## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

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In re	: : Chapter 9	
CITY OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN,	: : Case No. 13-53846	
Debtor.	: Hon. Steven W. Rhodes :	
	: x	

## ORDER (A) DIRECTING AND APPROVING FORM OF NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF CASE AND MANNER OF SERVICE AND PUBLICATION OF NOTICE AND (B) ESTABLISHING A DEADLINE FOR OBJECTIONS TO ELIGIBILITY AND A SCHEDULE FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION

This matter coming before the Court on the Motion of Debtor for Entry of an Order (A) Directing and Approving Form of Notice of Commencement of Case and Manner of Service and Publication of Notice and (B) Establishing a Deadline for Objections to Eligibility and a Schedule for Their Consideration (the "<u>Motion</u>"), filed by the City of Detroit, Michigan (the "<u>City</u>");<sup>1</sup> the Court having reviewed the Motion and the Orr Declaration and having considered the statements of counsel and the evidence adduced with respect to the Motion at a hearing before the Court (the "<u>Hearing</u>"); and the Court finding that: (a) the Court

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein have the meanings given to them in the Motion.

has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334 and section 921(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, (b) this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b), (c) notice of the Motion and the Hearing was sufficient under the circumstances and (d) with slight changes, the form of the Notice of Commencement and the manner of service and publication of the Notice of Commencement proposed in the Motion satisfy the requirements of section 923 of the Bankruptcy Code; and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and the Orr Declaration and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein;

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Motion is GRANTED.

2. The form of the Notice of Commencement attached hereto APPROVED pursuant to section 923 of the Bankruptcy Code.

3. The Proposed Noticing Agent is directed to mail the Notice of Commencement to the parties identified on the Creditor List within three business days after the entry of this Order.

4. The City shall cause the Notice of Commencement to be published once a week for three consecutive weeks, with the first publication to occur within five business days after the entry of this Order or as soon thereafter as practicable, in (a) the *Detroit Free Press* and (b) *The Bond Buyer*. The City shall file with the Court proof of publication not later than 14 calendar days after the last publication. In addition, in its discretion, the City may post the Notice of Commencement on the Electronic Municipal Market Access database at <u>www.emma.msrb.com</u>. The City may modify the Notice of Commencement to the extent necessary or appropriate to conform the Notice of Commencement to publication, and may reformat the Notice of Commencement to minimize the number of pages for service.

5. The service and publication of the Notice of Commencement in accordance with this Order provides sufficient notice of the City's case and satisfies the requirements of section 923 of the Bankruptcy Code.

6. Any Eligibility Objections must be filed with the Court by no later than August 19, 2013 (the "<u>Eligibility Objection Deadline</u>").

7. Any Eligibility Objections shall state the facts and legal authorities in support of such objections; shall comply with the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules and the Local Rules.

8. If any Eligibility Objections are filed on the above parties on or before the Eligibility Objection Deadline in accordance with this Order, the schedule set forth in the Notice shall apply to the adjudication of such Eligibility Objections. 9. Any Eligibility Objections must be advocated in person at all hearings on such objections, including, without limitation, the Eligibility Hearing, or the Court in its discretion may not consider such Eligibility Objections.

10. If no timely and proper Eligibility Objections are filed and served in accordance with this Order, no Eligibility Hearing will be conducted and the City's request for relief under chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code will be deemed granted.

11. If no timely and proper Eligibility Objections are filed and served in accordance with this Order, or if all timely and proper Eligibility Objections are overruled by the Court or resolved, the Notice of Commencement shall serve as notice of the entry of an order for relief in the City's chapter 9 case.

12. Nothing herein is intended to, shall constitute or shall be deemed to constitute the City's consent pursuant to section 904 of the Bankruptcy Code to this Court's interference with (a) any of the political or governmental powers of the City, (b) any of the property or revenues of the City or (c) the City's use or enjoyment of any income-producing property.

#### **BY ORDER OF THE COURT**

Signed on August 6, 2013

<u>/s/ Steven Rhodes</u> U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

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## NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF CASE UNDER CHAPTER 9, NOTICE OF AUTOMATIC STAY AND PURPOSES OF CHAPTER 9, NOTICE OF DEADLINE AND PROCEDURES FOR FILING OBJECTIONS TO THE CHAPTER 9 PETITION AND NOTICE OF CITY'S MOTION TO LIMIT NOTICE

# TO ALL CREDITORS OF THE CITY OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN, AND TO OTHER PARTIES IN INTEREST:

## PLEASE TAKE NOTICE OF THE FOLLOWING:

## Commencement of Chapter 9 Case

1. On July 18, 2013, the City of Detroit, Michigan commenced a

case (the "Chapter 9 Case") under chapter 9 of title 11 of the United States Code

(the "<u>Bankruptcy Code</u>") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern

District of Michigan, Southern Division (the "Bankruptcy Court"). The City's

Chapter 9 Case was commenced pursuant to an order issued by Kevyn D. Orr, in

his capacity as emergency manager of the City (in such capacity, the "Emergency

Manager") under section 18 of Public Act 436 of 2012 ("PA 436"). The Chapter 9

Case is pending before the Honorable Steven W. Rhodes, United States Bankruptcy Judge.

#### <u>Automatic Stay</u>

2. Pursuant to sections 362 and 922 of the Bankruptcy Code, the filing of the City's chapter 9 petition operates as an automatic stay of actions against the City, including, among other things: (a) the enforcement of any judgment; (b) any act to obtain property from the City; (c) any act to create, perfect or enforce any lien against property of the City; (d) any act to collect, assess or recover a claim against the City; and (e) the commencement or continuation of any judicial, administrative or any other action or proceeding against the City, the Emergency Manager or any other officer or inhabitant of the City that seeks to enforce a claim against the City (the "Chapter 9 Stay").

