

**Marcia Moermond - Re: video for 1383 Minnehaha E**

**From:** Marcia Moermond  
**To:** Essling, Joel  
**Date:** 9/14/2011 11:46 AM  
**Subject:** Re: video for 1383 Minnehaha E

thanks Joel. my memory sucked on this one. thanks for refreshing it.

>>> Joel Essling 9/14/2011 7:52 AM >>>  
 Hi Marcia:

We viewed this video in the hearing. Two tires and to the crews relief, a fiberglass bathtub. I also viewed the TGW video. Grass and weeds way long throughout yard areas and over two feet on the blvd.

>>> Marcia Moermond 9/13/2011 8:32 PM >>>  
 Hi Joe,

at the hearing on this address, there was a video of the grass abatement, but not of the clean-up. Have you got anything at your office? If so, could you look at it and summarize what you see? (It looks like we should have done something on this yesterday/Monday, but didn't. I'm copying Joel and Paula, in the event that you're not in. I'll modify the resolution today based on what you see in the video.

~Marcia

***From hearing:***

*RE: 1383 Minnehaha Ave E (single family)*

*Randy Westby, owner, appeared and submitted documents to Ms. Moermond.*

*Ms. Moermond:*

- tax assessment J1115A for Jun 23, 2011*
- public improvement Notice*
- bill for J1114A for May clean-up in amount of \$723*
- recent VB renewal Notice (Sep 29, 2011)*

*Inspector Joe Yannarely:*

- Jun – 2 Abatement Orders; 1 for grass \$300 and 1 for garbage/rubbish for \$448*
- have video for the grass clean-up on Jun 24; don't have the Jun 28 video*
- within the last year, there have been 9 WO plus SPPD has done 1 emergency boarding*

*Ms. Moermond:*

- there's just one assessment for today, J1115A*

*Mr. Westby:*

- none of this should have ever happened in the first place (VB; inspections; all of the above)*
- explanation: his son was Occupant and because of unemployment, he acquired some debt with the utilities. Mar 2010, he defaulted on a payment arrangement and they were going to shut him off. Mr. Westby went to the property, secured and locked it up. One of the neighbor's brothers came over and was interested in purchasing the property Contract for Deed, if it was available. Mr. Westby explained that because both he and his son were unemployed, he was under a forbearance - was in default with the mortgage company. If he could make arrangements with the mortgage company, he would consider Contract for Deed. This person worked maintenance at one of the vocational schools and he would be interested in taking care of the property. Mr. Westby told him that the utilities were about to be shut-off. At no time, was a rental agreement set up – he was not an Occupant. Next, he got a call from him saying that he was going to put the utilities in his name and they would square up when he got back form the mortgage company. Inspector Thomas called him and told him that there was an Occupant living in the property without utilities. Mr. Westby told him that was not the case. Mr. Westby then contacted Xcel Energy to find out what was going on. Mr. Westby told Mr. Garrick, supposedly, the Occupant, that things weren't working out and he didn't want him back at the property. He found out that Mr. Garrick was using jumpers from his brother's house next door. When he spoke*

with Inspector Thomas, he found out that Mr. Thomas had already been out and done an inspection even though Mr. Westby had asked him not to. There are 38 code violations on the list. The mortgage company was not going to extend the forbearance. The inspections have created \$5,400 worth of stuff. He needs to get rid of some of those fees if the City wants him to be accountable for that property to get it in the right condition for the market. He's maintaining the property or getting kids in the neighborhood to cut the grass, etc. This has been a hassle. Had Mr. Thomas not pushed the issue and allowed Mr. Westby to handle his own affairs, it wouldn't have come to this. He doesn't want to rent the property; he has enough family and friends who could live there. He doesn't want a C of O for rental property. He just wants to get rid of the property the best way he knows how.

-has left a lot of messages for people in DSI

-when he talked with his attorney, he suggested that Mr. Westby come to LH because he was not getting any cooperation or returned phone calls

Mr. Yannarely:

-SA Order issued to Randy Westby, 40530 Finley Rd, North Branch, MN Jun 17, 2011 to remove improperly stored refuse, including garbage, rubbish, discarded furniture, appliance, vehicle parts, etc., and to cut and remove tall grass and weeds; compliance date Jun 23 – by Inspector Remark

-work done Jun 21 \$300

-viewed video of grass cutting; no video of clean-up and no photos

Ms. Moermond:

-doesn't have a Fire C of O

-bank is walking away

-a number of clean-ups

-inspections were induced by the work not having been done

-City provided Notice; City did the work

-the C of O inspection list or the Code Compliance inspection list can be used to sell the property instead of the Truth in Sale of Housing Inspection

-Mr. Westby can sell to someone who can demonstrate he can fix the property

Mr. Westby:

-wants to know what can be done to move forward: get the City out of it and allow him access to his property (Ms. Moermond told him that he had access to this property from 8 am to 8 pm to do clean-up, move things out, etc.; he cannot, however, live there or allow someone to live there)

-problem is the cost of these assessments

Ms. Moermond:

-we'll get a clean-up video for Monday, Sep 12 Legislative Hearing at 9 am

-layover to Sep 12, 2011 LH