



City of Saint Paul

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Minutes - Final

Legislative Hearings

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Thursday, July 25, 2019

9:00 AM

Room 330 City Hall & Court House

9:00 a.m. Hearings

Special Tax Assessments for Garbage

- 1 [RLH TA 19-567](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1488 CONCORDIA AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C1, Assessment No. 190109)

Sponsors: Thao

No one appeared. Approve the assessment.

Ms. Moermond: the payment was made May 9, 2019, the payment was not paid to Quarter 4.

Chris Swanson: It would have paid off the second quarter bill, it looks like it's over the base fee, so any overage is on third quarter.

Ms. Moermond: does the second quarter go out before May 9? So that couldn't have shown a credit. So the next one unpaid will have the credit.

Diana Chao: I think it's been paid. It's not on the website anymore.

Mai Vang: it's on the assessment roll. She sent it July 5.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 2 [RLH TA 19-592](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 695 HAZEL STREET NORTH. (File No. CG1902C1, Assessment No. 190109)

Sponsors: Prince

No one appeared. Delete the assessment.

Diana Chao: Property owner believes they have an arrangement to pay on a monthly basis. She says if she paid that way they would remove the late fees. We talked to Republic and they don't have any record of any sort of arrangement.

Ms. Moermond: can we talk to the property owner to let them know that Republic doesn't have any record of this so they should talk to them, and we will delete the

assessment for the late fee.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 3 [RLH TA 19-583](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1588 MARGARET STREET. (File No. CG1902C1, Assessment No. 190109)

Sponsors: Prince

No one appeared. Delete the assessment.

Chris Swanson: we recommend deletion, there was confusion when resident took over, and carts getting out, he did pay the last day you could, but Advanced had already pulled the information.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 4 [RLH TA 19-586](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1865 MARGARET STREET. (File No. CG1902C1, Assessment No. 190109)

Sponsors: Prince

No one appeared. Delete the assessment.

Ms. Moermond: this is one late fee?

Diana Chao: yes.

Ms. Moermond: looking at \$3.89 because bill was paid 5 days late, it feels like it falls within a grace period. Delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 5 [RLH TA 19-539](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1173 WOODBRIDGE STREET. (File No. CG1902B1, Assessment No. 190105)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

No one appeared. Approve the assessment.

Mai Vang: a US letter was sent because we didn't have a phone number. We haven't heard back.

Ms. Moermond: so, this goes in front of Council Wednesday, September 11, 2019, so if you hear anything between now and then we can change it, but right now approve the original amount of \$110.48.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

9:45 a.m. Hearings

- 6 [RLH TA 19-568](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 541 CENTRAL AVENUE WEST. (File No. CG1902C2, Assessment No.

190110)

Sponsors: Thao

No one appeared. Staff recommended reduction of bill to late fee only. Delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

7 [RLH TA 19-551](#)

Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 541 DALE STREET NORTH. (File No. CG1902C2, Assessment No. 190110)

Sponsors: Thao

No one appeared. Delete the assessment, as property is vacant lot.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

8 [RLH TA 19-594](#)

Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 623 FULLER AVE. (File No. CG1902C2, Assessment No. 190110)

Sponsors: Thao

Reduce assessment from \$110.48 to \$60.83. Staff to adjust Q2 bill to this amount.

Thelma Buckner appeared.

Staff report by Chris Swanson: resident is here for \$100.48, garbage for medium cart and 3 late fees Quarter 1, 2019. Doesn't want to use the program and doesn't believe it was implemented correctly. Staff believes assessment should stand. Resident was here for Quarter 4 in May too.

Ms. Moermond: Ms. Lacey appeared on mother's behalf for that quarter. You talked about location difficulties then, neighbors were taken advantage of it, and you used to take your garbage to a commercial property you work with. We also talked about decreasing cart size. Did anything happen with that?

