



# APPLICATION FOR APPEAL

## Saint Paul City Council – Legislative Hearings

310 City Hall, 15 W. Kellogg Blvd.  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102  
Telephone: (651) 266-8585  
legislativehearings@ci.stpaul.mn.us

RECEIVED

FEB 28 2024

We need the following to process your appeal: **CITY CLERK**

\$25 filing fee (non-refundable) (payable to the City of Saint Paul) (if cash: receipt number OK # 19750)

Copy of the City-issued orders/letter being appealed & any attachments you may wish to include

Walk In  Mail  Email  
Appeal taken by: mai

### HEARING DATE & TIME

(provided by Legislative Hearing staff)

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Location of Hearing:

Telephone: you will be called between 1:00 pm & 3:00 pm

In person (Room 330 City Hall) at: \_\_\_\_\_  
(required for all condemnation orders and Fire C of O revocations and orders to vacate)

## Address Being Appealed:

Number & Street: 1297 7th Street W City: Saint Paul State: MN Zip: 55102

Appellant/Applicant: Marylene Barrett Email: Barrett2019@comcast.net

Phone Numbers: Business \_\_\_\_\_ Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Cell 651-261-1981

Signature: Marylene Barrett Date: 02/22/2024

Name of Owner (if other than Appellant): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address if Not Appellant's: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Business \_\_\_\_\_ Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

### What is being appealed and why? Attachments Are Acceptable

- Vacate Order/Condemnation/Revocation of Fire C of O \_\_\_\_\_
- Summary/Vehicle Abatement \_\_\_\_\_
- Fire C of O Deficiency List/Correction \_\_\_\_\_
- Code Enforcement Correction Notice \_\_\_\_\_
- Vacant Building Registration Not a category II
- Other (Fence Variance, Code Compliance, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

02/22/2024

RE: 1297 7<sup>th</sup> Street West Vacant House Cat. 2 Status

I am contesting the proposed vacant building assessment of the above property. My parents purchased this home in 1945 and my two brothers and my sister and I grew up here. At present the home is used as my urban cabin and sanctuary, occupied from time to time just not resided in by family at present. I pay water and sewer to the city and Waste Management for trash removal. I contracted to have the yard maintained during the summer months and the front sidewalk and walkway up to and around the house and in back of the garage cleared of snow and ice during the winter. I also pay along with my neighbors to hire an individual to keep the alley plowed. The utilities (water and Xcel Energy) are connected and working properly and have **always** been paid on time. The exterior and interior of the house are well maintained. I am currently at the house on a weekly and if not daily basis.

I paid a snow removal company for a number of years to clean the public sidewalk during the winter months. I always paid them in advance for the snow season. They had been previously recommended to me by a neighboring business owner. I never had an issue until February of 2019 when the company stopped coming to remove the snow and ice from the sidewalk. I tried contacting them but the number was disconnected. I contacted Rick Gavin about the situation and indicated I was looking to hire someone for the remainder of the year as I couldn't do it. Being older and having MS forces me to hire for those tasks a younger more mobile person might be able to perform. I hired 2 individuals to clean the sidewalk. One was the individual who owned and was renovating the house next door. This past winter we kept the sidewalk clean of snow and ice. We also cleaned a portion of the neighbor's sidewalk that had access to the street.

Conclusion:

The home should never have been put on the Registry. The city had a very subjective means to determine it w/o inspections. In the 76 years the home has been in the family, the walk has been kept clear and the yard maintained.

The city shut the water off for a period of time even though bills were being paid because usage had declined or stopped. There was no theft of service.

Due to contractor problems, there was a hick up in getting the sidewalk cleaned for a short time. That has been remedied.

Other parties have been tossing their trash in front of the garage in the alley since trash service changes in 2018-2019. All but one time I have arranged for cleanup. The time was when someone discarded an

animal carcass in the alley and Got Junk would not take it and I was not going to handle a possible hazardous item, after finally being able to access it when the neighbor moved the truck and trailer blocking access.

It was these minor and rare issues that put the house on the vacant registry which could have been cat 1. The home is always secured, functional and livable. The house has even been updated through a city program as recent as 1980s for electrical and plumbing. If I were to desire a renter, I would go through the proper inspections and licensing. To sell I will order a Truth in Housing Inspection and I do have a realtor and will be listing the house for sale.



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

375 Jackson Street, Suite 220  
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1806

Telephone: 651-266-8989  
Facsimile: 651-266-1919  
www.stpaul.gov/dsi

January 31, 2024

Marlene A Barrett/Patrick Barrett  
2017 Grand Ave  
St Paul MN 55105-1446

Customer #: 1813905  
Bill #: 1805309

## VACANT BUILDING REGISTRATION FEE WARNING LETTER

The Saint Paul City Council has adopted legislation which requires owners of vacant buildings to pay an annual fee and submit a registration plan on the form(s) enclosed with this letter. The annual fee is **\$4,918.00**. The purpose of this fee is to partially reimburse the City for administrative costs for registering and processing the Vacant Building Owner Registration forms and for the cost of monitoring these properties for compliance with Saint Paul Legislative Codes.

