CITY OF NORMAN, OK
STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 6/10/2025

REQUESTER: Rickey Knighton II, City Attorney

PRESENTER: Rickey Knighton II, City Attorney

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE A SETTLEMENT OF KEVIN HAHN V. CITY OF NORMAN, CLEVELAND COUNTY DISTRICT COURT CASE CJ-2021-210 TB, IN THE AMOUNT OF $100,000.

BACKGROUND:

This case was brought by Kevin Hahn, on March 4, 2021, under Oklahoma law. It arises out of an automobile accident between Mr. Hahn and a police officer that occurred on February 10, 2020. Mr. Hahn settled his claim for property damage for $7,719.07 on December 18, 2024. After a mediation held on May 21, 2025, Mr. Hahn indicated that he would settle his claim for personal injuries the case for $100,000.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Hahn has stated his willingness to settle the case for $100,000. Because this matter involves pending litigation, the merits of this case will be discussed during executive session held on June 10, 2025. The settlement offer is within the range discussed with Council in Executive Session.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is believed that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable and in the best interests of the City. It is recommended the settlement of this matter be approved by City Council and that this office be directed to reduce the settlement amount to judgment in accordance with 51 O.S. §159, and 62 O.S. §362. The settlement amount will then be placed on the property tax rolls for collection over the next three years. Under this process, one-third of the judgment amount plus interest at the statutory rate on the unpaid balance is collected through property tax roll assessments over that time period. This statutorily allowed procedure for payment of judgments against a municipality will minimize the impact of the settlement on the City funds.

Funds are available in the Miscellaneous Services-Judgments account (43122351-44705).