Ms. Buckner: no. I don't agree because I am not using the service. I have two commercial dumpsters at other properties and put it in there. Even if it was free, I wouldn't use it. I have to pay for the dumpsters regardless. My bill is paid because I pay through my business. They haven't picked up a toothpick from me. I had a meeting myself with a bunch of seniors to see how they felt, to my surprise a whole lot liked it. It's convenient for them, I told them my complaint. The corner property, the garage goes right up to the alley. The yard and garage goes right up to alley line, if they put the cans back there we don't go back into the alley to see them. I hate the fact that the service I'm not using going in my taxes. If I had some extra money to give away I'd rather use that money to feed a single mom and her kids. It's about time for city government to stop forcing us to do what we don't want.

Ms. Moermond: Ms. Lacey probably told you that I don't have a lot of latitude on this. I'm going off the codes the City currently has. Right now under the codes and contract, all properties of your type are in the program. There's no opt out, that's the way it's set up. I don't have a way to get you out, I hear a lot of people with your argument. I'd like to get your bill lower so even if you lose your bet, you'll be out less money. I know you

disagree with the service, that at least lowers the amount if you don't prevail. Is that something you want to do?

Ms. Diana Chao: you have the medium cart. The smallest cart is 35 gallon and that is \$63.08 a quarter.

Ms. Bucker: but I'm not going to use the can.

Ms. Moermond: I understand that, but that isn't something I can get you out of.

Ms. Buckner: if I go to the smaller size I'm still giving money for service not rendered. What do I get for that, do I get a bonus for the donation I'm making?

Ms. Moermond: whether you choose to use the service or not, you are in the program. I'm trying to help you minimize the impact. I can't get you out or say you get a prize because you don't use it. All I can say is I can help you get your bill the smallest it can.

Ms. Buckner: yes, I want the smallest you've got. I will keep arguing until this is removed from my taxes. I don't want to give people my money.

Ms. Moermond: Mr. Swanson can you process the cart size change. What is the date for service?

Mr. Swanson: Thursday

Ms. Moermond: if you put out the cart next Wednesday they are going to change it out from a medium cart to a smaller size with a purple lid. If for some reason in the future you aren't able to get to the church or your business, you can have free walk up service to get the cart emptied. I will decrease this bill and Q2 bill to be the smallest cart size.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

9 [RLH TA 19-581](#)

Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 646 FULLER AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C2, Assessment No. 190110)

Sponsors: Thao

No one appeared. Note, late fee was deleted in the last quarter as a courtesy. Approve the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

10 [RLH TA 19-590](#)

Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 967 IGLEHART AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C2, Assessment No. 190110)

Sponsors: Thao

No one appeared. Delete the assessment. Staff to do resolution to delete Q4.

Ms. Moermond: can you do a follow up phone call and confirm that house wasn't occupied July 18, 2018 forward. I'm leaning towards deleting Quarter 1 and 4.

Update from Chris Swanson staff: property was vacant.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 11 **RLH TA 19-574** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 680 MINNEHAHA AVENUE WEST. (File No. CG1902C2, Assessment No. 190110)

Sponsors: Thao

Lay over to August 1, 2019 for staff to review invoice.

Mr. Chris Holbrook appeared.

Staff report by Mr. Swanson: Assessment for \$105. 68, medium cart and two late fees, Quarter 1, 2019. Resident is appealing because the submitted to the City and to Republic multiple times that even though this property is a duplex, no second cart has ever been dropped off since program started. There is still not one at the property. City records show one 64 gallon medium cart and one 96 gallon large cart delivered on September 13, 2018. According to Republic information the property owner stated he did not want the second cart, we haven't received any phone calls from the resident on vacancies or not having second cart.

Ms. Moermond: There's also a comment about Republic saying the owner told them he didn't want the second cart?

Mr. Swanson: yes, Republic stated that from an email on Tuesday that the resident called into them and that they didn't want the second container and Republic told him he needed to keep it.

