



# 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 Mitra Jalali*  
*Councilmember Rebecca Noecker*  
*Councilmember Jane L. Prince*  
*Councilmember Dai Thao*  
*Councilmember Chris Tolbert*  
*Councilmember Nelsie Yang*

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Wednesday, January 27, 2021

3:30 PM

Council Chambers - 3rd Floor

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Please see the meeting guidelines due to the COVID-19 pandemic emergency.

#### ROLL CALL

[https://www.action4liberty.com/lisa\\_hanson\\_arrested](https://www.action4liberty.com/lisa_hanson_arrested)

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

#### COMMUNICATIONS & RECEIVE/FILE

- 1 [CO 21-10](#) Mayor's Emergency Executive Order 21-5.  
Received and Filed
- 2 [AO 21-6](#) Amending CDBG projects budget.  
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

*Council President Brendmoen said Item 12 will be taken separately; Items 13 and 14 will be withdrawn.*

*Councilmember Thao moved approval of the Consent Agenda.*

*7 in favor, none opposed*

*Consent Agenda is adopted as amended*

**Adopted Consent Agenda**

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

**Nay:** 0

- 3     [RES 21-171](#)     Authorizing the City to enter into a joint powers agreement with Ramsey County Geographic Information Systems for governmental units interested in using geographic systems and data created and maintained by Ramsey County.

**Adopted**

- 4     [RES 21-101](#)     Approving the issuance of conduit revenue bonds by the Port Authority for the benefit of District Energy Saint Paul, Inc.

**Adopted**

- 5     [RES 21-20](#)     Approving the City's cost of providing Property Clean Up services during November 13 to 30, 2020, and setting date of Legislative Hearing for February 16, 2021 and City Council public hearing for April 7, 2021 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. J2112A, Assessment No. 218511)

**Adopted**

- 6     [RES 21-126](#)     Approving the City's cost of providing Excessive Use of Inspection or Abatement services billed during September 21 to October 21, 2020, and setting date of Legislative Hearing for March 2, 2021 and City Council public hearing for April 14, 2021 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. J2106E, Assessment No. 218305)

**Adopted**

- 7     [RES 21-136](#)     Authorizing the City to apply to Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Redevelopment Grant funding for projects at 520 Payne Avenue, 678 Snelling Avenue North, 1222 University Avenue, and 1790 University Avenue.

**Adopted**

- 8     [RES 21-140](#)     Approving the Pay Equity Implementation Report for submission to the State of Minnesota Management and Budget.

**Adopted**

- 9     [RES 21-149](#)     Accepting the donation of services of the American Cities Climate Challenge Climate Advisor and other professional services until June 30, 2021 and thanking the Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. and Bloomberg Philanthropies for their gift.

**Adopted**

- 10    [RES 21-147](#)     Approving Mayor Carter's appointment of Stephanie McCauley and Karen Francois to the Civil Service Commission.

**Adopted**

- 11     [RES 21-162](#)     Approving the Second Amended Lease Agreement between the City and Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS).

**Adopted**

- 13     [RES 21-168](#)     Authorizing appropriate City officials to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Primacy Strategy Group. (To be withdrawn.)

**Withdrawn**

- 14     [RES 21-169](#)     Authorizing a Professional Services Contract with Ward Einess Strategies, LLC. (To be withdrawn)

**Withdrawn****FOR DISCUSSION**

- 12     [RES 21-165](#)     Recognizing the Friends of Mears Park for their dedication and stewardship of Mears Park.

*Councilmember Noecker said she is honored to bring this issue. She is speaking for many people in the community who are grateful for Friends of Mears.*

*Mike Hahm, Director of Parks and Rec, said they bring vibrancy to Mears.*

*Noecker concurred with Hahm. She is grateful every year for them. So many people turned inward and Friends turned outward. The lighting is inspiring. There was a live stream of the lighting. She moved approval.*

*Councilmember Thao said that it is a citywide asset. It is a beautiful park.*

*7 in favor, none opposed*

*Resolution is adopted*

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

- 15     [RES 21-146](#)     Recognizing Wendy Neurer's career with the City of Saint Paul and congratulating her on her retirement.

