



City of Saint Paul

City Hall and Court House
15 West Kellogg Boulevard
Council Chambers - 3rd
Floor
651-266-8560

Meeting Minutes - Action Only

City Council

Council President Amy Brendmoen
Councilmember Russel Balenger
Councilmember Mitra Jalali
Councilmember Rebecca Noecker
Councilmember Jane L. Prince
Councilmember Chris Tolbert
Councilmember Nelsie Yang

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

3:30 PM

Council Chambers - 3rd Floor

ROLL CALL

Meeting started at 3:30 PM

Present 7 - Councilmember Amy Brendmoen, Councilmember Chris Tolbert, Councilmember Rebecca Noecker, Councilmember Jane L. Prince, Councilmember Mitra Jalali, Councilmember Nelsie Yang and Councilmember Russel Balenger

COMMUNICATIONS & RECEIVE/FILE

- 1 [AO 23-5](#) Amending CDBG Project Budgets: funding for BJK Properties project.
Received and Filed
- 2 [AO 23-10](#) Establishing eight (8) new projects through the Neighborhood STAR Year-Round Program as adopted via City Council Resolutions #22-1550, 22-1832, 22-1936, and 23-27. In addition, two projects have been completed under budget with balances now being returned to the Year-Round STAR Program.
Received and Filed
- 3 [CO 23-6](#) Letter from the Department of Safety and Inspections declaring 829 Third Street East a nuisance property. (For notification purposes only; public hearings will be scheduled at a later date if necessary.)
Received and Filed

CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under the Consent Agenda will be enacted by one motion with no separate discussion. If discussion on an item is desired, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Councilmember Yang moved approval.

Consent Agenda adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Balenger

Nay: 0

- 4 [RES 23-121](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Collection of Vacant Building Registration fees billed during June 1 to October 20, 2022, and setting date of Legislative Hearing for March 7, 2023 and City Council public hearing for April 19, 2023 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. VB2306, Assessment No. 238805)

Adopted

- 5 [RES 23-122](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Securing and/or Emergency Boarding services during November 2022, and setting date of Legislative Hearing for March 7, 2023 and City Council public hearing for April 19, 2023 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. J2306B, Assessment No. 238105)

Adopted

- 6 [RES 23-123](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Collection of Fire Certificate of Occupancy fees billed during September 27 to October 24, 2022, and setting date of Legislative Hearing for March 7, 2023 and City Council public hearing for April 19, 2023 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. CRT2305, Assessment No. 238204)

Adopted

- 7 [RES 23-124](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Excessive Use of Inspection or Abatement services billed during September 22 to October 21, 2022, and setting date of Legislative Hearing for March 7, 2023 and City Council public hearing for April 19, 2023 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. J2306E, Assessment No. 238305)

Adopted

- 8 [RES 23-125](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Graffiti Removal services during November 2 to December 1, 2022, and setting date of Legislative Hearing for March 7, 2023 and City Council public hearing for April 19, 2023 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. J2304P, Assessment No. 238403)

Adopted

- 9 [RES 23-171](#) Authorizing the Fire Department to apply for the 2022 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) in the amount of \$2,297,500 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide paramedic training and purchase computers for EMS, personal protective gear and SCBAs for firefighters, and replace and update equipment.

Adopted

- 10 [RES 23-174](#) Changing the rate of pay for WIC Nutrition Educators from Grade 026 to Grade 031 in the AFSCME Technical Salary Schedule.
Laid over to February 15, 2023
- 11 [RES 23-180](#) Accepting the gift of the costs of travel, transportation, and lodging from Project Equity for the Mayor to attend the Project Equity Employee Ownership Equity Summit in Oakland, California from February 7 to 8, 2023.
Adopted
- 12 [RES 23-189](#) Authorizing the Police Department to enter into a joint powers agreement with the State of Minnesota, acting through its Commissioner of Natural Resources.
Adopted
- 13 [RES 23-191](#) Authorizing the City to accept a donation of \$3,109 from Ramsey County for the travel expenses of Nicolle Goodman, Sean Kershaw and Russ Stark for traveling to Kansas City with Ramsey County at Ramsey County's invitation to learn about street cars.
Adopted