Ms. Moermond: did Republic say when this occurred?

Mr. Swanson: they didn't give specifics on when.

PO: the can that is there is the large size and that's a 90 gallon.

Mr. Holbrook: the can there is the large size.

Ms. Moermond: do you have information to share? I'm looking at the notice of non-payment from March 31, a document dated April 15 which is already in the record, bill due April 25 with current charges, and another notice of non-payment dated January 31. The new pieces are the 2 invoices.

Mr. Holbrook: as I have stated, there has never been a second cart at this property. The history is when I got the bill for Quarter 1, I called Republic, that was the April bill, and they took the second cart charges off. You'll see credits for a nonexistent cart. I paid that invoice, and then received notice of the \$105 or \$111 amount is. I did get a letter from Republic 60 days ago saying a duplex had to have a second cart, they instructed me to call to have a second one dropped off. I don't intend to call. My taxes shouldn't have a charge for a can they have never provided.

Ms. Moermond: when did you communicate you didn't want a second one?

Mr. Holbrook: every time, I've called 3 to 4 times, letters.

Ms. Moermond: we have one letter dated April 15, but we're talking about the first

quarter. It appears two were delivered, I have pin numbers. One is missing, we don't know why. Mr. Swanson, how do we handle it when carts go missing?

Mr. Swanson: first I want to get information from Republic of having 2 carts out at the property. I'd like to give him a pin so he can look around at his neighbors for this cart.

Mr. Holbrook: I'm not going to go up and down looking at my neighbor's carts.

Ms. Moermond: you don't want to do it because you don't want the second cart. I'd like to get the bill as small as it can be. You're going to have a bill and have 2 carts. Go with a small can for each of the units, to minimize the impact of the bill. If you're going to have two, you would have 4 bulky items. You get two per unit. With the larger cart size you'd have 6. That's the only difference besides cost. I'm going to review the invoice. I have April and January invoices before, I'm inclined to split the difference on the second cart. We'd pick up the current cart to change out and get two small carts. Do you want to do that?

Mr. Holbrook: yes, I guess that's my best option.

Ms. Moermond: I will review that and take your willingness to change size into consideration. Because we have people waiting I'm not going to walk through the math here. So we will send you an email and I can get back to you.

Ms. Chao: do you want one small every week or every other week?

Mr. Holbrook: one of each. One small weekly, one small every other week.

Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 8/1/2019

12 [RLH TA 19-577](#)

Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 558 SHERBURNE AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C2, Assessment No. 190110)

Sponsors: Thao

Layover to August 8, 2019. Staff to follow up with hauler for Q1 pictures.

Mr. Tri Nguyen appeared

Staff report from Diana Chao: pending assessment is \$299.36 for Quarter 1, 2019, he thinks that Highland sanitation is charging for extra bags. The property owner has contacted both Highland sanitation and City who have both sent him documentation and pictures of the extra bags. So staff does believe he's responsible for the delinquent bill.

Ms. Moermond: I see snow in the pictures, I know there was some time when haulers had time to get down the alleys and can't service but will come back next week and not charge for extra bags. Did that happen here?

Ms. Chao: with Highland they just pushed it one day back, so no impact that way.

Ms. Moermond: this looks like a duplex?

Mr. Nguyen: it is. I don't dispute the monthly or quarterly payment, we paid for that, I'm just disputing the bags. You look at the picture; they seem to charge me more than 10

bags on the one invoice. What is the size of bag that would assess the \$3 for each bag?

Ms. Chao: it's not a size, if your cart is open over 6" they will count the additional bags.

Ms. Moermond: let's bring up the photos on the screen. Looking at these, the first photo is dated March 28, 2019.

Ms. Chao: these photos bags would show up on Quarter 2 bill. We want Quarter 1 photos.

Ms. Moermond: they gave you 7 photos but none from the fourth quarter. Is this because they weren't any photos?