*Councilmember Prince said she is delighted to have Wendy with us today. They go back to early 80's. She is a resident of Highland. She has had an amazing career with the City. In the same year, she became the St. Paul Public Library volunteer coordinator. She grew the volunteer force from 125 to well over 1,000. (Prince read a few portions of the resolution.) Wendy supported volunteers and doing work from tutoring to gardening to 3D printing. She created support for work study and*

internships. She was recognized by colleges for her working with students.

Catherine Penkert, Library Director, said Wendy connected thousands to volunteer opportunities in the libraries. She was a welcoming friendly face in the libraries.

Councilmember Tolbert said he wishes it was in person. We couldn't have the volunteer banquet. She holds court with every volunteer that she knows on a first name basis. When Tolbert was library board chair, there were thousands of hours the volunteers did. It is testament to library staff and Wendy. There are a diversity of volunteers from gardening to tutoring. He thanked her for being creative and energetic.

Wendy Neurer said she adores all of the Council. She loves the community of Saint Paul. She is grateful to her parents. They were children of immigrants and they taught her a lot of things. How many people can say in 39 years that they could do a job that they loved. She loved going to work every day, the volunteers, the staff, the libraries. She will miss them all. Her sons give to the community on a daily basis.

Tolbert asked about volunteer time. Neurer said if the City paid out for their services, it would be \$600,000 to \$700,000 a year.

Prince moved approval.

Probably 7 in favor, none opposed

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

**16**     [RES 21-166](#)

Authorizing the City to transfer \$6,061,828 in CDBG-CV funds to specific accounts for COVID related activities.

Council President Brendmoen said Kristin Guild and Johnson McCarthy are on the call. There is a Version 2 in Legistar that was entered today.

Kristin Guild said we were here on December 15 on the CARES Act dollars. At that meeting, she said they would be back with more detail on a budget action. She gave a brief refresher. The total award with the City's formula allocation is over \$6 Million. They need to spend the funds within 3 years until December 2023. These funds also have to be directly related to addressing COVID impacts. Their recommendation for programming are concentrated for use 2021 and 2022. These are still CDBG dollars. They need to serve low and moderate income residents. There are a number of public service uses: job training, business assistance, homeless counseling, food insecurity support. 20% can be used for grant administration.

Councilmember Jalali said she is understanding what federal funds can be used to construct places for homeless to live. We can use it for meals for encampments. The gap she continues to see is what dollars can we use for Tiny homes, indoor village structures. Is there a way to get future reports on whether and how there is funding to build places for people to live?

Guild says this is something they think about a lot in PED. This source is not great for affordable housing. There are other federal sources. Then, there are the regular HUD, CDBG, and home dollars. They are paying attention and keenly focused on

support from the Biden administration, advocating for strong support for supportive housing constructure and advocating for Saint Paul to be the recipient. Jalali responded she appreciates that. There is a FEMA expansion of going from 75 to 100 % reimbursement. She is thinking in terms of emergency housing.

John McCarthy, Finance Director, spoke about the grants, how they received the funds, and how they came up with the list of recommended projects. The CARES Act provides additional CDBG funds at the same time the City receive CRF funds from the State. July 2020, the City shared a proposal from all departments to request funds. They put together a review team to vet the proposals. Once scoring was completed, the matched funding with available projects. There are staff leads for every project. (McCarthy read the list of proposals from various departments.) Total is \$5,091,828.

Council President Brendmoen said this is the second round of CARES funding we had. The \$26 Million was needed and out the door by the end of November. These are funds that allowed more flexibility. She asked about timing. What is the deadline? McCarthy responded the HUD deadline and would defer to Ms. Guild. Some of the pressing deadlines are the services they are providing with other resources that ran out at the end of the year.

Councilmember Noecker thanked Ms. Guild and McCarthy. She had some concerns that we were taking a large pot of money and breaking it into smaller pots. Due to the nature of the restrictions and we would be disrupting some services, this is the right use. We had funded those with the dollars we had, we knew these were coming online, so we were able to repurpose them. I've worried about coming to the end of these funding and there still is a need. McCarthy responded Mr. Casher ramos is on the phone. He is best able to answer that question.