FOR DISCUSSION

- 14 [RES 23-183](#) Considering and adopting the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommendation submitted by the Administrative Law Judge concerning the Liquor On-Sale 291 or more seats, Liquor On-Sale Sunday, Liquor On-Sale 2AM Closing, Liquor Outdoor Service Area - Patio, and Entertainment (B) license held by Randall Johnson, RJMP Group Inc., d/b/a Billy's On Grand (License ID #20200000158), for the premises located at 857 Grand Avenue.
Therese Skarda, Assistant City Attorney, gave a staff report.
A.L. Brown, Attorney representing Billy's on Grand, recommended deviating from the Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) recommendation.
Councilmember Jalali spoke to facts versus opinions reflected in the ALJ's record.
Skarda responded to Jalali's concerns.
Councilmember Noecker echoed Jalali's concerns, and asked if one of the four complaints occurring would be sufficient for DSI to consider that there was a violation.
Skarda stated that one item occurring would be enough for a violation.
Councilmember Balenger asked if all businesses in the building require cameras.
Skarda stated that during the ALJ hearing, the owner of the mall said that cameras were not allowed throughout the mall. Only Billy's and the bathroom nearby have cameras.

Councilmember Prince asked if one violation would be enough for a \$1000 matrix penalty.

Skarda confirmed yes.

Councilmember Yang asked if the item could be laid over.

Skarda confirmed yes.

Council President Brendmoen spoke in favor.

Noecker moved approval and spoke in favor.

Jalali spoke in favor and restated concerns over opinions versus fact.

Brendmoen echoed Jalali's concerns.

Yang echoed Jalali's concerns.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Balenger

Nay: 0

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Live testimony is limited to two minutes for each person. See below for optional ways to testify.

- 15** [RES PH 23-17](#) Approving the installation of bike lanes on Front Avenue from Kent Street to Rice Street. (Public hearing closed and laid over from February 8, 2023)
- Joe Widing, Transportation Planner with the Department of Public Works, gave a staff report.*
- Robert Leibman, property owner of 208 Front Ave, spoke during the public hearing.*
- Councilmember Balenger moved to close the public hearing and lay over for one week.*
- Council President Brendmoen spoke in favor of Balenger's motion and the project.*
- Public hearing closed and laid over to February 15, 2023**

LEGISLATIVE HEARING CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under the Consent Agenda will receive a combined public hearing and be enacted by one motion with no separate discussion. Items may be removed from the Consent Agenda for a separate public hearing and discussion if desired.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Councilmember Balenger moved approval.

Legislative Hearing Consent Agenda adopted as amended

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Balenger

Nay: 0

- 16 [RLH TA 22-394](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 277 AURORA AVENUE. (File No. J2303E, Assessment No. 238302)

Adopted

- 17 [RLH RR 22-63](#) Ordering the razing and removal of the structures at 1011 BURNS AVENUE within fifteen (15) days after the December 7, 2022, City Council Public Hearing.

Referred to February 28, 2023 Legislative Hearing

- 18 [RLH TA 23-1](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1153 CENTRAL AVENUE WEST. (File No. J2303E, Assessment No. 238302)

Adopted

- 19 [RLH SAO 23-13](#) Making finding on the appealed nuisance abatement ordered for 1068 CHATSWORTH STREET NORTH in Council File RLH SAO 23-9. (Legislative Hearing on February 7, 2023)

Adopted as amended (nuisance abated)

- 20 [RLH RR 23-1](#) Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 46 FRONT AVENUE within fifteen (15) days after the February 8, 2023, City Council Public Hearing.

Referred to February 14, 2023 Legislative Hearing

- 21 [RLH TA 22-429](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 2149 GERANIUM AVENUE EAST. (File No. J2303B, Assessment No. 238102)

Adopted

- 22 [RLH RR 23-2](#) Ordering the removal of the structures at 1618 HAMLIN AVENUE NORTH within fifteen (15) days after the February 8, 2023, City Council Public Hearing.

