



City of Saint Paul

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Minutes - Final

Legislative Hearings

Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer
Mai Vang, Hearing Coordinator
Jean Birkholz, Hearing Secretary
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651-266-8585

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

9:00 AM

Room 330 City Hall & Court House

9:00 a.m. Hearings

Reconvened

Special Tax Assessments

- 1 [RLH TA 18-320](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1038 ARGYLE STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Anne Bergman, Bergman Page Properties LLC, owner, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$160

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$322

Gold Card Returned by: ANNE BERGMAN

Type of Order/Fee: SNOW ORDER

Nuisance: FAILURE TO REMOVE SNOW/ICE FROM SIDEWALK

Date of Orders: 3-9-18

Compliance Date: 3-12-18

Re-Check Date: 3-14-18

Date Work Done: 3-15-18

Work Order #: 18-037284

Returned Mail?: NO

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: NO

VIDEO - crew removed snow & ice full width; was not removed to the curb corner; salted & sanded; lots of snow/ice on at least half of the sidewalk

Ms. Bergman: I'm at a disadvantage because I'm gone in the winter; I got a Notice from my son-in-law (we forward our mail to him) on Mon; the letter is dated the 9th; I emailed my tenant right away & within 5 min she responded that she had taken care of it; I really trust them to maintain the property; I pass the expense to her per the lease; I had faith in her; I have no complaints about her

Ms. Moermond: a fair bit of snow/ice needed to be removed; the Notice was sent; because of the length of the sidewalk & the entrance into the intersection being

significantly blocked & not taken care of; it looks like she considered just that one strip her responsibility; the city crew did a lot of work & the responsibility falls on you

Approve the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 2 [RLH TA 18-375](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1654 BIRMINGHAM STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Bostrom

Xai Neng Yang, owner, appeared. (Mai Vang interpreted.)

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

cost: \$651

service charge: \$162

total assessment: \$813

gold card returned by: Xai Neng Yang

type of order/fee: Summary Abatement

nuisance: Failure to maintain exterior property (Remove yard waste, trash, wood, garbage, mattresses, utensil, buckets, etc.)

date of orders: 3-21-18

compliance date: 3-26-18

re-check date: 3-28-18

date work done: 3:29-18

work order #: 18-046851

returned mail? No

comments:

history of orders on property: Orders & EC on broken windows missing screens

Mr. Yang: he got the letter & was waiting until April to remove all of it because it was frozen into the snow

VIDEO - crew removed everything from the yard (front sides, back)

Mr. Yang: his plan was in Apr; he indicated that he tried to call the inspector but no luck

Ms. Moermond: city did a lot of work; Notice was given; happy to divide over years

Approve & spread over 4 years.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 3 [RLH TA 18-322](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 645 BIDWELL STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Henningson

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 4 [RLH TA 18-359](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 301

BURGESS STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No.188525)

Sponsors: Thao

Charles Dibua, owner, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$316

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$478

Gold Card Returned by: CHARLES DIBUA

Type of Order/Fee: SUMMARY ABATEMENT

Nuisance: FAILURE TO MAINTAIN EXTERIOR PROPERTY (Remove trash bags in alley)

Date of Orders: 3-21-18

Compliance Date: 3-28-18

Re-Check Date: 3-28-18

Date Work Done: 3-30-18

Work Order #: 18047409

Returned Mail?: NO

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: 5-17-17 AND 12-27-17 GARBAGE

Mr. Dibua: we just moved there; bought house & closed Mar 9, 2018

Ms. Moermond: can you send to my office your HUD statement; anything that shows me a date on when you closed

Mr. Dibua: I can give it to you here

Ms. Moermond: alright; thank you; I'm going to recommend the City Council delete this assessment; notice was sent to previous owner; Mr. Dibua did not have proper notification

Delete due improper notice. Notice went to previous, not current owner.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 5 [RLH TA 18-334](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1000 BUSH AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Prince

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 6 [RLH TA 18-348](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1028 CARROLL AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Thao

Delete the assessment; notice sent to wrong address.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 7 [RLH TA 18-370](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 780 CHEROKEE AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525) (Public hearing to be continued to October 17)
- Sponsors:** Noecker
- Vadim Nmn Tokman, owner, (lives in lower unit) appeared.*
- Supervisor Paula Seeley:*
Cost: \$160
Service Charge: \$162
Total Assessment: \$322
Gold Card Returned by: VADIM TOKMAN
Type of Order/Fee: SNOW ICE
Nuisance: SNOW ICE ON PUBLIC SIDEWALK AND CURB CUT
Date of Orders: 3/15/18
Compliance Date: 72 HOURS
Re-Check Date: 3/19/18
Date Work Done: 3/21/18
Work Order #: 18-041199
Returned Mail?: No
Comments:
History of Orders on Property: NONE
- VIDEO - crew removed snow/ice full width; salted/sanded; removal had been done partially*
- Mr. Tokman: every year I do the same thing*
- VIDEO - again*
- Mr. Tokman: I never received a letter; everything was gone when I got a letter in the mail; I've lived there for many years & every year I do the same stuff & never had a problem with the city (10 yrs)*
- Ms. Moermond: I do see a lot of ice on one side of your property making treacherous to cross; you don't have a history on your property, which is good*
- Public hearing continued to October 17, 2018 and if no same or similar violation(s), will delete the assessment.*
- Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018**
- 8 [RLH TA 18-344](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 690 CLEVELAND AVENUE SOUTH. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)
- Sponsors:** Tolbert
- Delete; minimal snow removal.*
- Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018**
- 9 [RLH TA 18-356](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 185

COMO AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Thao

Rescheduled per owner's request.

Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 7/10/2018

- 10 [RLH TA 18-315](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 378
COMO AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Thao

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 11 [RLH TA 18-367](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 62
CONGRESS STREET WEST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No.
188525)

Sponsors: Noecker

Delete the assessment; minimal snow removal.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 12 [RLH TA 18-335](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 738
COOK AVENUE EAST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Bostrom

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 13 [RLH TA 18-347](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 118
DOUGLAS STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Noecker

Delete; minimal snow removal.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 14 [RLH TA 18-357](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1255
EDGERTON STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Sy Vang Mouacheupao, owner, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$344

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$506
Gold Card Returned by: SY VANG MOUACHEUPAO
Type of Order/Fee: SA
Nuisance: SHELF & MICRO-WAVE IN DRIVEWAY, POTS & PANS IN REAR YARD
Date of Orders: 3/9/18
Compliance Date: 3/15/18
Re-Check Date: 3/16/18
Date Work Done: 3/22/18
Work Order #: 37888
Returned Mail?:
Comments:
History of Orders on Property: Yes

VIDEO - small fridge, grill, trash, microwave, crew removed almost all of improperly stored items; they left cooker plus other things; all trash was picked up

Ms. Mouacheupao: it's a rental property; I'd like to have a picture to show tenant; I'm being charged for it

Ms. Moermond: the Order was sent to you & your tenant saying that those things shouldn't be stored outside but they still were there; the Order was sent Mar 9; the crew didn't come until Mar 22 - almost 2 weeks later & those same things were outside

