



City of Saint Paul

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Minutes - Final

Legislative Hearings

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651-266-8585

Thursday, October 15, 2020

9:00 AM

Via Telephone

Special Tax Assessments

9:00 a.m. Hearings

- 1 **RLH TA 20-568** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1039 EARL STREET (ASSESSMENT ROLL HAS AS 1057 ROSE AVENUE EAST). (File No. CG2002D1-1, Assessment No. 200132)

Sponsors: Yang

Approve the assessment.

No one appeared

Staff report by Clare Pillsbury, Public Works: on the assessment roll as 1057 Rose Avenue E. It is for \$107.02 for one medium cart with 3 late fees. Appealing because they had notice of the Legislative Hearing, but they didn't own this property and weren't sure why they got the notice. The PID for this and Rose Ave E are the same, we did correct this address. They did send the property owner a revised bill for January to March 2020, and they don't wish to further contest the assessment and will pay it. Issue with the erroneous address

Moermond: more commonly referred to as a PIN, property identity number. So recommended.

Referred to the City Council due back on 11/18/2020

- 2 **RLH TA 20-614** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1059-1063 WOODBRIDGE STREET. (File No. CG2003A4, Assessment No. 200142)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Delete the assessment.

No one appeared

Staff report by Clare Pillsbury, Public Works: \$18.49 for delinquent bill for Quarter 2, 2020 appealing because property owner called Advanced when he got the initial notice of nonpayment, the customer service representative told him he only owed \$2, which

he paid. But when he got this notification, he saw it for \$18.49 and when they called Advanced Disposal they said it was in error for a bulky pickup. We confirmed with the hauler it was for an incorrect bulky charge and recommend removing.

Moermond: so recommended.

Referred to the City Council due back on 11/18/2020

10:00 a.m. Hearings

- 3 [RLH TA 20-603](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 984 BURGESS STREET. (File No. CG2003B1, Assessment No. 200143)

Sponsors: Thao

Layover to LH October 29, 2020 10 am. Reduce assessment from \$107.02 to \$57.57 if PO switches cart to smallest size. (Reduce pending Q3 assessment as well)

Steven Cramsie, owner, appeared via phone

Staff report by Clare Pillsbury, Public Works: \$107.02 for a medium cart with 3 late fees. Highland Sanitation is hauler. Under citywide service all residential properties up to four units are required to have service, with no option to opt out. Property owner is responsible for paying the outstanding charge as service was provided, staff recommends approving the assessments.

Moermond: any previous assessments?

Pillsbury: this is the first one.

Moermond: there's a few people similarly situated with not participating in the system, but we're stuck with a law that everyone pays for the program, I can tell you I'd like to set you up with the lowest possible bill since the property has to be in the program. I asked about past assessments because I'd be willing to work to decrease those, if you were willing to go with a smaller container, but right now I have the Quarter 2 bill, and the 3rd quarter is pending as well, I'd be willing to recommend that is decreased too. That would get you down to \$57.57. What are your thoughts?

Cramsie: I don't know what kind of contract you signed, I tried to give their can back, been trying to get them to pick it up for 3 years. they won't take it, evidentially they can't.

Moermond: are you talking about the City of St. Paul information on it, dark gray? Or Highland Satiation on it?

Cramsie: I don't know, it has been in my garage. I bring my garbage to work, I'm on a fixed income, I refinanced my house in 2018, and it has gone up from \$800 to \$900 some, property taxes keep going up. If you want me out of my house this is one way to do it. The other thing is, this is extortion, money through force or threats. I didn't vote on this bill for the trash.

Moermond: there was a ballot question on this, a year ago. It was decisive that they wanted the program.

Cramsie: I didn't see that.

Moermond: if you voted last year, November 2019, you would have seen it. But here we are, in the present. This isn't about forcing you out of your home, it is about everyone paying a fair share toward the program. I'm understanding of your situation, but I can't get you out of the program, I can work with you to get the lowest bill so it has less of an impact on your bottom line. Are you willing to work with me?

Cramsie: you're going to drop the \$50 but I still owe Highland?

Moermond: if you don't pay a bill that comes to you, it would have been mailed beginning of April 2020, the haulers on the 5th of the month they mail the bill, you can pay it or not, then on May 5, another bill is mailed out with a late fee, and then June 5 along with another late fee, if it isn't paid those 3 times, the hauler says to the City "this wasn't paid, we're sending it to you because we can't collect" that's the situation today. I'm ok with that because it gives us an opportunity to have a conversation about it, that's how it comes to be the City has this conversation with you. I'm hoping we can get it set up so from April moving forward to the future we can get you at the smallest bill. I'm willing to un-ring the bell and go with the smaller bill and moving forward you'd have one. In order to that Public Works needs what?

Swanson: we will send an email to Highland who will swap out the cart with a small cart with a purple lid, that would reduce the next bill and send a calendar for that every other week service.

Moermond: you need him to put his container out to the curb on collection day and they will take it and switch it for a smaller one. When is his collection day?

Swanson: Friday.

Moermond: so next Friday, would you be willing to put the container out Thursday night so we can switch it out and get the bill smaller?

Cramsie: I have no choice.

Moermond: right now I can give you \$100 if you do it, that's an incentive.

Cramsie: I understand your position. What about the recycling containers, I have two?