Ms. Moermond: we can ask them. But I also want to look at the bill because it doesn't make sense. I want to add up the bags. If I add up the extra bag fees with taxes, it would only be \$157.04. Did you pay in January \$192.16?

Mr. Nguyen: no, in February.

Ms. Chao: Ok so with tax its \$232.80. We need pictures from the dates listed here from Highland.

Ms. Moermond: and I would want to look at them too. I wanted to look at the Quarter 1 photos to get a sense of how they're charging these out. For this photo they want to charge \$3, the March 28 photo. I think there's something propping that one up. Looking at March 7, I'm ok with that charge for 4 extra bags. February 1 they are saying four extra bags for \$12, I see a lot there. These are medium carts?

Ms. Chao: yes, 64 gallon.

Ms. Moermond: well, Mr. Nguyen and we had so only pictures of quarter 1, not of quarter 4. Those charges are next time. I wish they would have sent the right photos. We're going to ask them to do that. Right now, it seems clear to me you need a different size can.

Mr. Nguyen: I did that, starting second quarter. I want to see the pictures. My issue is I am getting charged \$3 whether it's one small grocery bag, or one large 55 gallon.

Ms. Chao: the contract is just number of bags.

Ms. Moermond: I think a bathroom size garbage bag vs. a kitchen size bag. When we get the photos we can look at that. We can all look at them together, or I can send an email to you with an assessment on how I see those.

Mr. Nguyen: I'm fine with getting an email, then if I don't like that I will go forward with the hearing. That's fine.

Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 8/8/2019

13 [RLH TA 19-563](#)

Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1109 VIRGINIA STREET. (File No. CG1902B2, Assessment No. 190106)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Delete the assessment.

Mr. Mitch Kalka appeared, grandson of owner who has passed away.

Mr. Kalka: it's in probate, in the process of becoming mine. It should be any day now.

Staff report from Chris Swanson: \$5.40 Quarter 1 2019, one late fee. He couldn't pay his bill because they never sent bill. After talking with him yesterday, we recommend removal of this, there was some confusion and he did pay the bill and try and get information.

Ms. Moermond: is it set up with the hauler.

Mr. Kalka: I've switched to direct deposit

Mr. Swanson: make sure you have it set up to pay after the 5th of the month, there may be a zero balance and it won't see an amount because it hasn't been generated yet.

Ms. Moermond: late fee is gone. Ramsey County information still lists you as owner, so paperwork hasn't been processed.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

10:30 a.m. Hearings

- 14 [RLH TA 19-595](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 852 ASHLAND AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Thao

No one appeared. Delete the assessment per review of file.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 15 [RLH TA 19-496](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 889 EUCLID STREET. (File No. CG1901D1-1, Assessment No. 190078)

Sponsors: Prince

Reduce assessment from \$96.08 to \$60.83.

Ms. Moermond: so he did originally have a cart and then it disappeared, but he has a cart now?

Chris Swanson: we couldn't determine if he has a cart, he said he didn't look.

Diana Chao: Waste management said "we delivered the 35 gallon with purple lid but there was not a 64 gallon on site. So, the original cart is gone, but now he has the small every other we week."

Ms. Moermond: reduce to \$60.83.

Referred to the City Council due back on 8/7/2019

- 16 RLH TA 19-580** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 434 GOODRICH AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Noecker

Reduce assessment from \$172.57 to \$28.44. Staff to reduce Q2 to \$60.83.

Interpreter attended, but wasn't needed.

Mr. Boris Gendels, owner, appeared

Staff report by Diana Chao: Pending assessment of \$172.57 for Quarter 1, 2019. Property owner would like to find another company that's cheaper. Rates are set; you had reported to us that you have one vacant unit. Waste Management didn't reflect that on your bill, they didn't update their database. I brought that up to them, and they wanted to credit you back \$48.05 from the quarter 4 bill for the amount you overpaid from November 15 through December 31, and they also wanted to credit you back \$96.08 for the quarter 1 bill because they didn't remove the extra medium cart from your bill. When you add those together, that brings you to \$144.13, so they want to subtract that from your pending assessment so it would be \$28.44. You had another pending assessment for Quarter 2, we'd like to bring that down to \$60.83.