Ms. Mouacheupao: when the letter came, we went to talk to the tenant; they had said that they would clean it up & a week later, we went on vacation

Ms. Moermond: gave Ms. Mouacheupaor photos that were taken on the day after the compliance date

Ms. Seeley: I was out there with SPPD; you have an illegal structure back there too- an illegal pole structure; & the green fence back there is loaded with improper storage; all that has to be cleaned out of there

Ms. Moermond: make an appointment with Ms. Seeley to meet about that

Ms. Seeley: it's really bad & needs to be taken care of

Ms. Moermond:

Approve the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 15 [RLH TA 18-338](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 970 EUCLID STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Prince

Jay Mitchell, J. Mitchell Plaza Inc, Responsible Party, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$316

Service Charge: \$157

Total Assessment: \$478

Gold Card Returned by: Two City Holdings LLC

Type of Order/Fee: SA
 Nuisance: Wood, furniture, garbage, rubbish in rear yard near alley
 Date of Orders: February 21, 2018
 Compliance Date: February 27, 2018
 Re-Check Date: February 28, 2018-Wood debris & garbage remain. Most wood items have been plowed into a snow bank
 Date Work Done: March 2, 2018
 Work Order #: 18-032616
 Returned Mail?: No
 Comments:
 History of Orders on Property:

VIDEO - items were plowed into a snowbank; crew removed wood, furniture, etc & items plowed into snowbank- everything that they could get up

Ms. Moermond: I want to see the Video again; the photo that the inspector took when he went to recheck the property on Feb 27 to see whether or not the work was done; I have a photo that shows what's underneath & there would have been more time to melt & I'm not seeing it in the Video so, I think you're going to tell me that you did some removal of that

Mr. Mitchell: entered an email that he completed it during the time span; entered before & after pictures

Ms. Moermond: I'm going to recommend this gets deleted; I think you made a good faith effort in my view

 Delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 16 [RLH TA 18-350](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1604 EUCLID STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525) (To be referred back to Legislative Hearing on August 21)

Sponsors: Prince

Rescheduled per owner's request.

Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 7/24/2018

- 17 [RLH TA 18-360](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 26 EXCHANGE STREET EAST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Noecker

Delete; minimal snow removal.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 18 [RLH TA 18-368](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 494/496 FARRINGTON STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Thao

Delete as nuisance condition substantially abated.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 19** **RLH TA 18-376** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 2193 FREMONT AVENUE. (File No. J1810A, Assessment No. 188519; Amended to File No. J1810A2, Assessment No. 188553) (To be referred back to the July 10 Legislative Hearing)

Sponsors: Prince

Rescheduled per owner's request.

Referred to the City Council due back on 6/27/2018

- 20** [RLH TA 18-345](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1005 FRONT AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Delete; minimal snow removal.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 21** [RLH TA 18-323](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1200 GALTIER STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 22** [RLH TA 18-355](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 146 GEORGE STREET EAST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525) (Public hearing to be continued to October 17)

Sponsors: Noecker

Keith Harrington, renting to own, appeared. (Barbara Beltrand, owner, could not be here today.)

Mr. Harrington: we have a contractual agreement

Ms. Moermond: your contract doesn't appear to be registered with the county; if the county knows that your name is on the property, we can send Notices to you, as well; the city looks up addresses thru the county

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$160

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$322

Gold Card Returned by: BARBARA BELTRAND

Type of Order/Fee: SNOW/ICE SA

Nuisance: SNOW ICE ON PUBLIC SIDEWALK

Date of Orders: 3/5/18

Compliance Date: 3/8/12

Re-Check Date: 3/12/18

Date Work Done: 3/13/18

Work Order #: 36532

Comments:

History of Orders on Property:

VIDEO - crew removed snow/ice full width; salted/sanded full width

Ms. Moermond: looked to me like you put sand down but there was still bumpy ice

Mr. Harrington: I've been at this property for 2 years; it's on a steep hill & the house faces north & sits right up on the sidewalk so it doesn't get any sun during the day; so every time there's a melt, it leaves a sheet of ice - almost every day; I've put salt & sand down before & it just gets rinsed away; the night before, I spent 2 hours chipping on the 3 inches of ice; I put down 2 bags of sand & 1 bag of salt

Ms. Moermond: how close to the sidewalk is your house?

Mr. Harrington: the retaining wall is right up against the sidewalk & the house sits back from the wall about 3 feet; the snow melt comes from the apartment's sidewalk so it runs down from there & also from my driveway; everything from the top of the hill, obviously, goes down; there's not a lot of drainage either

Ms. Moermond: it's obvious that you know this is a problem that needs to be worked on & I'm not a hydrological engineer to be able to say that your water needs to be rerouted; I can say that you did make a good faith effort to address the problem

Public hearing continued to October 17 and if no same or similar violation(s), will delete.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 23** [RLH TA 18-333](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1414 GRAND AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Tolbert

Delete; minimal snow removal.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 24** [RLH TA 18-313](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 864 HOWELL STREET NORTH. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525) (Public hearing to be continued to October 17)

Sponsors: Henningson

Mary Hennessy, owner, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$160

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$322
 Gold Card Returned by: Mary Hennessy
 Type of Order/Fee: Summary Abatement
 Nuisance: Failure to maintain exterior/snow and ice on sidewalk
 Date of Orders: 3-9-18
 Compliance Date: 3-13-18
 Re-Check Date: 3-13-18
 Date Work Done: 3-14-18
 Work Order #: 18-036939
 Returned Mail?: No
 Comments:
 History of Orders on Property: No

VIDEO - crew removed snow/ice; salted/sanded

Ms. Hennesey: we got Notice & we worked on it; we got all snow & ice off the sidewalk except for the part next to the alley (the big plow pile); snow melted, snow froze, snow melted, snow froze - got very thick; 3 of us were out there for more than 1 hour chipping away, trying to break it up; several snows were very wet & heavy; we were not able to get out of our neighborhood; we removed most of - also sanded

Ms. Moermond: no history; looking at a small section of sidewalk that appears to be very treacherous; work was done by the city; I checked snowfalls: 3.5 inch on Mar 5 & 1 inch on Mar 6

Ms. Hennesey: we did address what we could when we could; maybe we could have gotten there sooner

Ms. Moermond: you could have salted earlier; temp was into the low 40s, 30s earlier; you have a good record

Public hearing continued to October 17 and if no same or similar violation(s), will reduce assessment by half.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

25 [RLH TA 18-343](#)

Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1658 IDAHO AVENUE EAST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Bostrom

Robert Witt, owner, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:
 Cost: \$160
 Service Charge: \$162
 Total Assessment: \$322
 Gold Card Returned by: ROBERT WITT
 Type of Order/Fee: SNOW ORDER
 Nuisance: FAILURE TO REMOVE SNOW FROM SIDEWALK
 Date of Orders: 3-7-18
 Compliance Date: 3-10-18
 Re-Check Date: 3-12-18
 Date Work Done: 3-14-18
 Work Order #: 18-036744