Public hearing continued to February 22, 2023

- 23 [RLH TA 22-427](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1194 HEWITT AVENUE. (File No. J2303E, Assessment No. 238302)

Adopted

- 24 [RLH VBR 23-5](#) Appeal of David Busch, DRB #24 LLC, to a Vacant Building Registration Fee at 45 LAWSON AVENUE WEST.

Adopted

- 25 [RLH TA 22-422](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1674 ORANGE AVENUE EAST. (File No. J2303E, Assessment No. 238302)

Adopted

- 26 [RLH TA 22-386](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 461/463 OSCEOLA AVENUE SOUTH. (File No. VB2303, Assessment No. 238802)

Adopted as amended (assessment reduced)

- 27 [RLH TA 22-421](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1340 SEARLE STREET. (File No. J2303E, Assessment No. 238302)

Adopted

- 28 [RLH RR 23-4](#) First Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 1807 SEVENTH STREET EAST in Council File RLH RR 22-29.

Adopted

- 29 [RLH TA 22-428](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1179 SHERBURNE AVENUE. (File No. VB2303, Assessment No. 238802)

Adopted

- 30 [RLH RR 22-54](#) Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 342 THOMAS AVENUE within fifteen (15) days after the October 12, 2022, City Council Public Hearing.

Public hearing continued to February 15, 2023

- 31 [RLH TA 22-213](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 902 THOMAS AVENUE. (File No. J2227A, Assessment No. 228532) (Public hearing continued to February 8, 2023)

Adopted as amended (assessment ratified and made payable over 2 years)

- 32 [RLH RR 23-6](#) Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 1941 UNIVERSITY AVENUE WEST in Council File RLH RR 21-60.

Referred to February 14, 2023 Legislative Hearing

- 33 [RLH TA 22-419](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 431 WHEELER STREET NORTH. (File No. VB2303, Assessment No. 238802)

Adopted

- 34 [RLH RR 23-5](#) Third Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 521 YORK AVENUE in Council File RLH RR 22-35.

Adopted

- 35 [RLH AR 22-106](#) Ratifying the assessments for Collection of Vacant Building Registration fees billed during January 7 to July 21, 2022. (File No. VB2303, Assessment No. 238802)
Adopted
- 36 [RLH AR 22-107](#) Ratifying the assessments for Securing and/or Emergency Boarding services during August 2022. (File No. J2303B, Assessment No. 238102)
Adopted
- 37 [RLH AR 22-108](#) Ratifying the assessments for Collection of Fire Certificate of Occupancy fees billed during September 8, 2021 to July 26, 2022. (File No. CRT2303, Assessment No. 238202)
Adopted
- 38 [RLH AR 22-109](#) Ratifying the assessments for Excessive Use of Inspection or Abatement services billed during June 22 to July 22, 2022. (File No. J2303E, Assessment No. 238302)
Adopted
- 39 [RLH AR 22-110](#) Ratifying the assessments for Removal of Diseased and/or Dangerous Tree services during January 2022. (File No. 2302T, Assessment No. 239001)
Adopted
- 40 [RLH AR 22-111](#) Ratifying the assessments for Removal of Diseased and/or Dangerous Tree services during August to September 2022. (File No. 2303T, Assessment No. 239002)
Adopted

ADJOURNMENT**Meeting ended at 4:20 PM**

City Council meetings are open for in person attendance, but the public may also comment on public hearing items in writing or via voicemail. Any comments and materials submitted by 12:00 pm of the day before the meeting will be attached to the public record and available for review by the City Council. Comments may be submitted as follows:

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Written public comment on public hearing items can be submitted to Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us, CouncilHearing@ci.stpaul.mn.us, or by voicemail at 651-266-6805. Live testimony will be taken in person in the Council Chambers, and by telephone by registering to speak by noon on the day before the meeting. The registration link is located on the City Council website at www.stpaul.gov/council or <https://forms.office.com/g/TD3xN7WHy5>.

Council Meeting Information

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Web

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