



# City of Saint Paul

City Hall and Court House  
15 West Kellogg Boulevard  
Phone: 651-266-8560

## Staff Report

File Number: ALH 11-385

Introduced: 3/8/2011

Version: 1

Current Status: Filed

Matter Type: Appeal-Legislative  
Hearing

Appeal of Special Tax Assessment for 1187 REANEY AVENUE for Project #: VB1106,  
Assessment #: 8019 in Ward 7

**..Property Address 1187 Reaney Ave**

### Legislative Hearing Officer Recommendation

Delete the assessment.

### Tax Assessment Worksheet

Cost: \$1100.00

Service Charge: \$135.00

Total Assessment: \$1,235.00

Gold Card Returned by: Joe Osterbauer

Type of Order/Fee: VB Fee

Nuisance: Unpaid VB Fee

Date of Orders:

Compliance Date:

Re-Check Date:

Date Work Done:

Work Order #:

Returned Mail?:

Comments: VB File opened on 10/2/07 and closed on 1/10/11. Inspector Singerhouse waived fee on 10/27/10 for 30 days (11/27/10).

History of Orders on Property:

**03/26/2008** : 03/26/2008 Garbage Rubbish WO created: PA 08-047757

Please remove all garbage, scrap wood, metal and misc debris from back yard.

**02/03/2009** : 02/03/2009 Snow Ice WO created: PA 09-021271

Remove snow and ice from public sidewalk full width, salt and sand as needed.

**11/16/2010** : 11/16/2010 Garbage Rubbish WO created: PA 10-922983

Remove all bags, boxes, scrap wood and general refuse from north side parking area.

**Legislative Hearing Notes (if any)**

Delete the assessment.

Joe Osterbauer, owner, appeared.

Inspector Essling reported that the assessment for 1187 Reaney Avenue is for a Vacant Building fee. It had been a Registered Vacant Building since October 2, 2007; the file was closed January 10, 2011. The note in the file says that Inspector Singerhouse waived the fee for thirty (30) days on October 27, 2010. The period of this assessment is from October 2, 2010 to October 2, 2011.

Mr. Osterbauer stated that he purchased this house on August 23, 2010. It was a foreclosure. He fixed everything on the list but he hadn't used union workers; and he heard that if you don't use union workers, the City doesn't come out right away to do the final inspections. His property is ready to go and ready to be inspected but the inspectors don't come. He talked with Mr. Singerhouse about it, so Mr. Singerhouse waived the fee for 30 days. Then, when the inspector comes out, he might find one little thing wrong so, then, it takes another long stretch of time before the inspector comes back.

Mr. Essling reported that six (6) of the permits have been finalized. He noted that if he were the Vacant Building inspector, he would recommend deleting the assessment. Ms. Moermond added that she tends to agree; she would give him the full ninety (90) days. He did get all the work done. She commented that in all her years doing this, she has never heard that having union members involved in the rehab effects the time for the re-inspection. She thinks that there were just other things going on - hunting, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc., that slowed down the inspection process.

Ms. Moermond will recommend deleting the assessment.