Returned Mail?: NO

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: 5-2-17 GARBAGE, 6-27-17 OVERHANGING
Vegetation WORK ORDER DONE

VIDEO - crew removed snow/ice full width; salted/sanded

Mr. Witt: I was not there at the time; my roommate was supposed to handle it but he didn't; he's going to help me pay for it

Ms. Moermond: the snowfall actually came on Mar 5; the Video was taken Mar 14; a long time

Approve the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

26 [RLH TA 18-324](#)

Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 36
ISABEL STREET WEST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)
(Public hearing to be continued to October 17)

Sponsors: Noecker

Bryan Sowieja, JKS Properties LLC, owner, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$160

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$322

Gold Card Returned by: BRYAN SOWIEJA

Type of Order/Fee: SNOW ORDER

Nuisance: FAILURE TO REMOVE SNOW FROM SIDEWALK

Date of Orders: 3-2-18

Compliance Date: 3-5-18

Re-Check Date: 3-9-18

Date Work Done: 3-12-18

Work Order #: 18-036210

Returned Mail?: NO

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: NO

Mr. Sowieja: at this bldg, we have a caretaker who manages the snow & ice; he alerted me about the letter; we didn't receive the letter; we went to Menards to get sand/salt; I went back to re-check it & I saw that it was clear & passable; at that time, I instructed the caretaker to also use salt & sand

VIDEO: crew shoveled sidewalk full width; salted & sanded

Ms. Moermond: when Parks showed up, a fair bit of snow had been removed; the photo taken on the 9th shows porous snow & ice; the main thing is that the sidewalk needs to be shoveled full width & you need to have an opening into the street

Public hearing continued to October 17 and if no same or similar violation(s), will delete.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 27 [RLH TA 18-352](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1822 JEFFERSON AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Tolbert

Delete; minimal snow removal.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 28 [RLH TA 18-342](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 884 LAWSON AVENUE EAST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Bostrom

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 29 [RLH TA 18-253](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 507 LEXINGTON PARKWAY NORTH. (File No. J1810A, Assessment No. 188519)

Sponsors: Henningson

Delete assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 6/27/2018

- 30 [RLH TA 18-351](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 507 LEXINGTON PARKWAY NORTH. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Henningson

Delete; minimal snow removal.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 31 [RLH TA 18-346](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 642 LEXINGTON PKWY SOUTH. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Tolbert

Delete; minimal snow removal.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 32 [RLH TA 18-331](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 541 MANOMIN AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Noecker

Delete; work order was sent prior to compliance date.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 33** [RLH TA 18-328](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1534 MARGARET STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525) (Public hearing to be continued to October 17)

Sponsors: Prince

Sheng & Wamoua Lee, owners, appeared. (Mai Vang interpreted.)

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$316

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$478

Gold Card Returned by: SHENG LEE

Type of Order/Fee: SUMMARY ABATEMENT (Remove 2 discarded wood tables located in rear yard)

Nuisance: FAILURE TO MAINTAIN EXTERIOR PROPERTY

Date of Orders: 3-1-18

Compliance Date: 3-8-18

Re-Check Date: 3-8-18

Date Work Done: 3-12-18

Work Order #: 18-035611

Returned Mail?: NO

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: 3-10-17 & 5-24-17 GARBAGE ORDERS

VIDEO - crew removed tables & cabinet

Mr. Lee: the tenants weren't happy about it; they are here & want to see the proof; I want to make sure that they see it

Ms. Moermond: the Order says "discarded wood tables"

Tenants (man & woman): they didn't know that they couldn't put that outside

Ms. Moermond: the Order was also sent to "Occupant"

Tenant: did not understand what Occupant meant; if they get letters, they send it to the owner

Ms. Moermond: Mr. Lee, so, you communicated to them that they needed to remove those items

Ms. Lee: when she gets a letter, she texts to owner & she also informed them by phone; they said that there was nothing outside to be discarded; when the Notice came to appeal, the tenant said that they wanted to come to talk about it

Mr. Lee: I provide garbage service for the tenants

Ms. Moermond: there were Orders on a number of occasions: Oct 20, 2016; Dec 8, 2016; Mar 10, 2017 - 5 violations total; how can this behavior be corrected?

-in this letter, it is specific: "Remove 2 wood tables in back yard"
 -how have you, Mr. Lee, been educating the tenants about what they need to do?

Ms. Lee: I do; I talk to them so many times: If you don't use it, throw it away; you have to take care of it"

Tenants: we understood that it was about "garbage;" there was no garbage

Ms. Moermond: I believe that they didn't hear discarded "tables" - they heard "garbage"

Ms. Seeley: there are no current Orders

Ms. Moermond: I don't want to see any more

Public hearing continued to October 17 and if no same or similar violation(s), will reduce to \$239.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

34 [RLH TA 18-245](#)

Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1102 MARION STREET. (File No. J1810A, Assessment No. 188519)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Giti Iraya, Golden Phoenix Investment, owner, & a man appeared.

Ms. Moermond: there's 2 assessments for 1102 Marion St; one (RLH TA 18-245) of them was continued from May 15 until today; the other one (RLH TA 18-286) was originally scheduled for today

-we'll take the older one first

-the VIDEO showed that the crew cleaned full width, salted & sanded the sidewalk; you had receipts for somebody shoveling the snow but then, it snowed again & after the snow, it became icy; Ms. Seeley noted that there was another assessment coming forward; so, we decided to discuss both cases together; you also noted that on this particular side of the house, it's dark & no sun hits it

-that work was done Feb 15, 2018

-the 2nd case, work was done Mar 1, 2018

-I was on the fence about your first situation & wanted to judge it in the context of the 2nd one

-Supervisor Seeley, let's hear about the new one first (go to RLH TA 18-286)

Cost: \$160

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$322

Gold Card Returned by: GITI

Type of Order/Fee: SNOW ORDER

Nuisance: FAILURE TO REMOVE SNOW FROM SIDEWALK

Date of Orders: 2-9-18

Compliance Date: 2-11-18

Re-Check Date: 2-13-18

Date Work Done: 2-15-18

Work Order #: 18-028661

Returned Mail?: NO

Comments:

*History of Orders on Property: FORTHCOMING ASSESSMENT FOR A SNOW WO
IN MARCH*

*Ms. Moermond: if no same or similar violation through Oct 17, 2018, I'll recommend
deletion*

Ms. Iraya: I just sold the house yesterday

*Ms. Moermond: work with your realtor & title people in terms of getting the money
back*

-will recommend deleting the assessment

Delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 6/27/2018

35 [RLH TA 18-286](#)

Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1102
MARION STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Giti Iraya, Golden Phoenix Investment, owner, & a man appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$160

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$322

Gold Card Returned by: Giti Iraya, Golden Phoenix Investment

Type of Order/Fee: Summary Abatement Order

Nuisance: Repeat Snow

Date of Orders: 02/26/18

Compliance Date: 24 hours (placed post card on the door)

*Re-Check Date: 02/28/18--packed snow and ice on part of front sidewalk and all of
Jessamine St side*