Muneer Karcher-Ramos is running the food security COVID response from the Administration side.. They are coordinating with the County and school partners. He has been doing this since May. The federal government has a COVID waiver to tap into the purchasing of food. The schools take care of breakfast and lunch. This is snack and meals. This waiver is extended through 2021. At that point we would identify what it would look like for us to continue on. That is the critical path. The side of the funding equation that the pays for the food allows us to do these curbside pickups. That is a critical path we are looking at. As students go back to school, what are the different realities. We see the super long lines at the food distribution.

Brendmoen thanked Deputy Director Guild and Director McCarthy. We are looking at Version 2 in Legistar.

Jalali moved approval.

7 in favor, none opposed

Resolution is adopted as amended

**Adopted As Amended**

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

**Nay:** 0

**17**      [AHPC 20-3](#)

Public hearing to consider the appeal of Jim LaValle, TJL Development LLC, to the Heritage Preservation Commission decision of 156 Dale Street in the Historic Hill Heritage Preservation District. (Public hearing held December 2,

2020) (To be withdrawn)  
**Withdrawn**

## **SUSPENSION ITEM**

### **Rules Suspended**

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

**Nay:** 0

### [RES 21-192](#)

Amending the City's Legislative Agenda for the 2021 Legislative Session .

*Council President Brendmoen said she is bringing in under suspension. North End Community Center was errantly omitted from the legislative agenda. It is shovel ready. Legislative Agenda is coming back for comments later. She moved the resolution.*

*Councilmember Thao said he will be speaking in favor. The North End is a community that lacks opportunity. A lot of young people in that area. If it's good for the North End, it's good for Saint Paul.*

*Councilmember Prince said she speaks in support. She strongly supports adding this to the bonding request.*

*Brendmoen said we will get this funded in some way.*

*Councilmember Thao moved approval.*

*7 in favor, none opposed*

*Resolution is adopted*

### **Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

## **ORDINANCES**

**An ordinance is a city law enacted by the City Council. It is read at four separate council meetings and becomes effective after passage by the Council and 30 days after publication in the Saint Paul Legal Ledger. Public hearings on ordinances are held at the third reading.**

### **Final Adoption**

### **18**     [Ord 20-29](#)

Amending Chapter 409 of the Legislative Code pertaining to the distance restriction between liquor license locations and to reduce the location radius for off-sale wine only license locations.

*Councilmember Prince said she will lay this over to March 24 with hopes that DSI (Department of Safety and Inspections) will be able to work with us to provide a strong*

*recommendation for the ordinance at that time.*

*7 in favor, none opposed*

*Laid over to March 24*

**Laid Over to Final Adoption**

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

**Nay:** 0

**First Reading**

- 19     [Ord 21-3](#)     Granting the application of NBH Holdings LLC to rezone the property at 1350 Arcade Street and 835 Clear Avenue from R4 one-family residential to T2 traditional neighborhood and amending Chapter 60 of the Legislative Code pertaining to the zoning map.  
**Laid Over to Second Reading**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- 20     [RES PH 21-6](#)     Approving the petition of Maureen Michalski of Ryan Companies on behalf of Project Paul, LLC and Presbyterian Homes & Services, to vacate air rights over Mount Curve Boulevard, abutting Blocks 6 and 7, FORD plat.

*Council President Brendmoen said we held a public hearing online and over the phone.*

*Councilmember Tolbert moved to close the public hearing and approve.*

*7 in favor, none opposed*

*Resolution is adopted*

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

- 21     [RES PH 21-12](#)     Approving adverse action against the Cigarette/Tobacco License held by Ammar Alfuraui d/b/a Twins Market & Meat (License ID #20160002240) at 1055 Fourth Street East.

*Theresa Skarda, City Attorney's Office, on behalf of DSI (Department of Safety and Inspections). This is a request by the department and an upward departure. As for the first violation, 9/10/2020, the licensee received a violation when the inspector saw some flavored products. The department asked for a \$1,000 penalty. On October 8, Inspector Voyda returned to the licensed premises to perform a follow-up, he asked the clerk to call the licenses. The clerk allowed them to look behind the counter. There were those products. The number of flavored products and gave the licensee the choice to admit. The licensee was trying to sell the business and was admitting to the facts and would discuss with City Council. There is a new application. There is a*

meeting set to discuss those questions in February.

