

Mai Vang

From: M Winnett <mwinnett@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2024 2:36 PM
To: *CI-StPaul_LegislativeHearings
Subject: Fwd: 1319 Thomas Avenue, J2504E

You don't often get email from mwinnett@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Miss Vang,

I am taking the opportunity to submit a written statement for the Legislative Hearing Officer's review by mailing to both you and to the legislativehearings email. I work as a family physician from 7 am to 4 pm and my availability (even during "lunch hour") is unpredictable

If you wish to verify my employment, here is my profile:

[Dr. Mary Winnett, MD - Saint Paul, MN - Family Medicine - Schedule a Visit](#)

or could also call 651-232-4800

When I recently received by mail the notice of excessive use of inspection of abatement service for my home/property at 1319 Thomas Ave and the fee of \$169 dollars due (file # J2504E), this surprised me. I called the City of St. Paul and was directed to Sean Weston at the Department of Safety and Inspections. I shared my concerns with him, my assertion that I had taken care of the overhanging vegetation, and my recollection that I spoke to someone who came out to check my progress and was told that they agreed I had completed the necessary work. Mr. Westin confirmed that HE was at the property on June 10th and that he had spoken to me. He reviewed my file and mentioned that Otis Warner - the person who had filed the original summary abatement notice that I received - no longer worked for the city.

I am now reviewing the binder you sent containing the original summary abatement order dated 5/20/24, and the subsequent notice of \$124 dollars due dated 6/12/24 - which notably was AFTER Sean Weston came out and agreed I had completed the necessary work.

I have additional comment based on these documents:

- The picture included with the Summary Abatement order dated 5/20/24 shows my neighbor's yard in the foreground - specifically their high fence on the left side of the photo, and their grass on the right side. My yard is the part beyond the high fence on the right side of the photo
- The photo dated 6/3/24 shows growth in front of neighbor's fence that appears increased from previous photos
- I do recall getting the Summary Abatement order dated 5/20/24 and I did cut back the grape vines near the side walk on the right side of the photo, and the vegetation on the left side
- **My practice is ALWAYS to respond to such Summary Abatement orders quickly - within 3 days** - and to my memory, that includes the letter dated 5/20/24. I have no record of when I actually received this summary abatement in the mail. There have been a few such summary abatement orders over the years.
- I do not recall receiving the letter dated 6/12/24 - I would have called about the \$124. Or it is possible that since Sean Weston had already declared that I had completed the work, I ignored this assuming that there had been a delay in updating my file before the 6/12/24 letter was sent.

The above is everything that I would say at a hearing.

Please advise me of the recommendation. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

Mary Winnett
1319 Thomas Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55104-2545

On Thu, Nov 21, 2024 at 9:39 AM Mai Vang <mai.vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us> wrote:

Hello Ms. Winnett,

Per our phone conversation, see attached for your hearing on **December 3, 2024 via telephone hearing between 10AM-NOON**. You indicated you will not be able to attend this hearing. You may submit written statement for the Legislative Hearing Officer's review and recommendation via this email or to legislativehearings@ci.stpaul.mn.us If you disagree with her recommendation, you may contest further at the City Council on February 19, 2025. More information will be sent after the December 3rd hearing.

Mai Vang

(She, her)

Legislative Hearing Coordinator | St Paul City Council

M: (651) 266-8585 ; D: (651) 266-8563

310 City Hall, 15 W. Kellogg Blvd, St Paul, MN 55102