Date Work Done: 03/01/18

Work Order #: 18-032810

Returned Mail?: No

Comments:

*History of Orders on Property: 2/9/18 Snow (WO), 12/18/17 Snow (abated), 12/8/17
Snow (abated), 11/27/17 garbage (abated), 11/9/17 TV (abated)*

Ms. Iraya: it's a corner house, when the city plows, we had packed snow

VIDEO - crew cleaned the walk full width, salted & sanded

Ms. Moermond: I didn't think that was terrible

Ms. Iraya: I paid someone; twice, I have proof; I have pictures

*Ms. Moermond: It happens from time to time that people pay other people to do the
work & they don't; I see an extremely big snow bank on the one side; a moderate
amount of ice on the sidewalk; a good faith effort was made to address the problem
-what I'm struggling with is that you seem to have repeated things going on & on,
month after month, where the city is writing Orders to take care of things; I'm
wondering how we can get ahead of that; the city isn't your property manager*

-in this particular case, I'm going to recommend the assessment gets deleted because I think that there was an effort to address this

Delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 36** [RLH TA 18-319](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 275 MCKNIGHT ROAD SOUTH. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Prince

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 37** [RLH TA 18-362](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1698 MINNEHAHA AVENUE EAST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Prince

Makayla J. Pack, owner, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$160

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$322

Gold Card Returned by: MAKAYLA PACK

Type of Order/Fee: SNOW ORDER

Nuisance: FAILURE TO REMOVE SNOW FROM SIDEWALK

Date of Orders: 3-2-18

Compliance Date: 3-5-18

Re-Check Date: 3-8-18

Date Work Done: 3-9-18

Work Order #: 18-035368

Returned Mail?: NO

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: NO

Ms. Pack: I bought this house in Sep 2017; when we got this letter, we went right down there to shovel

VIDEO - crew removed snow/ice full width; salted/sanded

Ms. Pack: it's on a steep hill; when snow/ice melts farther up the hill, it comes down to me again & freezes & the snow just kept continuing to fall

Ms. Moermond: can I see the VIDEO again; that snow looks like it was never touched

Approve the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 38** [RLH TA 18-349](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1700

MINNEHAHA AVENUE EAST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Prince

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 39 [RLH TA 18-354](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1522 MINNEHAHA AVENUE WEST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Henningson

Delete due to minimal snow removal.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 40 [RLH TA 18-321](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 2021 NORTONIA AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Prince

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 41 [RLH TA 18-365](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 811 OTTAWA AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Noecker

Zybel Judith Kristin Fitzgerald, owner, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$160

Service Charge: \$157

Total Assessment: \$322

Gold Card Returned by: Zybel Judith Kristin Fitzgerald

Type of Order/Fee: SA

Nuisance: Snow

Date of Orders: 3/20/18

Compliance Date: 48 hours

Re-Check Date: 3/23/18

Date Work Done: 3/27/18

Work Order #: 18-046031

Returned Mail?: No

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: 1 in 2017 for illegal dumping

Ms. Fitzgerald: our house is on the bottom of a hill; when the city plows, they put all the snow & soil pile in the corner; so when it melts, it goes onto the pathway; I hope there's a picture of it; it's really large

VIDEO - crew removed snow/ice full width

Ms. Moermond: the main problem is that it's not shoveled full width; you're responsible for all of the cement on the sidewalk; there's no history at this property; the part of the corner that they're asking you to clean-up more was really the public street so, I wouldn't ask you to deal with that; so, I'm going to recommend this gets deleted

Delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 42** [RLH TA 18-369](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1080 PARK STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 43** [RLH TA 18-340](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 970 REANEY AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Prince

Jay Mitchell, property manager for exterior only, appeared.

Ms. Moermond: gold card returned by Quality Residences LLC

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$344

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$506

Gold Card Returned by: Quality Residences LLC

Type of Order/Fee: SA (Remove improperly stored garbage, vehicle parts, tires, rubble from yard, etc.)

Nuisance: Garbage/Rubbish

Date of Orders: March 8, 2018

Compliance Date: March 14, 2018

Re-Check Date: March 22, 2018

Date Work Done: March 23, 2018

Work Order #: 18-045447

Returned Mail?: No

Comments: CATEGORY 2 VB OPENED 2-10-17 BY FIRE DUE TO GAS SHUT-OFF

History of Orders on Property: 3 WO IN 2017

VIDEO - crew emptied full containers

Ms. Moermond: enough time passed between the compliance date & when the crew came by; you did do the clean-up because the items I see in the Orders are not the ones I'm seeing in the VIDEO; but I did see recycling cans full of garbage; that's a problem

Mr. Mitchell: in 2017, we were doing the remodel of this Cat 2 VB to bring it up to code; since we were there daily, we clean up everything each day; the history of this

area is that people just keep on dumping & we still clean it up; they dump wherever & into the recycling cans

Ms. Moermond: today, I'm recommending deletion

Delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 44 [RLH TA 18-327](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1176 REANEY AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Prince

Delete; minimal snow removal.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 45 [RLH TA 18-341](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1276 REANEY AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Prince

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 46 [RLH TA 18-306](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 220 ROBERT STREET SOUTH. (File No. J1810A, Assessment No. 188519)

Sponsors: Noecker

Rah Mehta, Institute of Technical Education, responsible party, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$160

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$322

Gold Card Returned by: Raj Mehta

Type of Order/Fee: Summary Abatement Order

Nuisance: Snow Removal

Date of Orders: 01/26/18

Compliance Date: 48 hours

Re-Check Date: 02/02/18

Date Work Done: 02/06/18

Work Order #: 18-025641

Returned Mail?: No

Comments:

History of Orders on Property:

Mr. Mehta: I want to see the Video; I had it cleaned

VIDEO - crew cleaned partially done sidewalk; salted & sanded

Ms. Moermond: will recommend deleted; when the Order was written, it was written

right after we had a 1 foot snowfall; right before the crew showed up but past your deadline, there was another few inches of fallen snow

Delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 6/27/2018

- 47 [RLH TA 18-314](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1330 SELBY AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Thao

Delete; inspector sent work order in error.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 48 [RLH TA 18-332](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 362 SHERBURNE AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Thao

Delete; items on original order were removed.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 49 [RLH TA 18-374](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1556 SHERBURNE AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Henningson

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 50 [RLH TA 18-329](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 707 THOMAS AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Thao

Vincent Almeda, owner, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$316

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$478

Gold Card Returned by: Vincent Almeda

Type of Order/Fee: Summary Abatement

Nuisance: Failure to maintain exterior (Remove discarded wood, saw horses & pipe from alley side of garage)

Date of Orders: 3-19-18

Compliance Date: 3-26-18

Re-Check Date: 3-26-18

Date Work Done: 3-28-18

Work Order #: 18-046625

Returned Mail?: No

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: No

Mr. Almeda: I got a call from the inspector; I told him that it was not my stuff; it was left in the alley-on the side; I'll remove it when I get home today; he said, "Oh, it's not your stuff; OK; I'll call the city & have them come in & remove it;" it has been there for about a week after I took it from the middle of the alley in order to get to my garage; then, I didn't think nothing of it until I got this post card in the mail; that's why I'm here

