



City of Saint Paul

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Minutes - Final

Legislative Hearings

Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer
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Tuesday, November 5, 2019

9:00 AM

Room 330 City Hall & Court House

14 [SR 19-131](#)

Review Request of Babatunde Ruben to an Appealed of Special Tax Assessment for property at 1981 THIRD STREET EAST. (File No. J1901B, Assessment No. 198100) adopted by Council File No. RLH AR 18-80.

Sponsors: Prince

Reduce from \$442 to \$361. Will do resolution to reduce going to Council Public Hearing on November 13, 2019.

Babatunde Ruben appeared

Moermond: we're looking at boarding that occurred a long time ago.

Mai Vang: summary abatement for boarding, levied by Council January 9, 2019, for a cost of \$280, service charge of \$162, for a total assessment of \$442. Emergency boarding that happened June 23, 2018. There are police reports.

Moermond: alright, so lets add some info. The police showed up originally June 14, 2018 at 5:06 am and the officer spoke with the complainant who said it was her father's house, she was alerted by the alarm company that the garage door had an entry alarm, along with side door and front. The side door was open on June 21 when she arrived. She said nothing was missing. Police confirmed side door was damaged, and they had photos. They sent out a board up crew. What I'm not clear on are the dates. The way it is set up there's multiple dates on the police report.

Ruben: I've been here before, when the house was broken into I don't know what happened, the City went down there and they only put angle brace on the garage door. They didn't do the boarding of the house.

Moermond: did they screw the door shut?

Ruben: they only did the bracing, it cost \$6.39. why do I have to pay \$400?

Moermond: the invoice that I have from the City's contractor says 2 doors were screwed shut. \$30 total, and because it was an emergency callout at 2:45 am, there's a charge for the nonbusiness hours. I'm happy to give you the invoice, that's the basis of it.

Ruben: I went to Menards, its only \$2.40 for the construction screws.

Moermond: but you understand that's the hardware. No one is disputing that screws aren't expensive. A vast majority of the cost is the emergency call to them middle of the night. There is a cost the City incurs when the police go out in the middle of the night. It was 2:45 AM. There's a cost to someone coming out. You weren't there to do the work, your daughter wasn't doing it, the Police can't leave the scene if its not secured. That's a huge liability.

Ruben: the bill is \$442.

Moermond: there's an administrative charge for processing it as an assessment. I can cut it in half. It will go down to \$361. This goes to Council right away, because this was adopted already when you were out of the country, this is processing as an amendment, so you've been invoiced at the higher level. They will reinvoice at the lower level, you can pay it, or it will go on the property taxes. As soon as the Council votes on November 13, the real estate office will have the invoice. Ms. Vang will talk to the real estate office and if it is not sent you can come downtown and pay it

Received and Filed