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Court of Appeals Rules in Favor of the City of Northfield on Decision on Waterford Orderly Annexation Case

Northfield, MN (August 12, 2019) —

In an unpublished decision issued this morning, the Minnesota Court of Appeals affirmed the Dakota County District Court's ruling that the City's unique orderly annexation agreement with Waterford Township that was at issue in the litigation has terminated and is of no further force or legal effect.

The courts have now twice upheld the City Council's decision in 2010 to stop making annual tax reimbursement payments to Waterford Township resulting from an annexation completed in 1980.

"The City agrees with the Court of Appeals' legal analysis and is pleased with today's decision; however, the City is disappointed that its disagreement with Waterford Township required litigation to resolve," says Ben Martig, City Administrator. Martig further noted, "The City made multiple attempts to negotiate an agreement with Waterford Township, both before the Township commenced this litigation and after the City prevailed in District Court."

Mayor Rhonda Pownell expressed that "the City of Northfield reaffirms its commitment to work cooperatively and in good faith with Waterford Township and all neighboring jurisdictions on all matters of mutual interest and concern that may arise in the future."

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