Ms. Seeley: Mr. Westenhofer didn't write any notes

VIDEO - crew removed wood saw horses, pipe is frozen into the ground; some wood

Mr. Almeda: the renters next door have piles of garbage; loose trash

Ms. Moermond: I'm going to Lay this Over to contact Insp Westenhofer about the call & notes; inclined to say no same/similar

Supervisor Lisa Martin: Inspector Westenhofer called & said that the owner called after he had already sent the Work Order; and PW Street Maintenance would not have picked it up anyway because it was next to the garage

Ms. Moermond:

Delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 51 [RLH TA 18-330](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 811 UNIVERSITY AVENUE WEST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Thao

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 52 [RLH TA 18-318](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1716 UNIVERSITY AVENUE WEST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Noecker

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 53 [RLH TA 18-366](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1964 UNIVERSITY AVENUE WEST. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Henningson

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 54 [RLH TA 18-363](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 505 WABASHA STREET NORTH. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Noecker

Delete; minimal snow removal.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 55 [RLH TA 18-336](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 579 WELLS STREET. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525) (Public hearing to be continued to October 17)

Sponsors: Bostrom

Anna Greer and Megan Noomee, American Indian Family Center, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$316

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$478

Gold Card Returned by: ANNA GREER

Type of Order/Fee: SUMMARY ABATEMENT (Remove discarded furniture, shelves, chairs, etc, rear of bldg)

Nuisance: FAILURE TO MAINTAIN EXTERIOR PROPERTY

Date of Orders: 3-19-18

Compliance Date: 3-26-18

Re-Check Date: 3-26-18

Date Work Done: 3-27-18

Work Order #: 18-046578

Returned Mail?: NO

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: NO

VIDEO - crew removed furniture, shelves, chairs, etc. rear of bldg

Ms. Greer: Kristy never received the letter; I have an email from this morning saying that she tried to run down to see if anyone received a letter & no one did; Kristin Kersten is the Executive Director; in regard to this, we have hired a maintenance person, who has been faithful to remove things; on Feb 20, we texted him to remove those items; he responded that he was in the hospital for health issues; later he responded that he was taken back to Urgent Care on Mar 12 & has not been able to get there yet; a few days later, he did make it there but the items were gone; we thought that somebody wanted them; we didn't think it was anything to do with the city until we received this letter dated Jun 9

Ms. Moermond: 3 letters got sent all to the same address: 1) American Indian Family Center; 2) American Indian Family Center Attn: Kristin Kersten; and 3) Occupant; you would have received 3 pieces of mail; no mail was returned to the city

Ms. Greer: If we would have received it, we would have taken care of it; we put it in the

back of the building in the garbage; we didn't realize that there was anything wrong with that; we've never had any problems in the past

Ms. Seeley: there's no history & it's always clean

Ms. Moermond:

Public hearing continued to October 17, 2018 and if no same or similar violation(s), will delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

56 [RLH TA 18-337](#)

Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 850-852 WHITE BEAR AVENUE NORTH. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Prince

Teng Yang & Kaxong Yang, Teng's son appeared. (Mai Vang interpreted.)

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$364

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$526

Gold Card Returned by: TENG VANG

Type of Order/Fee: SUMMARY ABATEMENT

Nuisance: FAILURE TO MAINTAIN EXTERIOR PROPERTY

Date of Orders: 3-13-18

Compliance Date: 3-20-18

Re-Check Date: 3-20-18

Date Work Done: 3-22-18

Work Order #: 18-044811

Returned Mail?: NO

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: NO

VIDEO: crew removed scrap wood, scrap plastic, multiple tires, garbage, carpet, furniture, suitcase, scrap metal, etc. in white pickup truck bed in parking lot

Mr. Yang: the truck is not mine; it belongs to the neighbor

Ms. Moermond: is that piece of equipment yours?

Mr. Yang: no; it's the neighbor's; he owns the property to the right; & he has been pouring paint down the sewer (854 White Bear Ave N)

Ms. Seeley: there's no 854; there's an 844

Ms. Moermond: there's just been a statement made that the owner of 844 is pouring paint down the sewer; what is the business at 844?

Kaxong: 844 is an apartment bldg; they're remodeling the interior; 842-844 is a commercial/apartment bldg

Ms. Moermond: can staff open up a complaint on that & notify the MPCA? that's a

profound problem

Kaxong: I have pictures; provided a phone number (will fwd photos to LH)

Ms. Moermond: with respect to the assessment, I'm going to recommend deletion; it wasn't your truck; I don't know if it was parked on your property or not

Kaxong: it's parked on the other side of the property line

Ms. Moermond: 2 things happening with the neighbor: he's dumping on Mr. Yang's property & he's pouring paint down the sewer

Ms. Seeley: I'm having ___ put a complaint in right now & sending it to James Perucca at Fire

Delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

57 [RLH TA 18-326](#)

Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1459 WHITE BEAR AVENUE NORTH. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Bostrom

Anthony L. Webber, homesteader, appeared.

Supervisor Paula Seeley:

Cost: \$316

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$478

Gold Card Returned by: ANTHONY WEBBER

Type of Order/Fee: SUMMARY ABATEMENT (Remove rolled up carpet & misc debris in front of garage near alley)

Nuisance: FAILURE TO MAINTAIN EXTERIOR PROPERTY

Date of Orders: 3-9-18

Compliance Date: 3-16-18

Re-Check Date: 3-16-18

Date Work Done: 3-19-18

Work Order #: 18-038171

Returned Mail?: NO

Comments:

History of Orders on Property: NO

VIDEO - crew removed carpet in front of garage; there was no debris

Ms. Moermond: reviewing back & forth emails among Ms. Vang & Inspector Williams about the photos related to the record;

Mr. Webber: I'm a new home owner (2015) & have no previous assessments; I took care of the other items that were out there; I planned to cut up the carpet & throw it into the trash bin; with the ice & snow, the carpet froze to the ice & I couldn't get to it; and I also felt that \$478 is steep for an area rug

-we have a close date set for tomorrow

Ms. Moermond: your record shows a good history; the temperature in Mar between when the Orders were written & when the city did the work was 35-40 degrees; that's high enough for if salt were added, it would have an impact making it easier to remove the carpet; you did take care of the debris & you have a good record

Reduce from \$478 to \$239.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

- 58 [RLH TA 18-325](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1481 WILSON AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No.188525)

Sponsors: Prince

Approve; no show.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

Assessment Roll

- 59 [RLH AR 18-47](#) Ratifying the assessments for Property Clean Up services during March 1 to 30, 2018. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018

11:00 a.m. Hearings

Summary Abatement Orders

- 60 [RLH SAO 18-34](#) Appeal of John Hardin to a Summary Abatement Order at 198 STEVENS STREET WEST. (Legislative Hearing on July 10)

Sponsors: Noecker

Recommendation is forthcoming.

