March 20, 2012

Ald. Terry L. Witkowski  
(414) 731-0472  
Ald. Bob Donovan  
(414) 708-9417

MEDIA ADVISORY

Assessing city inspections

News conference set to announce hearing where business owners can sound off about city permitting and inspection process

Alderman Terry L. Witkowski and Alderman Bob Donovan will hold a news conference Thursday (March 22) at City Hall to invite business owners to share their experiences – both good and bad – during an upcoming hearing about the city’s permitting and inspection process. The news conference will be at 11 a.m. Thursday in the first floor rotunda at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St.

“I have heard from people about experiences whereby the property owner satisfies orders written by the inspector, only to have the inspector write up additional orders upon re-inspection,” said Alderman Witkowski. “Another business owner said a one-month project took 10 months because of our permitting process – that should not be happening.”

“It is important for us to be monitoring our inspection and permitting process to make sure we are not discouraging business owners from opening and improving locations in Milwaukee,” he said. “In my opinion, in the current economic climate we must not make it more difficult for people to do business in the City of Milwaukee.”

Alderman Donovan, chair of the Common Council’s Public Safety Committee, said he intends to hold a hearing on the city inspections and permitting process at the committee’s March 28 meeting. He said he is hopeful that business owners with input to share will attend and discuss their experiences.

What: News conference  
When: 11:00 a.m. Thursday, March 22, 2012  
Where: Rotunda, City Hall, 200 E. Wells St.