



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
November 8, 2016

Contact: Matthew P. Dregne
Stafford Rosenbaum, LLP
608-259-2618

VILLAGE OF MAINE

The City of Wausau and a number of landowners in the Village of Maine filed suit against the Village of Maine and the Board of Supervisors of the Town of Maine. The lawsuit alleges that the defendants repeatedly violated Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law. The lawsuit alleges that the defendants developed a plan to incorporate as a Village during illegal meetings.

Judge Jill Falstad has decided that she does not have the power to invalidate the incorporation of the Village of Maine under Section 19.97(3) of the Wisconsin Statutes. Judge Falstad's decision does not resolve the case. Judge Falstad said that the City of Wausau and the Maine landowners remain free to pursue the claim that the defendants violated the Open Meetings Law. Furthermore, Judge Falstad said that the Court can grant "such other legal and equitable relief ... as may be appropriate under the circumstances" to remedy violations of the Open Meetings Law.

The City continues to believe that this case presents issues of profound importance to the City, to landowners in the Village of Maine who wish to annex to the City, and to the region as a whole. The City will work with its legal counsel to prove that the defendants developed their incorporation plan during secret, illegal meetings, and to seek a fair remedy.

###