

Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul)

From: Bauer, Kelly (CI-StPaul)
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2014 2:57 PM
To: Tom Kieffer (tombassin@gmail.com)
Cc: #CI-StPaul_Ward4; Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul); Vang, Mai (CI-StPaul)
Subject: RE: 444, 442, 438 Beacon Ave - vacant properties
Attachments: Kieffer ltr of opposition.docx; April+16,+2014+City+Council+Meeting+Agenda.pdf

Tom,

I'm submitting the attached, your comments, for public record. The first public hearing is actually scheduled for this Wednesday, April 16, 2014. You and your neighbors are welcome to attend and voice your concerns. However, we do understand your time restrictions.

The public hearings begin at 5:30 p.m. and 444 Beacon is #34 on the agenda (attached). The item will come up for consideration quickly, therefore it's important, for anyone attending the hearing, to be there at 5:30 p.m.

I will still be discussing your meeting request with Councilmember Stark, but I wanted to be sure you had correct information on the public hearing.

Kelly

From: Bauer, Kelly (CI-StPaul)
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2014 10:52 AM
To: Tom Kieffer; #CI-StPaul_Ward4
Cc: Thomas Rupp; Shawn Rounds
Subject: RE: 444, 442, 438 Beacon Ave - vacant properties

Tom,

Thank you for contacting Councilmember Stark. I'm confirming we've received your message. I will be sure to include the first portion of your message into the public record.

Please allow me some time to discuss your meeting request with Councilmember Stark, and be back in touch.



Kelly Bauer

Executive Assistant to Councilmember Russ Stark

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From: Tom Kieffer [<mailto:tombassin@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2014 9:22 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward4
Cc: Thomas Rupp; Shawn Rounds
Subject: 444, 442, 438 Beacon Ave - vacant properties

Councilman Stark, I live at 450 Beacon Ave, the property directly north of these 3 vacant properties. Since we discovered that the properties were abandoned in the winter of 2012-2013 I have kept the sidewalks clear of snow and have mowed the lawns to give an appearance that someone is paying attention to the properties as a means of warding off any more squatters, thieves, addicts, drug dealers, or others who do not belong on the properties.

With the support of many of my neighbors both on this block and within several blocks we have kept a collective eye on things and have a line of communication among one another to report the things and people that we observe who might not have the best intents.

I have been unable to attend any of the public meetings associated with these properties to have my voice heard so I am now addressing you as my best option to be heard.

Following is a copy of a message sent by my neighbor Thomas Rupp. It articulates exceptionally well my own feelings and so I express my full concurrence by including it in this message.

Here is the email I am sending all councilmembers:

Councilman Stark and staff,

After following and reviewing the status of 444 Beacon, I want to express my concern as a neighbor and citizen interested in the redevelopment of St. Paul. Since Mr. Amaya's purchase, no visible signs of care have been taken on this property. A neighbor has mowed the grass and plowed the snow to maintain appearances in the interest of neighborhood safety.

Nothing in the minutes of the legislative hearing meeting from March 25th gives me assurance that Mr. Amaya has the resources or the capacity to complete the needed renovations on this property to restore it to a livable state.

Our neighborhood is in a very fragile state. With 2 vacant buildings adjacent to 444 Beacon, the opportunity to remove old structures needing significant updating and replace them with efficient new construction is much more mindful for the long term health of the neighborhood than allowing a low bid flip.

Given the limited finances and foggy at best details of a family contractor completing this unlikely renovation in both scope and timeframe, I am requesting that you to please vote against the work plan for renovation from Mr. Amaya and recommend removal of the structure. Thank you.

Thomas Rupp
459 Wheeler St. N
thomaswrupp@gmail.com
651-894-3523

Councilman Stark, virtually all of my neighbors work during the hours that these public hearings are held and so our ability to attend is quite limited.

Tentatively we are planning a neighborhood meeting at my home on Saturday May 3rd, later afternoon. When we have had such meetings in the past they have been very well attended. Would you be available to meet with us to discuss city options and perhaps intents regarding these properties and to afford an opportunity for us as a neighborhood to share our concerns?

It has come to my attention that there will be a public hearing on the property at 432 Beacon on 5/13/14 which I will not be able to attend but maybe you or your staff can represent me and my neighbors after meeting with us on 5/3/14. Thank you.

Tom Kieffer
450 Beacon Avenue
tombassin@gmail.com
C:651-491-2531