Mr. Gendels: I don't know what to pay, I have two bills here.

Mr. Swanson: they reduced this bill to \$28.44 and this bill to \$60.83. Pay the City.

Ms. Chao: you should have received the Quarter 3 bill today. You want the bill sent to 434 Goodrich? I'll call the hauler to make sure it's resent and in the correct amount.

Ms. Moermond: Great, reduce the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 17 RLH TA 19-584** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 841 HOLLY AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Thao

Reduce assessment from \$170.10 to \$11.

Michael Tarose appeared.

Staff report by Chris Swanson: \$170.10 this is service for Quarter 1, 2019. Resident has paid the service fee and attached a payment history from Republic. Basically looking what Republic said, they want us to adjust it down to just the late fees. The late fees for the 2 carts would be \$22.09.

Ms. Moermond: you've reviewed the information he provided, staff is saying get it down to \$22.09. Did he pay after the due date?

Mr. Swanson: we didn't get a response back from actual date

Mr. Tarose: March 19.

Mr. Swanson: so yes, there would be 3 late payments on that.

Mr. Tarose: I compliment everyone here; I know you're looking for solutions. I think I paid those late fees. Can we check on that?

Ms. Moermond: when do you think you paid them?

Mr. Tarose: I have paid full, I just paid yesterday. Here are two invoices, one dated April 5.

Ms. Moermond: late fees from Quarter 1 appear to be on the second quarter bill.

Ms. Chao: those are how they zeroed it out to send to the city.

Mr. Swanson: to zero out an account, you'll see the hauler have to issue a credit for the outstanding amount, which zeroes out the account which is what they send to the city.

Mr. Tarose: it's my recollection that I've paid those fees. At that point, with this last statement there was no late fee or nothing.

Mr. Swanson: it does look like they're undercharging you for two carts.

Mr. Tarose: yes my bill increased from \$147 to \$195.

Mr. Swanson: what happened is they were charging residents with 2 or more carts for 1 cart and an extra cart, and they should have been charging for 2 carts. They did just adjust this per the contract, they had been undercharging you. \$45 less for the last 3 quarters.

Mr. Tarose: they gave me credit to help readjust that; I saw no proof or nothing. It is a duplex.

Ms. Moermond: right now they're saying there's the \$22.09 late fee. You are saying you have paid. If you want to send that information in, we're happy to look at it. Right now I recommend approval and do an \$11 late fee.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

18 RLH TA 19-596

Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1947 FOXRIDGE ROAD (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Prince

Reduce assessment from \$96.08 to \$60.83.

Ilie Horvath appeared.

Staff report by Diana Chao: pending assessment is for \$96.08 for medium cart. Property owner says he doesn't participate in the program because he's trash free. He could reduce to the small every other week cart so it would be \$60.83.

Mr. Horvath: I've been trash free for 12 years now. I don't want my money going to Waste Management. I don't want to pay this company. I've never used the service. I don't know how they got this enacted. I've been throwing the stuff from them away I thought it was advertising. I pushed the can back in the street. I've been in California

on and off for a year.

Ms. Moermond: I'm hearing 3 things here, one is the can going back into the street and where it went, another is that Mr. Horvath is rarely at the property, and whether a service hold is available, and third would be reducing cart size.

Ms. Chao: we have had cases where they've physically dropped the can here.

Mr. Horvath: I just have the big recycling can. I don't want anything of Waste managements. I'd do the small can.

Ms. Chao: I will change that. We have a temporary service hold; fill out the form it can be up to 26 weeks. They will suspend your service, and that will be reflected on your bill.

