

CITY OF SAINT PAUL

OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
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SAINT PAUL, MN 55102-1615

Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer EMAIL: <u>legislativehearings@ci.stpaul.mn.us</u> PHONE: (651) 266-8585 FAX: (651) 266-8574

May 7, 2020

Leonard Anderson 559 S McKnight Rd St Paul MN 55119

VIA US MAIL

Re: Appeal(s) for Property at <u>559 McKnight Road South, Delinquent Garbage Assessment</u>

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This letter is follow-up on your Legislative Hearing you had via telephone with Legislative Hearing Officer Marcia Moermond on Thursday, April 30, 2020. At that hearing Ms. Moermond made these findings and recommendations:

- 1) The City Council first reviewed a garbage hauling assessment appeal (4th quarter 2018 delinquent bill) for your property in July 2019. At that time the Council decreased the assessment as a courtesy, as you indicated you would be decreasing your level of service from the default medium cart to the small cart with biweekly service (\$60.83)
- 2) That cart exchange happened in July 2019.
- 3) You did not appeal the 1st quarter 2019 assessment which was considered in Legislative Hearing August 1, 2019 and ratified by the City Council September 25, 2019. This \$96.08 assessment was for a medium-sized cart and late fees. As you did not appeal, the Council could not consider your presumed position that your 1st quarter bill should be decreased to reflect the fact that at the beginning of the 3rd quarter you changed your service level and would like an additional courtesy reduction. As a courtesy, Ms. Moermond will submit a resolution to the Council requesting that the 1st quarter bill be reduced to \$69.95 (the cost of a small cart with biweekly service, plus late fees) given your later reduction in service level. As this assessment was certified to your 2020 property taxes, the difference between this amount and the ratified assessment will be processed as a refund.
- 4) The bills discussed on April 30, 2020 at your legislative hearing were for 2nd quarter of 2019 and the 3rd quarter of 2019.
- 5) With respect to the 2nd quarter bill, Ms. Moermond again noted that you had not reduced your service level until the beginning of the 3rd quarter. Therefore, the bill of \$96.08 for a medium cart with late fees for the 2nd quarter was accurate. As a courtesy, Ms. Moermond will recommend the Council reduce the 2st quarter bill to \$69.95 (the cost of a

- small cart with biweekly service, plus late fees) given your later reduction in service level.
- 6) With respect to the 3rd quarter bill, the service level at the time of the bill's issuance was for a medium cart with weekly service. Therefore, this bill was accurate. The normal course of billing would have accommodated a pro-rated bill for the 3rd quarter by way of crediting your 4th quarter bill. As the bill was unpaid, there was no credit to be given. Ms. Moermond will recommend the Council reduce the 3rd quarter bill to \$69.95 (the cost of a small cart with biweekly service, plus late fees).

The 2nd and 3rd quarter garbage bill assessments will go to Council May 20, 2020, as will the resolution addressing your ratified 1st quarter assessment. We will contact you prior to this hearing to discuss whether this hearing will be remote or in person due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Sincerely, /s/

Joanna Zimny Legislative Hearing Executive Assistant

c: Garbage Assessment Staff
Carol Berg o/b/o Leonard Anderson, a9696b@msn.com