Referred to the City Council due back on 7/11/2018

- 61 [RLH SAO 18-33](#) Appeal of Christopher McCann to a Notice to Cut Tall Grass and/or Weeds at 121 VIRGINIA STREET.

Sponsors: Thao

Christopher D. McCann, owner, appeared.

Supervisor Lisa Martin: on Jun 4, 2018, a letter was sent out to cut tall grass & weeds at 121 Virginia St; photos in the record

Mr. McCann: I'm doing a strip management program for half of my lawn; I'm trying to harvest the seeds from the old existing to overseed on the new lawn for a more appealing aesthetic; I'm estimating a Jun 18, 2018 harvest date, which will consist of

using a scythe; I took the moisture content of the seeds yesterday & due to the rain we've had, I predicted 10 days to harvest; the rain has not allowed that to happen without me asking for more time; I've been mowing the rest of the law to keep it tidy

*Ms. Moermond: City Council Public Hearing will happen on Jun 27, 2018; at that time, I'm going to recommend that the Council deny your appeal; that means that DSI won't be able to take action until Jun 28, so, you'll get your time
-the code is clear that by the time something has gone to see, it's to tall
-the rest of your lawn looks nice*

Deny the appeal; but DSI to delay enforcement until after Council considers the matter on June 27, 2018.

Referred to the City Council due back on 6/27/2018

11:30 a.m. Hearings

Orders To Vacate, Condemnations and Revocations

- 62 [RLH VO 18-27](#) Appeal of Charlinita Ellis to a Revocation of Fire Certificate of Occupancy and Order to Vacate at 801 AURORA AVENUE.

Sponsors: Thao

Charinitta Ellis, owner, appeared.

Fire Supervisor A.J. Neis: Revocation of Fire Certificate of Occupancy due to noncompliance of retaining wall; this was appealed previously & granted an extension until this year; upon re-inspection, the work was not completed; when the Order has been adopted by City Council & is not completed, we are forced to take enforcement action

Ms. Moermond: the first item on the list is maintain parking area in rear of bldg

Mai Vang summarized previous case: you granted an extension to Jun 1, 2018; City Council adopted that on Oct 4, 2017

Ms. Ellis: things are not good; part of it has been finances; the other part is that I haven't had a tenant in the building for over 2 1/2 years; the house is spotless inside; my brother lives there

*-I don't want to make excuses but I'm never going to get a tenant of any quality with the problems at the house next door; they've had 4 police calls, a shoot-out, etc, on-going issues over the years; my brother has had all the tires stolen off his car - his car was setting on the ground; the retaining wall was repaired some years ago but at that corner, people hanging out there take hammers, etc. & put holes in the wall
-it's a family house but I'm contemplating selling it; I wouldn't live in it with that house next door*

-I haven't made a dime of rental income; my brother is staying there; I might just move in it to try to get some work done; I've contacted a program called Emoja, a training school for construction work located on University Ave; I would buy the materials & they would do the work; every estimate I've gotten just for painting has been over \$5000; & the concrete work would be terribly expensive; would it be possible for me to tear the wall down completely & replace it with something else that would be cheaper because I could replace the whole wall & they'd come by with the hammer & bang,

*bang, bang
-the wall is about 3 1/2 feet*

Ms. Moermond: if you'd remove the wall & regrade the soil to slope it differently, I think that would work

Mr. Neis: that wouldn't work; that would erode too far into the sidewalk

Ms. Ellis: is there anything else that could go up there?

Ms. Moermond: OK; we've got the wall, house painting, parking area....

Ms. Ellis: the wall & parking area - that's all concrete (expensive)

Ms. Moermond: the exterior Orders wouldn't go away even though you'd move into it; they'd just transfer to Code Enforcement

*-we want to get it done affordably & keep it so that it can be occupied (my goals)
-suggested she contact the city's Rental Rehab Program*

Ms. Ellis: I called them right after I was here the first time

Ms. Moermond: at one point in the conversation, you said that you wouldn't live there & in another point in the conversation, you said that you would move in

Ms. Ellis: I would have to --- well, I wouldn't want to just let the property go - to lose it; there's people who have offered to buy it but I'm torn; I live in Mpls but I work in St. Paul, right down the street from the house at 1156 University Ave; the inside of the house is very nice; it's been very well kept; so, I could live there; I just don't want to live next to the people who live next door; it's dangerous; my brother is just doing me a favor - he doesn't even want to be there

Ms. Moermond: so, you have some decision making to do; you can't put it off anymore; we had the same kind of conversation last fall when we talked

Ms. Ellis: no one would do that work during the winter time & I'm just getting back to it, mentally

*Ms. Moermond: I need a plan from you; how are you going to do this; will you move in or not; if you move in, there is some assistance you can get; if you're going to keep it as a rental property, there's other kinds of assistance available; I need a plan - where you've applied for financing & you're moving on a concrete path forward to get this stuff done; I need a plan in order to give any kind of extension to you; if you're going to sell it, you maybe need to talk to a realtor about evaluating the property with that work being done vs. without that work being done
-will Lay this Over to Jul 10, 2018 LH*

Layover so owner can decides what she wants to do with the property, sell or repair, and potentially put in applications for a loan.

Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 7/10/2018

63 [RLH VO 18-19](#)

Appeal of Lavonne Louismet Deyo to a Revocation of Fire Certificate of Occupancy and Order to Vacate at 132 WESTERN AVENUE SOUTH.

Sponsors: Noecker

Katie Haugen, Social Worker, The House Calls Program, Ramsey County, appeared.

Ms. Moermond: at the last hearing, we had Ms. Jelinek & Mr. Harris here; they indicated that one of the big problems was the probate process & Ms. Lavonne Louismet Deyo was trying to get services in place; do you have updated information?

Ms. Haugen: the plan needed to be submitted today by Lauren; St. Paul Home Loan told me that Ms. Deyo is not eligible for a loan because the property is not in her name; they are working on that but I think that's going to be really difficult; her 1 brother has passed away & the other one is in a nursing home

Ms. Moermond: and, there are a lot of back taxes

Ms. Haugen: Lauren is working with them on the legal things; the ball's in her court really; I'm just doing what I can; a pet service has come out a few times; the mouse issued is resolved; a lot of the issues are already resolved; Lauren has to write a new plan today

Ms. Moermond: you have the updated Orders dated Jun 5 from Insp Klein

Ms. Haugen: her nephew is working on things slowly; she wanted to be here but she is elderly & it's hard for her to walk; it's best that she stayed at home today -she already has a care coordinator/worker, whom I've called many times but she never answers; Ms. Deyo needs a lot of help

Fire Supervisor A.J. Neis: the Revocation is for long-term noncompliance

*Ms. Moermond: the letter indicates that they have a volunteer lawyer, David Schultz; he agreed to represent Ms. Deyo in the probate matter; "the scope of his representation will be to determine ownership amongst the heirs to Ms. Norma Louismet's estate." The letter doesn't say the he's going to get them all way thru the probate process but to help them do some diagnostic information up front; I'd love to get some follow-up from them
-ultimately, if the house is not owner-occupied, then, we don't have a legal responsible party; we need a legal responsible party appointed to the house
-I can call Laura Jelinek, SMRLS, and tell her that's what we need and I don't know if there's a way for the court to order that while this is being considered; tax forfeiture will happen next summer; we need someone stepping in to be the responsible party; it could be a case for tenant remedy action
-I will call SMRLS & I'll Lay this Over*

Mr. Neis: there's quite a bit of stuff to do but it's not as bad as it was in Apr

Ms. Moermond: we'll have Council look at it on Jul 11 & ask them to refer it back into LH on Jul 17, 2018

To be referred back to Legislative Hearing on July 17.