Brendmoen said the 266 number is not here anymore. Moermond said he will testify through another connection.

Jacob Steen appeared and said he represents the owner. He wants to impress on the Council that his client understands the severity of the violations. He acknowledges the failure that have occurred on his watch. The upward departure. It has been challenging. The violence is unacceptable. The ongoing violence is the challenges of operating a business successfully and keeping his head above water. They have an agreement to sell the property to a new owner. His client would surrender his license. He is a recent immigrant and it is his livelihood. A short suspension would be a fatal blow at this point and would imperil the business. The suspension would be fatal. They are asking the Council to stay as soon as a new license is issued. Then the business will transfer to the new buyer.

Council President Brendmoen said we are struggling with technology today, but she could hear him.

Councilmember Prince said the \$2,000 fine and the 10 days suspension have nothing to do with the gun violence in the premises. The owner should be a neighbor of this business. He has robbed the residential neighbors of the quiet enjoyment of that neighborhood. She is inclined to move the recommendation of the City Attorney because the violations alone. The first violation happened and when the City went in, he had not declined. He had even stocked up on the product. We were not able to consider the gun violence as part of this license action. On the tobacco violations alone, he has earned the matrix penalty and the 10-day suspension.

Councilmember Noecker said she speaks in support. That makes a lot of sense.

Brendmoen said she appreciates Prince's acknowledge that there is more going on here. She is in support of the motion. We run into this challenge with businesses and malfeasance. We have more of a challenge with this than our neighboring suburbs.

Councilmember Yang said she will be joining him in supporting the recommendation. This is a way to have integrity in the thing we pass.

7 in favor, none opposed

PH is closed and the resolution is adopted

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

## 22 [AHPC 21-2](#)

Public hearing to consider the appeal of Carlos Perez, Sketches LLC on behalf of Sullivan Property Investments II, LLC to the Heritage Preservation Commission decision of 540 Portland Avenue in the Historic Hill Heritage Preservation District

(Allison Suhan, Eggers Planning and Economic Development, went through the timeline of this issue.)

Councilmember Prince in reading the minutes, the original vote was 2 to 5. The



*motion was in support of the project. It went down on a 2-5 vote. You had to vote again to have a motion on whether the permit was being issued because it was just a negative vote for moving the permit forward., so it was a 2-5 vote that lost, and they had to redo the vote so it was a 5-2 vote against issuing the permit. Eggers responded the first motion was to approve the project, that was voted 2-5, so it didn't pass. So, a new motion as made to deny the project so cooperation between the neighbors and applicant could continue and that was 5-2, and that was what passed.*

*Prince said she has an issue with that interpretation of the 5-2 vote.. The 5-2 motion was to issue the permit. A friendly amendment that the developer meet with the neighborhood. It was a denial of the permit and it was Mr. Gause who stated this was not a denial, it was asking the applicant to meet with the neighbor. The permit was voted down on vote. The 5-2 vote makes more sense that it was for the applicant to work with the neighbors because it was creating a record to deny the permit. She takes issue with the interpretation that this was not a denial of the permit. I also don't understand why there were no findings with that action by the HPC.*

*Council President Brendmoen said she doesn't know if that is an answer or an observation. Eggers responded she sees her concerns. The motion that was put out for the HPC as it was proposed by a commissioner, he stated the intent of the denial motion, and there were no findings issued with that motion to be adopted, hence why there aren't any in that resolution.*

*Prince said there are no findings, there is no record of error that includes findings in the appellant's appeal. We are being asked today to vote on an appeal that does not provide any error by the commission. An HPC appeal should have findings in it. In every way that this process can be convoluted, it is. Eggers responded they reviewed the appeal that was submitted. Their city attorney also reviewed it. The way it was read is that the argument for the error was that the recommendation of meeting with the neighbors had already been met and it was not considered in the HPC decision in that the applicant had already been meeting with the neighbors. That was how we read the error in the decision.*

