



APPLICATION FOR APPEAL

Saint Paul City Council – Legislative Hearings

RECEIVED

JUL 26 2021

CITY CLERK

310 City Hall, 15 W. Kellogg Blvd.

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Telephone: (651) 266-8585

We need the following to process your appeal:

- ☒ \$25 filing fee (~~non~~-refundable) (payable to the City of Saint Paul) (if cash: receipt number _____)
 - ☒ Copy of the City-issued orders/letter being appealed
 - ☐ Attachments you may wish to include
 - ☒ This appeal form completed
 - ☐ Walk-In OR ☒ Mail-In
- for abatement orders only: ☐ Email OR ☐ Fax

HEARING DATE & TIME

(provided by Legislative Hearing Office)

Tuesday, August 3, 2021

Time 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Location of Hearing:

Room 330 City Hall/Courthouse

Teleconference

Address Being Appealed:

Number & Street: 1446 Rice St City: St. Paul State: MN Zip: 55117

Appellant/Applicant: Wessam Sonbol Email: wsonbol@gmail.com

Phone Numbers: Business _____ Residence _____ Cell 6123969538

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of Owner (if other than Appellant): _____

Mailing Address if Not Appellant's: 16165 37th Ave N, Plymouth MN 55446

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
- ☐ Other (Fence Variance, Code Compliance, etc.)

Comments:

This building was purchased as a vacant building, and I have been working on renovating it. Throughout this process, we have been paying city taxes, building taxes, and all different types of building license fees for all the different types of permits.

Our intention is not to leave the building vacant, but to ensure it is up and running by October of 2021.

I am quite unsure as to why I have to pay this fee along with all other fees. To date, we have paid nearly \$17,000 for taxes and other building permits. I would greatly appreciate a break, otherwise, this feels like blood sucking & no mercy



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

July 16, 2021

1446 Rice Llc
16165 37th Ave N
Plymouth MN 55446-4261

Customer #: 1639367

Bill #: 1580631

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 **\$2,127.00**. 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 1446 RICE ST 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, James Hoffman, at 651- 266- 1947.

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: jh
vb_warning_letter 2/15