



City of Saint Paul

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Minutes - Final

Legislative Hearings

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Thursday, April 16, 2020

9:00 AM

VIA TELEPHONE

- 10 RLH TA 20-262** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1399 MINNEHAHA AVENUE WEST. (File No. CG2001D1, Assessment No. 200112)

Sponsors: Jalali

Delete the assessment (Q4, 2019). Staff to delete assessment for Q3, 2019, and reduce pending Q1, 2020 assessment from \$77.36 to \$25.79.

Delta Irby, owner, appeared via phone

Staff report by Clare Pillsbury: this is for \$80.90 for quarter 4, 2019 for a small weekly cart with three late fees. Appealing because they state the home was unoccupied from February 19, 2019 to February 29, 2020. Resident states there has been no garbage collected in my home since February 2019. Disputing billing service October to December 2019. Staff comments are that we confirmed that the property was never listed as vacant or an unoccupied dwelling registration form filled out and submitted. The hauler said the resident reached out May of 2019, and was referred to the solid waste program staff, therefore we recommend approving the assessment.

Irby: I am looking for the process that tells me that I have to file a form, I learned of this form on Tuesday when I spoke with Ms. Pillsbury. No one told me I had to file a form, in the trauma of losing your home, I got a call from Ms. Childs in response to a message I left her. I never received or was told about any form. I don't think I should be assessed for 2019 or the first quarter 2020, no one has been in the home to create garbage. When I contacted Aspen, they admitted they haven't picked up garbage. My question is, where is the process that informs me of that form? I went online yesterday and nothing on the website points to a form. In the process of losing my home, when I contacted Ms. Childs and Aspen, someone would tell me about the form. I had no knowledge of this form until Tuesday.

Moermond: tell me about what was going on, the note says February 2019 through February 2020 it was unoccupied. You lost the home?

Irby: February 1, a pipe burst in my home on the third floor, it flooded all the way down to the basement. I lost the use of my home. The first floor was all moldy and the basement ceiling collapsed. We were moved out of our home February 19 and moved into a residence ["Residence Inn" located at 200 Grand Avenue per appellant]. I sent a copy of when I registered with the residence. We thought we'd be back home June 30th. That didn't happen. The house was down to the studs, I sent a picture to Ms.

Pillsbury, so no one was in the home. It was built in 1845 so we had to check for asbestos. Even as of June, we didn't know when I would be able to move back in. I sent a copy of an email from the project manager in September. After the residence we moved into a rental home. In January of this year there was another claim filed for the radiators, no one could move in until that was addressed. We didn't move back in until March. My question again, is no one ever mentioned to me about this form.

Moermond: I just wrote down the time period in terms of quarterly bills, in terms of impact. The first quarter 2019 you were a vacant building for about 1/3. Then you were vacant for the second third and fourth quarter, and then about half of the first quarter 2020.

Irby: Ms. Clare said that it was already assessed, and I won't dispute that. In the confusion of losing my home I may have missed that bill.

Moermond: I can help you with 3 of the bills. The one in front of me today, it is basically because I believe you, for today I'm recommending deletion. There is a pending assessment for first quarter of 2020, I'm asking that to be reduced by half, and I can look at third quarter 2019 I can ask for that to be deleted. That's all I can help with today.

Irby: why would I be paying for the first quarter of 2020? No garbage has been collected at my home this year.

*Moermond: you wrote that it was occupied as of March 1, so that's one month out of a quarterly bill. Sorry it should be 1/3.
So, we've gotten that squared away.*

Irby: so, April through June of 2019?

Moermond: for 2019, I can do July to October 1 and then the fourth quarter, October 1 to December. Anything before July 1 is already over and done with. It has already been assessed to your taxes.

Irby: ok. Can I recommend that form be put on your website?

Referred to the City Council due back on 6/3/2020