*Prince said there was a motion to grant the permit and it was lost on the 2-5 vote. There was no permit for the second vote. It was supposed to be turning the first vote around that resulted in action that the HPC acted on. Also, Eggers mentioned that the Ramsey Hill Association and SARPA had reached out to the developer, and the developer said if there was a meeting it should be with HPC staff. Did that meeting ever occur? Eggers responded it did not because the request was made during the active appeal timeline. They normallyl don't take action during an open appeal period. They want for that appeal period to close. There has not been a meeting time proposed.*

*Councilmember Noecker asked is it accurate to say since the HPC failure to approve, no meeting with neighbors have since taken place. Eggers responded that is correct: they have not scheduled meetings with the neighbors because there was an open appeal that as filed in the deadline to file an appeal. They were waiting on this to settle before they continue with a meeting between the neighbors and applicant.*

*Noecker said the developers could not reach out for meeting with neighbors without HPC. Eggers responded since it was a recommended by HPC, there needed to be HPC staff involved in those meetings to make sure minutes could be recorded and able to share with commissioners. Since it was essentially a condition on moving forward, the applicant felt more comfortable that the HPC staff be involved. The*

*project as it is right now still meets the guidelines and so having HPC staff at those meetings would ensure any changes would meet the guidelines.*

*Noecker said it looks like the appellant is citing an error in fact by saying the HPC claimed there hadn't been engagement with the neighbors, but there had been. Eggers responded the appeal is saying the previous meetings and previous changes because of the meetings with the neighbors, had made the changes and that hadn't been considered in the discussion of including neighborhood input. The other part: there were no findings in regards to the project does not meet the guidelines that it has to adhere to for the HPC.*

*Prince said the record is terrible here. After the motion fails to approve the application, then the commission returned to the unfinished action. Commissioner Waggoner moved to deny the 540 Portland Avenue application. Another commissioner recommended a friendly amendment that the applicant communicate with the neighbors on any revisions of the project. If they were denying the permit, she is not sure how that is a friendly amendment. The motion was to deny the 540 Portland application. The motion passed on a 5-2 vote. Regardless of the friendly amendment. The motion was to deny the application, and then no findings were made. We've got a problem here. The Council will do its business, but this is a serious problem with our process: no findings were made in denying the application and now we have an appeal that is basically an argument over a friendly amendment.*

*Councilmember Jalali said there are actions back and forth. What is the Council ruling today? If you vote no, what happens.*

*Council President Brendmoen said there is not a motion.*

*Thao said he appreciate all the input, but he will vote to grant the appeal. The HPC had an error when they denied the applicant's request. The section does not require the applicant to meet with the neighbors for new construction. He is granting the developer's appeal on 3 reasons: 1) the project confirms the HPC's standard. The height and scale is in harmony with existing structure. It does not imperil the historic buildings, 2) the developers project satisfies the legislative code and it will not imperil the buildings on the adjacent site or buildings in the historic district, 3) the developer's project meets the City's comprehensive goal or promoting density while maintaining the integrity of the historic district.*

*Gause said he would like to clarify a couple of things that were said. They had technical difficulties during the motion. Two commissioners could not be heard. I took several tries. That's why there were 2 votes. The comment about the intent of the denial was a commissioner's comment. That is not coming from staff.*

*Kate Daly, assistant city attorney, said she wanted to clarify what we are voting on. This is a vote to grant or deny the appeal of the developers. The HPC denied the developer's application. Thao moved to grant the developer's appeal so the development can move forward.*

*Noecker plants to support the motion, but she is failing to find findings anywhere. Were there findings that are not listed here? Gause responded the original motion was approval of this project. Staff was taken that the commission went the way of denial. He guesses they did not write findings for denial.*

*Prince said she has a concern about historic preservation is the reason she is taking a*

*strong position on this. What is before us today is not a dispute. No one was opposed to putting a 3-unit dwelling or density on that lot. The dispute is about the design. What is regrettable about SARPA and Summit Avenue were unable to work with the developer was that their aim was to create something that would be a structure that would make sense within the Hill District. It was never an issue about density. She is speaking against the motion. The appeal has no findings. The HPC Waggoner said he moved denial of the application. His comments after that. The denial of the application passed on a 5-2 vote. It is unfortunate that the developer was unwilling to meet with the two historic district representatives. There is a shared easement in this matter and nothing in the Council's action today grants a property right to the developer.*