Referred to the City Council due back on 7/11/2018

1:30 p.m. Hearings

Fire Certificates of Occupancy

64 [RLH FCO 18-70](#) Appeal of John Bailey to a Fire Inspection Correction Notice at 1725 HAGUE AVENUE.

Sponsors: Henningson

Staff Report

Ms. Moermond: we were going to get "staff report" only on 1725 Hague Avenue

Fire Supervisor Leanna Shaff: some information was sent in

Ms. Moermond: there's an email here from Fire Supervisor Neis on this (attached)

Ms. Mai Vang read Mr. Neis' email:

Mr. Bailey & Ms. Dowell,

Thank you for taking time out of your busy day to allow me access to your property.

During today's inspection, I noticed that you have two hard-wired interconnected smoke alarms in the basement, as well as one on the first and second floors directly outside the dwelling units. I tested these alarms and confirmed all sound when one is activated.

As a result, this would meet the intent of the fire separation requirement in the basement and over the boiler as an alternative method of compliance.

I am abating this deficiency, approving your Fire Certificate of Occupancy, and have copied the Legislative Hearing Officer on this email that we are withdrawing this order.

Should you have any further questions, please let me know.

Thank you. A.J. Neis

Ms. Moermond: so, it was a valid call on the part of the inspector; Supervisor Neis made room for an alternative means of compliance; I'd recommend to the Council that they accept the alternative method of compliance

Grant the appeal and accept the proposed alternative method of compliance.

Referred to the City Council due back on 7/11/2018

65 [RLH FCO 18-71](#) Appeal of James Kampa to a Fire Inspection Correction Notice at 1827 SAINT ANTHONY AVENUE.

Sponsors: Henningson

James A. Kampa, owner, appeared.

Ms. Moermond: back in May, we talked about what to do about the bedroom situation

Mr. Kampa: I had a really hard time getting contractors to come; I got 2 guys; the first one didn't give me anything in writing but the rafters are at right angles to the wall so, unless the inspector OK'd it, it would probably require a weight-bearing wall, which

means that we'd have to take out the whole wall & put something up against the ceiling, like a header; and he said that probably would cost around \$5000; a 2nd contractor provided a similar estimate (brought up a drawing & explained where the wall would be); that would create a problem for the forced air heat source; I guess I do have the option to run electric on the back side of the house to this bedroom - guessing it'd cost around \$800

-another issue; he had a furnace put in a couple of years ago - they didn't box in the duct work; when the furnace inspector came, he didn't say anything about that; the city inspector came & never said anything about it the first time; after the contractor was gone, the city inspector came back for follow-up & then she said that duct work needed to be framed in; my contractor was gone & it would have been nice to have him do that while he was there working

Fire Supervisor Shaff & Ms. Moermond: looking at the diagram for the proposed wall; some baseboard electrical heat may work; it would keep the bedroom 70 sq.ft. & this unit would turn into a 2-bedroom

Mr. Kampa: the city has a 0% interest loan; the guy (Donny) told me that he wouldn't take my application because I'm a block away from the geographical area & my grade was too high

Ms. Moermond: apply anyway; they will take it; call Patty Lilledahl & tell her that I was the one who asked you to call her, 651/266-6655 and ask for an exception; it's worth asking

-I'll call Ms. Lilledahl & let her know about this situation & you follow up with her

-your deadline to convert this space or not use one of the rooms for sleeping is Nov 1, 2018

-discussion ensued regarding the deadlines for the rest of the items

Grant the following deadlines for making the repairs listed in the May 15, 2018 Fire Correction Notice: 1) July 13, 2018: items 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16; 2) September 1, 2018: items 5 and 6; and 3) November 1, 2018: items 1, 2 and 15.

Referred to the City Council due back on 7/11/2018

- 66** [RLH FCO 18-92](#) Appeal of Thomas Storey to a Fire Inspection Correction Notice at 2303 STANDISH STREET.

Sponsors: Henningson

Appeal withdrawn by owner. Per Laura Huseby, appellant called to say he cancelled appeal and has Tshida plumbing out there to do the work. He was contesting inspection due to being owner occupied. No pictures.

Withdrawn

2:30 p.m. Hearings

Vacant Building Registrations

- 67** [RLH VBR 18-31](#) Appeal of Irish Johnson to a Vacant Building Registration Notice at 507 LEXINGTON PARKWAY NORTH.

Sponsors: Henningson

Irish Johnson, owner, appeared.

Supervisor Matt Dornfeld, Vacant Buildings: The VB Division received a referral from Code Inspector Lisa Martin stating that the home was vacant & not being maintained; that we had received 9 snow/ice complaints this past season & that there was an installation window permit that had not been finalized; she also stated that the property owner apparently admitted here in LH that the house had been vacant for up to 2 years

Ms. Moermond: the appeal says that this is not a vacant property; could you provide the definition of a Vacant Building, Mr. Dornfeld?

Mr. Dornfeld: unoccupied with 1 or more code violations can be a VB

Ms. Moermond: so, you could be working on a property & have permits pulled but it would still be considered a VB in many cases

Ms. Johnson: my daughter was living there & we have trash receipts that indicate trash was being picked up

Ms. Moermond: are you in the Fire Certificate of Occupancy Program?

Ms. Johnson: we were prior to her moving in; my daughter just recently moved out - about a couple weeks ago & we have a tenant moving in in July; currently, we are working on the property

Ms. Moermond: a year ago, this was also referred to the VB & at that time, your husband said that he was living there with his girlfriend while you guys were getting divorced; the deed says that you're the owner

Ms. Johnson: and, that is true

Ms. Moermond: there was history; it was under the radar

Ms. Johnson: that's why I'm here & I don't know if I'm going to get it cleared up here but if you look back you'll also see that several of those complaints were taken care of....

Ms. Moermond: I did that this morning

Ms. Johnson: the windows, Apr 19, an inspector came out to check out the windows; the inspector came to the door but I didn't hear him because I was upstairs; when I came back down on the hour because that's when I was expecting someone, I noticed somebody getting in their car; I didn't know that it was the inspector; I missed him because he was early; so, I called Andersen & said could you come 10 minutes after.... and they said, we're not coming, it's just the City of St. Paul; then, I called him & left messages but haven't yet gotten a call back to re-schedule; that's my argument

Ms. Moermond: so, you have a tenant, you say?

