

10/25/12

City of St. Paul

Christine Rozek

375 Jackson St. #220

St Paul Mn 55101

In response to your letter on October 17th, I am contesting the amount of penalty of \$1000.00.

My wife and I are from the neighborhood. Her family still lives on Dale and California. I will try to explain my business and refute the violations. For most of last year the adjacent properties on our corner have been vacant. There is no outside lighting on these buildings. This results in a free dumping zone for people who do not want to pay to get rid of their trash. Weekly I am picking up tires, batteries, building material, chairs, mattresses, and other garbage in the alley behind my building. Does the city come and clean this up. No.

I have contacted Corinne Tilly both by phone and mail to fence and reorganize the properties parking. She told that she did not have time to come out and see me. Corinne said that I needed to supply her with a more detailed plan. When you run the business by yourself it is hard to allocate time to develop a plan when you do not know what will be accepted or rejected. That is why I wanted her to come out. I placed orange markings on the tar for the lot lines and that is where it sits today. We also have a problem with a very large tree in the alley behind my building. Ms. Schweinler told me to go to the Parks and

Rec department on Dale for help. Wrong place. They sent me to the Forestry Division. I talked and gave my business card to two different men. They were going to come out and evaluated my problem. You cannot drive through the alley without driving on my property to get around the tree. I still have not heard from the Forestry Division and that was two months ago.

The Presidents cash for clunkers program eliminated a lot of good used cars from the market. This has made used cars go up in price. Buying cars at the dealers auction are expensive. You are usually buying somebodys else's headache. The best place to buy used cars is at the insurance auction. These cars need more work but they are usually reliable. This is the reason why some cars don't have all their parts.

Vehicles for sale on Dale St. with no sign in the window. I have cars in the front row that have mechanical problems and are not ready to be sold yet. So there is no sign in the window.

Inoperable vehicles with a tarp on them. I bought three old classic cars, 1967 mustang, 1958 nash, 1953 henry j. When times are slow I plan on fixing up these cars. They have all the parts except that somebody broke the glass in them. That is why the tarp is on them. I have fixed and sold the mustang so far. You cannot see the tarps from Dale St.

Signage: Having a portable sign on the driveway. Greg Abramson has contacted Ms. Schweeinter more than once and has told her about more than 20 other establishments who have signs on the side walk within three miles of our building. She told us to take down the streamer from our poles because they did not look good. Two

dealerships on University have them and they are in worse shape than mine. I do not see anything in the ordinance that judges the quality of the streamer.

I cut grass once a week.

The plow and plow truck are gone.

Disassembled Vehicles: Occasionally I will buy two identical cars to make one good one.

Exceeded number of cars: Depending on the day there could be more than 50 cars on the property. We do the glass replacement for auto part companies. We usually do between 6 and 15 cars a day. So if you are here during a busy time you could see extra cars on the lot. By six o'clock that night they will be gone. Do you want us to park the extra cars on Dale St?

I pay \$18,486.00 in real estate taxes. You charge me \$611.00 for sewer maintenance and I have one toilet and two hand sinks. Any house in the city uses more water than we do. Right of way Maintenance costs me \$1524.00. That covers streets, alleys, sidewalks, lighting and trees. The alley is gravel and you have never touched it. I have a huge tree growing in the middle of the alley. You have done nothing about that. My sidewalk is cracked along Dale Street and weeds are growing in those cracks. I have to put round up on those weeds 4 times a year to keep them down.

I believe that taxes and other fees along with the violation fees are excessive. The city collects my money but does not want to come out and help me when I am ask for help.

Respectfully,

Don Buckrey

More4abuck Inc.

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