

From: [Zimny, Joanna \(CI-StPaul\)](mailto:Zimny, Joanna (CI-StPaul))
To: [Zimny, Joanna \(CI-StPaul\)](mailto:Zimny, Joanna (CI-StPaul))
Subject: FW: Oct. 21 General Meeting Agenda - Minnesota Acre Farms LLC
Date: Monday, October 19, 2020 8:41:29 AM

From: John Halla <jhalla54@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 6:10 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3 <Ward3@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Oct. 21 General Meeting Agenda - Minnesota Acre Farms LLC

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

Hansen Halla <hansenhalla@yahoo.com>
To: contact-council@ci.stpaul.mn.us
Cc: Chris Tolbert
Fri, Oct 16 at 6:07 PM

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We recently became aware of a neighborhood business that engages in hydroponic farming in St. Paul.

Minnesota Acre Farms indicates that they own a container off of Snelling Avenue where they intend to grow fresh organic produce. We have been informed that this business was issued notice of a City code violation because of the type of structure in which it operates.

We are writing to indicate our support for Minnesota Acre Farms and its hydroponic business. Hydroponic farming does not require the use of pesticides or herbicides, which would affect our City water system. In addition, the City will benefit from the increased revenue collected from this operation, as there are many people in our area who support organic farming and would likely buy this company's produce. Although the current structure may be unusual, this is a start-up business that chooses to operate in St. Paul and offers a wholesome product for which there is already a market. Since very few new businesses have the means to immediately purchase a building, particularly in the current climate, we believe this business should be afforded some consideration for its informed choice of location and, frankly, its ingenuity.

We respect the need for regulation of businesses. We do not believe the current notice is justified in this case. We urge the City Council to waive the issued notice of violation, allow Minnesota Acre Farms to continue its operation and moreover, consider aiding this business in a search for a more permanent location.

Respectfully,

John Halla & Christine Hansen