*The fee for the vacant building located at 1297 7TH ST W is now past due. You have fifteen (15) days from the date of this letter to pay this bill before this fee is sent to assessment, to be collected with your property taxes.*

### DO NOT MAIL CASH

Saint Paul Legislative Code, Chapter 43, requires this fee be paid no later than thirty (30) days after the building becomes vacant, and if not paid, the owner shall be subject to collections and prosecution as prescribed in the Legislative Code. Also, if at any time the registration fee is unpaid and owing, building permits will be denied for this building.

**The full amount owed will be assessed to, and collected with, the taxes for this property as permitted by Saint Paul Legislative Code Chapter 43.**

The owner(s) still will be subject to a criminal Summons and Complaint for failure to pay this vacant building registration fee. This citation will necessitate a court appearance in Ramsey County District Court and the owner(s) will be subject to penalties provided for by law. The enclosed registration form must accompany the fee payment.

You may pay this registration fee online by going to **online.stpaul.gov** and selecting the 'Make a Payment' option. You will need your customer number and bill number to process a payment - both can be found on this letter.

If you wish to pay in person, you may do so from 8:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Friday at:

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND INSPECTIONS  
375 Jackson Street, Suite 220  
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1806

All category 2 and category 3 vacant buildings must be winterized with gas and water services shut off or, alternately, an excess flow gas valve must be installed in the dwelling, within sixty (60) days of the date of this notice.

**WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL IS REQUIRED BEFORE A CATEGORY 2 OR CATEGORY 3 VACANT BUILDING CAN BE OCCUPIED OR SOLD.**

**Category 2:** Requirements include: 1. register/re- register the building, 2. pay outstanding fee(s), 3. obtain a code compliance report, 4. submit for approval a rehab cost estimate from a licensed contractor and a schedule for completion of all code compliance work, 5. submit proof of financial responsibility acceptable to the City, and 6. obtain Zoning approval of the proposed use.

**Category 3:** All requirements listed for Category 2 vacant buildings, AND obtain a **Certificate of Occupancy OR Certificate of Code Compliance** prior to the sale of the building.

If the use of this building meets the definition of a nonconforming use by the Zoning Code, then the use will lose its nonconforming status 365 days from the date the building was declared vacant.

If you have questions about this registration fee or other vacant building requirements, please contact the Enforcement Officer, Rick Gavin, at 651- 266- 1910.

This registration form and fee is required by law. Your prompt attention to this matter is appreciated.

You may file an appeal to this fee or registration requirements, **unless the fee was previously appealed**, by contacting the City Clerk's Office by calling (651)266- 8688. Any appeal of this fee must be made within ten (10) days of the date of this notice.

Steve Magner  
Vacant Buildings Program Manager

Enclosures: Regulations Requirements Information  
Vacant Building Registration Form

SM: rg  
vb\_warning\_letter 2/15

**City of Saint Paul**  
 Department of Safety and Inspections  
**VACANT BUILDING REGISTRATION FORM**

Effective 2/25/2023

Date: 01/23/2024

Address of Property: 1297 7th Street West

Planned disposition of this building (please check one):

- I plan to rehabilitate this structure commencing (date): \_\_\_\_\_
- I plan to demolish (wreck and remove) this building by (date): \_\_\_\_\_
- I am willing to authorize the City of Saint Paul to demolish and remove this building(s).
- This building is **vacant as a result of fire damage**. The fire occurred on (date) \_\_\_\_\_.

I, as the property owner, want to claim registration and fee exemption status for ninety (90) days from the date of the fire. I intend to repair and reoccupy the building.

Other: The home is being put on the market for sale, it should not be listed as a Category II. I am working with the realtor.

Responsible Party: Persons/organizations who will ensure compliance with the ordinance:

NAME	ADDRESS	PRIMARY PHONE	ALTERNATE PHONE
<u>Marlene Barrett</u>	<u>2017 Grand Avenue</u>	<u>651-261-1981</u>	<u>Saint Paul, MN 55105</u>

Persons, lien holders, mortgagees, mortgagors and other interested parties known to me:

NAME	ADDRESS	PRIMARY PHONE	ALTERNATE PHONE

All persons listed here will receive letters for the annual fee renewal. *Also use this form to de-register your interest.*

<p><u>Marlene Barrett</u>                  Print Your Name (legibly)</p> <p><u>Marlene Barrett</u>                  Signature</p> <p><u>2017 Grand Avenue</u>                  Address</p> <p><u>Saint Paul, MN 55105</u>                  City State Zip</p> <p><u>651-261-1981</u>                  main contact telephone                      alternate phone</p> <p> </p> <p><u>Barrett2017@comcast.net</u>                  Email address (print legibly)</p>	<p><b>INSTRUCTIONS:</b> For Category I or new Category II Vacant Building: <b>\$2,459.00</b> Registration Fee.                  For Renewal Category II Vacant Buildings (in Cat. II Status for one year plus) or Category III Vacant Buildings <b>\$4,918.00</b> Registration Fee.</p> <p><i>Complete and return this form via us mail or fax                  Include the \$2,459.00 or \$4,918.00 registration fee, ONLY if it is now due. For questions, call 651-266-8989.</i></p> <p><b>Make checks payable to: City of Saint Paul</b>                  Make Payment online or mail payment to:                  City of Saint Paul                  Department of Safety and Inspections                  Code Enforcement – Vacant Buildings                  375 Jackson Street, Suite 220                  St. Paul, MN 55101-1806</p> <p><i>Credit Card payment accepted online or in person, or by                  Fax: 651-266-9124</i></p>
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