3. On July 25, 2013, the Bankruptcy Court entered discrete orders: (a) confirming that the protections of the Chapter 9 Stay apply to the City and its officers and inhabitants, including the Emergency Manager (Docket No. 167); and (b) extending the Chapter 9 Stay to (i) the Governor of the State of Michigan (the "<u>Governor</u>"), the Treasurer of the State of Michigan and the Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board of the State of Michigan, together with each entity's staff, agents and representatives, (ii) employees of the City that are neither City officers nor inhabitants of the City and (iii) agents and representatives of the Governor and the Emergency Manager (Docket No. 166).

#### **Purpose of the Chapter 9 Filing**

4. Chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code provides a means for a municipality (such as the City) that has encountered financial difficulty to work with its creditors to adjust its debts. The primary purpose of chapter 9 is to allow the municipality to continue its operations and its provision of services while it adjusts or restructures creditor obligations. In a chapter 9 case, the jurisdiction and powers of the Bankruptcy Court are limited such that it may not interfere with any of the political or governmental powers of the City or the City's use or enjoyment of any income-producing property. During this Chapter 9 Case, the Emergency Manager will continue to manage the affairs of the City according to his authority under PA 436. Under section 18(1) of PA 436, the Emergency Manager acts exclusively on the City's behalf in this Chapter 9 Case.

5. The City intends to propose a plan for the adjustment of its debts. Future notice concerning any such plan will be provided to all known creditors.

# Deadline for Objections to Petition and Entry of an Order for Relief

6. The City has filed papers in support of its eligibility to be a debtor under chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code (the "Documentary Support").<sup>2</sup> Objections to the City's chapter 9 petition may be filed by a creditor or party in interest by August 19, 2013 (the "Eligibility Objection Deadline"). Any such objection shall state the facts and legal authorities in support of such objection; shall comply with the Bankruptcy Code, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and the Local Rules of the Bankruptcy Court; and shall be filed with the Bankruptcy Court.

7. If any Eligibility Objections are filed on or before the Eligibility Objection Deadline in accordance with the above procedures, the following schedule shall apply to the adjudication of the Eligibility Objections:

- August 23, 2013 shall be the deadline for the City and any party that files a timely and proper Eligibility Objection to serve written discovery requests;
- September 6, 2013 shall be the deadline for the City to file responses to the Eligibility Objections;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Documentary Support includes: (a) a Statement of Qualifications Pursuant to Section 109(c) of the Bankruptcy Code (Docket No. 10); (b) an accompanying memorandum of law (Docket No. 14); (c) supporting declarations of Kevyn D. Orr (Docket No. 11), Gaurav Malhotra (Docket No. 12) and Charles M. Moore (Docket No. 13); and (d) the accompanying exhibits for each of the foregoing. The City reserves the right to file additional papers in support of its eligibility for chapter 9 relief and in opposition to any objections thereto.

- September 13, 2013 shall be the deadline for compliance with written discovery requests;
- September 23, 2013 shall be the deadline to complete non-expert depositions;
- September 23, 2013 shall be the deadline to designate expert witnesses and submit expert reports;
- October 3, 2013 shall be the deadline for the counter-designation of experts and submission of reports;
- October 10, 2013 shall be the deadline for the completion of expert depositions; and
- October 17, 2013 shall be the deadline for the filing of any pre-trial briefs.
- 8. A pre-trial conference shall be conducted on October 21, 2013

at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Time, in Courtroom 100 at the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, 231 West Lafayette Street, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

9. A hearing on the Eligibility Objections (an "<u>Eligibility</u>

<u>Hearing</u>") shall be conducted on October 23, 2013 at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Time, in Courtroom 100 at the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Southern Division, 231 West Lafayette Street, Detroit, Michigan 48226 (with additional days to be scheduled as necessary).

10. Any Eligibility Objections must be advocated in person at all hearings on such objections, including, without limitation, the Eligibility Hearing, or the Court in its discretion may not consider such Eligibility Objections. 11. Proceedings in this Chapter 9 Case will not be stayed pending

the Court's adjudication of any Eligibility Objections and entry of an order for relief.

12. If no timely and proper Eligibility Objections are filed and

served in accordance with this Order, no Eligibility Hearing will be conducted and the City's request for relief under chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code will be deemed granted.

# IF NO OBJECTIONS ARE TIMELY AND PROPERLY FILED, OR IF ALL TIMELY AND PROPER ELIGIBILITY OBJECTIONS ARE OVERRULED BY THE COURT OR RESOLVED, THE FILING OF THE CITY'S CHAPTER 9 PETITION SHALL BE DEEMED AN ORDER FOR RELIEF UNDER CHAPTER 9 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE, AND THIS NOTICE SHALL BE DEEMED NOTICE OF SUCH ORDER FOR RELIEF.

# Motion to Limit Notice

13. The City also has requested that the Bankruptcy Court enter an order limiting notice of certain initial filings in the City's bankruptcy case to certain creditors and interested parties. If you wish to receive further notices in this case, you are encouraged to appear formally in this Chapter 9 Case and file with the Bankruptcy Court a written request for service of papers pursuant to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

# Case Information

14. All documents filed in this case are available free of charge at the City's restructuring website at <u>www.kccllc.net/Detroit; the court's website</u>,

<u>www.mieb.uscourts.gov;</u> or, on a paid subscription basis, through the Bankruptcy Court's PACER system at <u>ecf.mieb.uscourts.gov</u>. Additional information about the City's restructuring is available at the Emergency Manager's page on the City's website at <u>www.detroitmi.gov/EmergencyManager</u>. [Inquiries about this case also may be directed to the City's Chapter 9 Information Hotline at (877) 298-6236.]<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Note: Bracketed language will not be included in the publication version of this Notice.