 19, 2023 letter. The letter demands \$441,218.83 to settle the threatened litigation.

Analysis:

This agenda item provides the City Council the opportunity to review and either accept or reject the \$441,218.83 offer conveyed by Hutchison & Steffen Attorneys on behalf of Mark Lawson.

Alternatives:

1. Reject the offered settlement.
2. Accept the offer to settle in the amount of \$441,218.83 contingent on the negotiation, drafting, and final approval of the necessary settlement agreement and release documents.
3. Make a counteroffer.

Recommended Motion:

To reject: I move to reject the settlement offer received from Hutchison & Steffen Attorneys on behalf of Mark Lawson.

To accept: I move to accept the settlement offer received from Hutchison & Steffen Attorneys on behalf of Mark Lawson related to asserted claims against

the City of Sparks, as detailed in the January 19, 2023 letter, and direct the City Manager and City Attorney to negotiate the terms of the necessary settlement release for approval at a later date.