*Thao called the question.*

*6 in favor, 1 opposed (Prince)*

*Public hearing is closed and motion of intent is the appeal is granted*

**Granted**

**Yea:** 6 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

**Nay:** 1 - Councilmember Prince

## LEGISLATIVE HEARING ITEMS

### Adopted Consent Agenda

- 23**     [RLH TA 21-25](#)     Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1000 ARCADE STREET. (File No. J2102P, Assessment No. 218401)  
**Adopted**

**Yea:** 6 - Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Brendmoen

- 24**     [RLH TA 20-630](#)     Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1779 ARLINGTON AVENUE EAST. (File No. J2102P, Assessment No. 218401)  
**Adopted**

- 25**     [RLH VBR 21-3](#)     Appeal of Paul Ormseth, Paul Ormseth Restoration and Construction LLC, to a Vacant Building Registration Renewal Notice at 767 FOURTH STREET EAST.

**Adopted**

- 27**     [RLH TA 20-657](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1862 IVY AVENUE EAST. (File No. J2102B, Assessment No. 218101)  
**Adopted**

- 28     [RLH SAO 21-1](#)     Appeal of Robert McCarthy to a Vehicle Abatement Order at 1356 JEFFERSON AVENUE.  
**Adopted**
- 30     [RLH RR 20-56](#)     Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 174 PAGE STREET WEST in Council File RLH RR 20-11.  
**Adopted**
- 31     [RLH VO 21-1](#)     Appeal of Rico Duran, Latino Economic Development Center, to a Reinspection Fire Certificate of Occupancy With Deficiencies (which includes condemnation) at 857 PAYNE AVENUE and 859 PAYNE AVENUE.  
**Adopted**
- 32     [RLH RR 21-7](#)     Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 489 SHERBURNE AVENUE in Council File RLH RR 20-18.  
  
**Adopted**
- 34     [RLH TA 20-661](#)     Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1734 SIMS AVENUE. (File No. VB2102, Assessment No. 1500680)  
**Adopted**
- 35     [RLH RR 21-3](#)     Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 2022 STILLWATER AVENUE in Council File RLH RR 20-39.  
  
**Adopted**
- 37     [RLH TA 20-642](#)     Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1831 UNIVERSITY AVENUE WEST. (File No. J2102P, Assessment No. 218401)  
**Adopted**
- 39     [RLH RR 21-8](#)     Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 1143 WOODBRIDGE STREET in Council File RLH RR 20-7.  
**Adopted**
- 40     [RLH AR 20-151](#)     Ratifying the assessments for Collection of Vacant Building Registration fees billed during January 23 to June 12, 2020. (File No. VB2102, Assessment No. 218801)  
**Adopted**
- 42     [RLH AR 20-153](#)     Ratifying the assessments for Collection of Fire Certificate of Occupancy fees billed during March 16 to June 13, 2020. (File No. CRT2102, Assessment No. 218201)  
**Adopted**
- 43     [RLH AR 20-154](#)     Ratifying the assessments for Excessive Use of Inspection or Abatement services billed during May 22 to June 19, 2020. (File No. J2102E, Assessment No. 218301)  
  
**Adopted**

**Adopted Consent Agenda**

**Yea:** 6 - Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Brendmoen

- 38**     [RLH TA 20-634](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1040 WESTERN AVENUE NORTH. (File No. J2102E, Assessment No. 218301)  
**Adopted As Amended**
- 41**     [RLH AR 20-152](#)     Ratifying the assessments for Securing and/or Emergency Boarding services during July 2020. (File No. J2102B, Assessment No. 218101)  
**Adopted As Amended**
- 44**     [RLH AR 20-155](#)     Ratifying the assessments for Graffiti Removal services during July 7 to 30, 2020. (File No. J2102P, Assessment No. 218401)  
**Adopted As Amended**
- 26**     [RLH TA 20-631](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 959 HUDSON ROAD. (File No. VB2102, Assessment No. 218801) (Public hearing continued to February 10, 2021)