Ms. Johnson: yes, coming in Jul

Ms. Moermond: you can't rent this place until you have a Fire Certificate of Occupancy; you understand that, right?

Ms. Johnson: right; we'll get all that taken care of

Ms. Moermond: the inspectors are about 3 weeks out; so, I'll give you 90 days to get your C of O re-instated; & I'll waive the VB fee for 90 days; as soon as you get your C of O re-instated, you can put a tenant in there; so do the fixes & get that call in to schedule; if you can get that taken care of, you'll have no VB problems; if you don't, you're in the VB Program

Ms. Johnson: who do I call because I'm not getting any calls back from the inspectors?

Mr. Dornfeld: call the building inspector, Mike Barck, 651/266-9029; he will final the window/building permit; he was there on Apr 19; in order to get the Certificate of Occupancy Inspection scheduled, call 266-8989

Ms. Moermond provided an application & added that she would put a note on it saying, "I want to rent this place ASAP; can we schedule an inspection ASAP"

Waive VB fee for 90 days to get Fire C of O reinstated.

Referred to the City Council due back on 7/11/2018

68 [RLH VBR 18-34](#)

Appeal of David E. Hinds to a Vacant Building Registration Fee at 969 MINNEHAHA AVENUE EAST.

Sponsors: Prince

David E. Hinds, Jr., owner, appeared.

Supervisor Matt Dornfeld: on Apr 25, 2018, Vacant Building Inspector Tom Friel responded to a Condemnation referral from Code Inspector James Hoffman; his notes read as follows: this is a 2-story wood frame single family house that may be vacant & is secure; no answer at door & cannot see into the house; also, it's Condemned for lack of water service; Condemnation placard posted in front; house has defective & missing metal soffits & peeling paint; siding defects; broken windows; 2nd floor porch rails defective/broken; defects in concrete steps; detached 2-car garage has peeling paint, rotted siding & garage door; garage secure; old futon, tree brush, tree debris, rubbish in yard; issued Summary Abatement Order for those things; -on May 9, 2018, the debris remained; issued Work Order to cleanup; have not been back since; on Apr 11, 2018 issued Correction Notice to have water restored

Mr. Hinds: In Oct 2017, the water main failed; I had it turned off & it still let water thru that caused damage on 2nd floor; my kitchen ceiling fell thru-lots of water damage; insurance company came out & abated all the wet things & dried out my house; I should have started the repairs but being winter, I didn't; house was built in 1903 & it doesn't have any insulation; I stayed with a friend over the winter; I let the water bill lapse & now, the water has been turned back on; the water main is fixed; I still need to have the ceiling, etc, repaired but I can't do any of this while it's in the VB Program; I want to sell it; I've moved a lot of my things out already to give people room to work; I want to work on the house & stay there if I want to

Ms. Moermond: there's exterior work that needs to be done & the water was shut-off; that's how it became a Category 2 VB; I'm going to grant your appeal & get you out of the VB Program; the water is back on; I asked Mr. Dornfeld to make this a Preliminary

File, which means that it will be re-visited in 3-6 months; I'm looking for you to move on it - get some repairs going; to move back in or to put it on the market; I don't want this house standing & the vines growing, etc; you can pull permits & do what you need to do; suggested that he consult a realtor & a contractor to find out what kind of price difference there would be for selling it "as is" vs doing some repairs

Mr. Dornfeld: we will continue to monitor this property

Ms. Moermond:

Grant the appeal and owner is out of the VB Program. (Placard can be removed; Inspector will put this in as a preliminary file.)

Referred to the City Council due back on 7/18/2018

- 69 [RLH VBR 18-33](#) Appeal of Lenner Wan to a Vacant Building Registration Fee Warning Letter at 1011 SHERBURNE AVENUE.

Sponsors: Thao

Per DSI inspector, this is a VB1 fire file and they're 90% complete with rehab, DSI granted a 90 day waiver on the VB fee.

Withdrawn

- 70 [RLH VBR 18-32](#) Appeal of Florin and Daniela Orza to a Vacant Building Registration Fee at 363 WOODLAWN AVENUE.

Sponsors: Tolbert

Florin & Daniela Orza, owners, appeared.

Supervisor Matt Dornfeld, Vacant Buildings: this was referred to the Vacant Building Program by Code Enforcement Insp Dan Hesse; he stated that the house is in fair shape; it appears to be vacant & was secured by normal means; however, since Dec 2017, we've had 4 snow/ice complaints & 1 tall grass & weeds complaint on Jun 6, 2018; we are receiving complaints from neighbors that the house is vacant & not being maintained; we opened up a Category 1 VB because of neighborhood complaints, not because of excessive violations

Ms. Moermond: you do have the house listed; neighbors are nervous

Ms. Orza: there's 1 retired old man, who doesn't know us; he asked what our intentions were with the property & we did not reply; he keeps calling on us

Ms. Moermond: were those complaints founded?

Mr. Dornfeld: there were multiple Work Orders; we mowed the grass & did two snow walks; one was done by owner

Ms. Orza: we take care of the snow ourselves; once, it was very icy & we could not clean it properly

-we bought this property to remodel it & build an addition; however, we are both physicians working at the University of MN & we are both pursuing a Masters Program, in addition to our full time jobs; we are really busy; we did allow a few months to pass but we did contact a local contractor right away; he recommended a draftsman, who

was not the right person; we switched & a few months passed by; in the meantime, the property was flooded top to bottom from the 2nd floor; that's why we recently decided to tear it down; we had insurance but the insurance did not cover plumbing; we spent a lot of time & money for this property, which brought us a lot of bad luck
-we had hired a company to cut our grass; they did a good job but this year, because we were going to construct, we told them not to come

Ms. Moermond: how long before you knock it down?

Ms. Orza: we're hoping that the demo will take place this summer; we're working on the floor plan now; hope to move into the new house in spring 2019

Ms. Moermond: as long as this house continues to stand, there will be a VB fee
-I will recommend that the City Council waive the VB fee for 4 months; I can prorate afterward if it comes to an assessment

Waive the VB fee for 4 months.

Referred to the City Council due back on 7/18/2018

71 [RLH TA 18-358](#)

Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 363 WOODLAWN AVENUE. (File No. J1811A, Assessment No. 188525)

Sponsors: Tolbert

Florin & Daniela Orza, owners, appeared.

Ms. Moermond:

Cost: \$160

Service Charge: \$162

Total Assessment: \$322

Gold Card Returned by: DANIELA ORZA

Type of Order/Fee: SNOW/ICE

Nuisance: SNOW/ICE ON SIDEWALK

Date of Orders: 03/07/2018 : Snow Repeat Offence

Compliance Date: 24 HOURS ON SECOND OFFENCE

Re-Check Date: 3/12/18

Date Work Done: 3/13/18

Work Order #: 36846

Returned Mail?:

Comments:

History of Orders on Property:

VIDEO - sidewalk not shoveled full width; crew removed snow full width, salted & sanded

Ms. Moermond: the expectation is that snow/ice is removed full width & down to the cement; I can see that a good faith effort was made

Reduce assessment by half, from \$322 to \$161.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/1/2018