Moermond: we can tell Public Works to pick up one of those as well. Put it out next Friday as well. Next Friday put them both out, and you'll be left with one container with a purple lid.

Cramsie: this \$50 does it go on taxes? Or a separate bill?

Moermond: it is up to you. It goes to Council on November 18. If you pay it, via the website or mail it in.

Cramsie: I don't have a cell phone or computer.

Mai Vang: 651-266-8858

Moermond: call that number to talk to the assessment office about sending in a payment. I'll ask this is reduced to \$57.57 on the condition you trade out containers. Ill

also ask staff to reduce the 3rd quarter that about as well. I'm sorry I can't do more for you. I hope this is somewhat helpful.

Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 10/29/2020

4 RLH TA 20-601 Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 979 FLANDRAU ST. (File No. CG2003B1, Assessment No. 200143)

Sponsors: Yang

Delete the assessment.

*Rosemarie Rayes Cayax, owner, appeared via phone
Clare Pillsbury, Public Works, translated*

Staff report by Chris Swanson, Public Works: for \$4.97 for Quarter 2, 2020. Property owner stated they made a payment for the Quarter 2, 2020 invoice on April 5, 2020. They stated they should not be charged the late fee when their payment was made on time. We checked with the hauler and payment was made in Quarter 2, but it was made in the following month, not in the first month. Late fee would be justified, but the hauler actually credited that late fee. Staff would recommend approving the assessment, it comes out the same for the resident.

Moermond: there has been no other issues with this property, so I'm going to recommend we delete this as well.

Cayax: thank you very much.

Moermond: any other questions?

Cayax: I got bill for \$200, when I called the hauler they said I didn't owe anything. I believe I got the bill late.

Pillsbury: we should follow up with the Quarter 3, and the hauler says they did send the bill out on time.

Moermond: you guys will look at that, and call her back?

Swanson: yes. I see no quarter 3 assessment. Ms. Pillsbury will follow up with her to see what's going on.

Referred to the City Council due back on 11/18/2020

5 RLH TA 20-624 Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 807 HAMLIN AVENUE NORTH. (File No. CG2003B1, Assessment No. 200143)

Sponsors: Jalali

Delete the assessment.

No one appeared

Staff report by Clare Pillsbury, Public Works:\$77.36 for quarter 2, 2020. Small container plus late fees. Aspen. Hauler reached out to City and said in March they

granted a service hold from March through September 2020, which includes all of quarter 2, billing wasn't stopped and they requested the assessment be removed.

Moermond: the person returning the post card is Susan Young, but not the same as the Public Works employee.

Pillsbury: correct.

Referred to the City Council due back on 11/18/2020

11:00 a.m. Hearings

- 6 RLH TA 20-605** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1034 CASE AVE. (File No. CG2003B2, Assessment No. 200144)
- Sponsors: Yang
- Delete the assessment.
- No one appeared
- Staff report by Clare Pillsbury, Public Works: the postcard was returned by Marlene Thomas for \$54.36 for Quarter 2, 2020, Advanced is hauler. Property owner stated they called Advanced on September 29, 2020 re the public hearing notice and assessment and they spoke with Eugene and informed that on August 5, 2020. Kim sent a reverse the tax rule to the AP Department requesting it be removed. They tried to contact Eugene again, and couldn't reach him. We did confirm with the hauler that this should have been done, Kim is an employee of AD and confirmed it should be removed.
- Moermond: recommend deletion.
- Referred to the City Council due back on 11/18/2020**
- 7 RLH TA 20-600** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 94 COOK AVENUE WEST. (File No. CG2003B2, Assessment No. 200144)
- Sponsors: Brendmoen
- Delete the assessment.
- No one appeared
- Staff report by Clare Pillsbury, Public Works: We did confirm with the hauler this is actually a late fee, it wasn't processed until May 2, 2020, it was credited 12.40 for the additional bags, due to delay in payment was due to error of hauler, we recommend removing the assessment due to confusion surrounding the additional bags.
- Moermond: recommend deletion.
- Referred to the City Council due back on 11/18/2020**
- 8 RLH TA 20-612** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 298 JENKS AVENUE. (File No. CG2003B2, Assessment No. 200144)
- Sponsors: Brendmoen

Delete the assessment.

No one appeared

Staff report by Clare Pillsbury, Public Works: property owner purchased March 2020 as vacant. It is still listed on City website as vacant property since October 2019. Due to this being registered we recommend removing the assessment, the hauler was alerted and didn't reach out the resident.

Moermond: delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 11/18/2020

Special Tax Assessments-ROLLS

- 9 RLH AR 20-142** Ratifying the assessment for the City's cost of providing Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for services during April to June 2020. (File No. CG2003A4, Assessment No. 200142)
Sponsors: Brendmoen
Referred to the City Council due back on 11/18/2020
- 10 RLH AR 20-143** Ratifying the assessment for the City's cost of providing Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for services during April to June 2020. (File No. CG2003B1, Assessment No. 200143)
Sponsors: Brendmoen
Referred to the City Council due back on 11/18/2020
- 11 RLH AR 20-144** Ratifying the assessment for the City's cost of providing Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for services during April to June 2020. (File No. CG2003B2, Assessment No. 200144)
Sponsors: Brendmoen
Referred to the City Council due back on 11/18/2020