

Marcia Moermond - Re: 1150 Hague Ave Dispute

From: Joan Reidell
To: Thomas Waltman
Date: 9/21/2011 11:52 AM
Subject: Re: 1150 Hague Ave Dispute
CC: Kathryn Burger; Marcia Moermond; Melvin Carter; Noel Nix

Mr. Waltman:

Thank you for contacting the Ward 1 office in regards to the assessment for your property at 1150 Hague Avenue. I'm sorry to hear that you are unable to attend this evening's Public Hearings; I will be sure to share your comments with both Councilmember Carter for his consideration. They will also be submitted as part of the public record for Item #95.

Regards,

Joan

Joan M. Reidell
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Councilmember Melvin Carter III
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>>> Thomas Waltman <twalt23@hotmail.com> 9/20/2011 5:19 PM >>>

Hello,

My name is Thomas Waltman, I am typing this email regarding the proposed assessment for clean up at my property 1150 Hague Ave.

I apologize for not being able to make it to the hearing on Wed. Sept 21st as I just found out that I have other obligations and will not be in town.

I do realize that there was a necessary clean up performed at my house. I do apologize for this clean up & accept some responsibility.

\$456.00 is proposed to be charged to me. I would like to dispute this amount as I am currently going through an eviction process with the tenant that leaves this garbage lying around and I am being charged for it. The tenant is also refusing to do yard work such as mowing the lawn and pulling weeds although it is in her lease agreement as well.

I do realize that it is ultimately up to me as the owner of the property to keep the place clean regardless of what her lease says or not! I will make all attempts to keep this property clean & free from any hazards in the future.

I am disputing the charges of \$456.00 because I feel that they are excessive given the amount of work that took place. I also am disputing them because I have limited control over what the tenant does at my house. I do however still accept some responsibility for the mess.

The clean up performed included the following:

Clean up of approximately 7 garbage bags of household debris.

Clean up of approximately 9 square feet of rank weeds 6 inches tall.

Clean up of a pile of ceramic tile that was roughly 12 square feet & 1 foot tall in the back yard visible by only the occupants of the property.

If the lawn was such an issue as stated on the warning letter, why was it not mowed when the clean up occurred??

The actual clean up at the property did not take more than 20 minutes for 1 person including filming. I have seen the video and the work that took place. Even with drive time & a dump charge this work could not have taken any longer than 1.25 hrs. Also, what warrants a charge of \$120/hr?????

Employees cleaning this mess up do not make more than \$30/hr including benefits. If even that. The overhead, inspection fee and dump charge certainly would not take up the remaining balance.

I realize there is a budget shortfall but I don't think it is right for the city to try & make money off of these situations.

I do realize that a clean up occurred and I need to pay something but these charges are very excessive. I ask that the council please reduce the amount to something affordable & reasonable. I think a fair price would be \$150 maximum, I ask that the council please consider this amount. **I know that this clean up could not have taken 3.75 hours & warrant \$456.00.**

Again, I do realize that it is ultimately up to me as the owner of the property to keep the place clean regardless of what her lease says or not! I will make all attempts to keep this property clean & free from any hazards in the future.

I hope that you will please accept this email as my statement at the hearing. Thank you for your time.

Thomas Waltman 651-334-2324