

March 27, 2014

DSI – Code Enforcement

375 Jackson Street, Suite 220

St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Parcel ID # 36-29-23-12-0008

File #J1407A

Dear Council Members or DSI- Code Enforcement Director:

We have received your Public Hearing Notice. As matter of fact we will be out of town from April 15th, 2014 to June 15th, 2014. If the hearing is going to take place any way, here some of the facts or explanations from us:

We have recently purchased this vacant lot from the city through the county's bidding process. We shared an alley with the lot for 26 years prior to that and are unaware of how many owners there have been to the lot. Ourselves and our neighbors are well aware of what a jungle mess lot in the previous years. It has been uncared for in that time, maybe except for some lawn care during the summer.

We had cut some of the trees in the back lot to make way for our cars backing from our garage and to keep our family safe from the area being used as a potential cover for criminals over the years. We have shoveled the snow this unpaved alley for 26 years without billing the city or owners of this lot. The front side walk never had been shoveled during previous winters. Small trees on both sides of the fences had been growing, the lot looked scary to us.

Since we purchased the property, we had cut all of the trees in the lot and surrounding fences except the very big and old tree in the front lot which been there before all of us had been born.

This is our 2nd winter owner to this lot. On December 15, 2013, it was getting very cold so my sister-in law's 8 ton truck had trouble starting. She asked to see if we would let her park it there for temporary, and we did. Secondly, my cousin went to vacation so he too also asked us for permission to park his 4 ton truck in the lot from Jan. 1st to Feb 15, 2014.

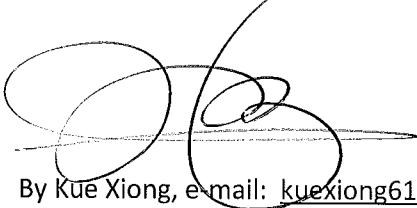
After the inspector came by and saw the trucks there and wrote us letter to remove the trucks, we were able to get a hold with our cousin and the small truck was removed right away as we remember, however the bigger truck had trouble starting so it took a little longer to remove it. We have received a fine of \$120.00 for the inspection fee or for a non-compliance order of 30 days. After that, the 2nd truck then removed.

The inspector then order us to remove the old tree in the front yard citing the Ash Emerald on the tree and needed to be removed in 30 days even though during January it was not ash emerald that dangerous but the cold. We had removed the tree as order and the cost to us was tremendous due to the sub- zero degree. If the ash emerald is that danger, why the city has not been notice in the past ten or twenty years. Where has this inspector been in the past twenty years. Did he or she see the unpaved alley? Did he or she see the little jungle mess there earlier?

We have the feeling that the pressure from the inspector is an unfair and biased one. We do agree with his order, but due to this kind of sub-zero weather and actions from him which making us paying more by cutting this beautiful tree is an unjustified action. This kind of unfriendly actions should not be allowed to take place in our diverse city. Did we have been fine times after times with unresolved problems and procedures that warrant for such hearings?

The ongoing hearings and get these city officials involve in this matter is unnecessary. It costs loss wages, time consuming and a waste of tax dollars for this unnecessary procedures. It can be resolved just by the inspector and us meeting at the property once and tell us what need to be done.

Thank you for your attention,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kue Xiong', written over a horizontal line.

By Kue Xiong, e-mail: kuexiong61@hotmail.com, and tel. 651-253-3709.
330 W. Minnehaha Ave., St. Paul, MN 55103.