**Continue Public Hearing**

**Yea:** 6 - Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Brendmoen

- 29**     [RLH TA 20-681](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 736 OAKDALE AVENUE (File No. VB2102, Assessment No. 218801)
- Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer, said this covers July 2020 to July 2021. This property is a commercial structure. It has been empty for 4 years. It has been informally monitored by Fire staff. Owner indicated they are contesting the vacant building fee. It has heat and electrical. They are not able to generate income right now. She recommends it be payable over 5 years.*
- Councilmember Noecker will be supporting that motion. She moved approval.*  
*6 in favor, none opposed*  
*Public hearing is closed and resolution is adopted.*

**Adopted**

**Yea:** 6 - Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Brendmoen

- 36**     [RLH TA 20-643](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1352 SUMMIT AVENUE. (File No. VB2102, Assessment No. 218801)

*Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer, said this vacant building fee covered January 2020 to January 2021. The year just concluded today for the fee. This went into the program as a result of a major fire. The property was condemned as unfit for human habitation. The vacant building fee was waived for 90 days. Staff also provided a second waiver of the fee. As this point, when we discussed the matter in early January. He anticipated being done in 3 or 4 months. There is no question he would be in the program for the entire period. He notes that it was a fire. He supports the need of the program. This is a financial hardship. He pays property taxes already on this property. She recommends it be payable over 5 years. Insurance often covers these vacant building fees. He indicated he had trouble convincing the insurance company that this was a legitimate bill. Staff offered to contact the insurance company. That offer was not accepted.*

*Councilmember Tolbert moved to approve the recommendation of the LHO.*

*6 in favor, none opposed*

*Public hearing is closed and the resolution is adopted*

**Adopted**

**Yea:** 6 - Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Brendmoen

- 33**     [RLH TA 20-707](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 716 SIMS AVENUE. (File No. VB2101B, Assessment No. 218808) (To continue Public Hearing to January 27, 2021)

*Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer, said the testimony added to the record was added at the beginning of the staff meeting. January to January. The Council actually waived this fee through March of 2020. There was a 90 days waiver already. They were also given the opportunity to get out of the program without being a Category 2. Jay Mitchell, Quality Residences, he thought the plumbing work was done. The contractor withdrew the permit and got a refund. The condemnation occurred in December 2019. She recommends approval of this fee.*

*Councilmember Yang moved to approve the Legislative Hearing Officer's recommendation.*

*6 in favor, none opposed*

*Public hearing is closed and the resolution is adopted*

**Adopted**

**Yea:** 6 - Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Brendmoen

## **ADJOURNMENT**

In-person meetings, or meetings conducted under Minn. Stat. § 13D.02 of the City Council, are not practical or prudent because of the COVID-19 health pandemic emergency declared under Minn. Stat. Chapter 12 by the Minnesota Governor Tim Walz and Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter. In light of the COVID-19 health pandemic, members of the City Council will participate in City Council meetings by telephone or other electronic means.

Public attendance at the City Council's regular meeting location is not feasible due to the COVID-19 health pandemic. Members of the public may view City Council meetings online at [stpaul.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx](http://stpaul.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx) or on local cable Channel 18.

The public may 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:

Written public comment on public hearing items can be submitted to [Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us), [CouncilHearing@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:CouncilHearing@ci.stpaul.mn.us), or by voicemail at 651-266-6805.

While the Council will make best efforts to decide all issues before them, the Council may delay decisions on certain matters where the members believe meeting in-person is necessary. All City Council public hearings will be held at 3:30 p.m. and there will be no separate 5:30 p.m. public hearings. More information is available at [www.stpaul.gov/departments/city-council](http://www.stpaul.gov/departments/city-council)

#### **Council Meeting Information**

The City Council is paperless which saves the environment and reduces expenses. The agendas and Council files are all available on the Web (see below). Council members use mobile devices to review the files during the meeting. Using a mobile device greatly reduces costs since most agendas, including the documents attached to files, are over 1000 pages when printed.

#### **Web**

Meetings are available on the Council's website. Email notification and web feeds (RSS) of newly released minutes, agendas, and meetings are available by subscription. Visit [www.stpaul.gov/council](http://www.stpaul.gov/council) for meeting videos and updated copies of the agendas, minutes, and supporting documents.

#### **Cable**

Meetings are live on St Paul Channel 18 and replayed at various times. Check your local listings.