Mr. Horvath: ok so \$60.83 doubled, because I'm gone 6 months out of the year.

Ms. Moermond: I will decrease your assessment today to the small cart size, so from \$96 to 60.83.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 19 RLH TA 19-597** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1535 UPPER AFTON ROAD. (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Prince

Delete the assessment, vacant lot.

Robert Johannes appeared

Staff report by Chris Swanson: \$96.08 for Quarter 1, 2019. This is a vacant property since 2012. He called the city fall 2018 and didn't hear back. We do have this set up as a vacant lot, this was supposed to be set up before this program started. I recommend removing assessment, as well as quarter 2.

Ms. Moermond: what about the fourth quarter?

Mai Vang: it doesn't look like it.

Ms. Moermond: Right now we're deleting everything, it is a vacant lot.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 20 RLH TA 19-575** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 823 LAUREL AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Thao

No one appeared. Delete the assessment.

(Same owner as 129 Laurel)

Staff report from Diana Chao: delete because we never got a response from Republic, property owner said they paid the bill.

Ms. Moermond: did we get proof of this?

Ms. Chao: they set up auto payment for both accounts. It's not clear from their letter the date of payment. We asked for a payment history and they didn't provide it.

Ms. Moermond: delete the assessment due to lack of documentation from Republic.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 21 RLH TA 19-573** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 829 LAUREL AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Thao

No one appeared. Delete the assessment.

(Same owner as 823 Laurel)

Staff report from Diana Chao: delete because we never got a response from Republic, property owner said they paid the bill.

Ms. Moermond: did we get proof of this?

Ms. Chao: they set up auto payment for both accounts. It's not clear from their letter the date of payment. We asked for a payment history and they didn't provide it.

Ms. Moermond: delete the assessment due to lack of documentation from Republic.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 22 RLH TA 19-579** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 667 LINCOLN AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Noecker

No one appeared. Approve the assessment.

Chris Swanson: service for 3 medium and 1 large cart. Property owner has been paying half the amount.

Ms. Moermond: approve the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 23 RLH TA 19-565** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 999 LINCOLN AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Noecker

No one appeared. Approve the assessment.

Diana Chao: made a payment May 10, 2019 which applied to second quarter, so they still owe Quarter 1.

Ms. Moermond: approve the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 24 **RLH TA 19-552** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 62 MOUNDS BOULEVARD. (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Prince

Delete the assessment.

Chris Swanson: staff recommends deletion per previous Legislative hearing

Ms. Moermond: the entire conversation minutes are attached.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 25 **RLH TA 19-582** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 573 SUMMIT AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Thao

Delete the assessment; assessed to property in error.

Diana Chao: Republic billed them incorrectly it was to be supposed to be someone else's account. Delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

11:15 a.m. Hearings

- 26 [RLH TA 19-569](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 2025 GOODRICH AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C4, Assessment No. 190112)

Sponsors: Jalali Nelson

No one appeared. Delete the assessment.

Chris Swanson: staff recommends removing the late fee.

Ms. Moermond: delete the assessment.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 27 [RLH TA 19-576](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1845 LINCOLN AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C4, Assessment No. 190112)

Sponsors: Tolbert

No one appeared. Approve the assessment.

Diana Chao: it looks like they got a notice from Republic stating they owed \$122.34 but that was when they had another billing error, so City did adjust amount because they were compounding the late fees, since Republic didn't send out a February notice of non-payment. I called Mr. Brown and explained this.

Ms. Moermond: recommend approval of amount put forward.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 28 [RLH TA 19-589](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 2032 PRINCETON AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C4, Assessment No. 190112)

Sponsors: Jalali Nelson

No one appeared. Delete the assessment, owner paid by check March 31, 2019.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 29 RLH TA 19-570 Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 704 SMITH AVENUE SOUTH. (File No. CG1902C4, Assessment No. 190112)

Sponsors: Noecker

No one appeared. Approve the assessment.

