



# City of Saint Paul

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

## Staff Report

File Number: ALH 11-86

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**Introduced:** 1/12/2011

**Version:** 1

**Current Status:** Filed

**Matter Type:** Appeal-Legislative  
Hearing

Appeal of Special Tax Assessment for 1641 JUNO AVENUE for Project # J1107A,  
Assessment # 118005.

### **..Property Address**

1641 Juno Ave

Cost: \$316.00

Service Charge: \$140.00

Total Assessment: \$456.00

Gold Card Returned by: Aaron Leventhal

Type of Order/Fee: SA

Nuisance: Failure to cut back bushes, vegetation obstructing the public right of way in alley

Date of Orders: August 30, 2010

Compliance Date: September 15, 2010

Re-Check Date: September 28, 2010

Date Work Done: September 30, 2010

Work Order #: 10-903608

Returned Mail?: No

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: No

### **Legislative Hearing Officer Recommendation**

Approve the assessment.

Aaron Leventhal appeared.

Inspector Joel Essling reported that a Summary Abatement Order for 1641 Juno Avenue was

mailed August 30, 2010 for bushes and vegetation obstructing the public right-of-way in the alley. The compliance date was September 15, 2010. Re-check was done on September 28, 2010 and found to be in non-compliance. A Work Order was sent to Parks and the work was done on September 30, 2010 at a cost of \$316 plus a service charge of \$140 for a total of \$456. Actually, on the first re-check, the vegetation had been cut but hadn't been removed. So, it was re-checked again and still hadn't been removed. Ms. Moermond asked if there had been a second communication after the first re-check. Mr. Essling replied that there wasn't.

Mr. Leventhal explained that he trimmed the brush down within the time period and he piled it up next to the garage. He intended to give it to his garbage man in small increments; however, the trash man didn't take the couple branches Mr. Leventhal wanted him to. Then, he arranged for some guys who had a flatbed to come and pick up the rest. He watched them pick up some of it; they said they'd be back in a couple of days to get the rest. When it was gone, Mr. Leventhal assumed that they had come back and picked it up; he didn't know the City had done it. He was astonished that it cost \$456 to pick-up such a small pile of brush; he was looking a little leniency on the bill. Ms. Moermond said the cost is basically a trip charge plus a fee for it being brush itself.

The video was viewed showing the clean-up.

Ms. Moermond noted that Mr. Leventhal had a whole month to get the job done. She will recommend approving the assessment.