Chris Swanson: \$116.25, resident stated the bill through Allied waste and was linked to a previous account and had to reconnect. We emailed Republic about this, the last payment was July 10, 2018 and that was the only payment they had ever received. Then they got payment July 10, 2019 of \$96.08 again as only payment on account so far.

Ms. Moermond: did Allied get these payments?

Mr. Swanson: Republic, Allied, Viasy, are all the same, it would still go through the same system.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 30 RLH TA 19-593 Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 554 STRYKER AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C4, Assessment No. 190112)

Sponsors: Noecker

Delete the assessment.

Colin Mattie appeared

Staff report from Chris Swanson: \$172.61 for Quarter 1, 2019. Company did not respond to billing dispute and didn't bill him correctly. We followed up with Republic. They said he only needs to pay \$26.12. That may be a late fee, but we don't have a record.

Ms. Moermond: we would be looking at a fee of \$146.49 and that's not a traditional amount of money. It seems like it may be one of those strange charging thing with the two carts.

Mr. Swanson: they were likely charging for a cart at the base rate and then an additional cart fee, not the base rate fee.

Ms. Moermond: Republic was billing incorrectly on duplexes, for \$45 less than they should have been. They were charging for one cart, full price, and second cart half

price. They're eating that cost.

Mr. Mattie: I don't think that's what happened here. I asked for base service every 2 weeks in October 10. And billing would take 2 weeks to change. And it didn't happen for a long time. Eventually I did get the right cart in March or April. They charged me too much, because I'd asked for the lower service early, and they weren't responsive to my concerns.

Mr. Swanson: so the haulers were not exchanging carts in Quarter 4, 2018, we wanted to make sure people had carts.

Mr. Mattie: I wasn't expecting it right away, it took a long time.

Mr. Swanson: you were supposed to be paying the Quarter 1 bill and then you'd have a credit going forward.

Mr. Mattie: I don't know when the physical carts got changed, it was sometime in Quarter 2.

Ms. Moermond: that seems like a time lag from October 10, they should have had done it in the New Year.

Mr. Swanson: they weren't taking formal requests until a cart swap was allowed in January. So that's why if you called in October, they wouldn't have a record of the cart swap.

Ms. Moermond: how would the person know that ?

Mr. Swanson: the haulers should have been saying that, to call back in January. We have record of a small every other week cart and a medium cart at the start of the program.

Mr. Mattie: my tenant didn't respond so that was the default size.

Ms. Moermond: is there a second quarter issue?

Mr. Swanson: I don't see one.

Ms. Moermond: I'm calling this a growing pain, I recommend the amount be deleted.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

31 [RLH TA 19-571](#)

Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 226 WHEELER STREET SOUTH. (File No. CG1902C4, Assessment No. 190112)

Sponsors: Tolbert

Reduce assessment from \$116.25 to \$32.00.

Mr. Bradley Reichuber appeared

Staff report by Diana Chao: \$116.25 for service for Quarter 1, 2019. Appealing because he never received any initial notification of service, and has called both City and hauler and house is unoccupied and doesn't want service until house is sold. He

called in February; we placed a vacancy hold starting March 1. Typically property owner's pay the full bill, and then receive a credit when it's sold or start service. Maybe we can reduce the assessment for January and February, it looks like he has a medium cart, so that doesn't make sense, medium cart and 3 late fees would be \$110.48, but a 1/3 of quarterly service would be \$62.05.

Mr. Reichuber: bought the property in December of 2017. It was vacant property; we weren't starting construction until spring of 2018. The property was there, I went to check on it, but I wasn't making a conscious effort to look for a garbage can. The property is still unoccupied; we won't have a C of O until December likely. We have produced no garbage; we have a 30 yard bin and haul it away.

Ms. Moermond: I'm assuming that notification went to the owner of record as well as the resident. You did ID this once the late fee came out.

Ms. Chao: they've since updated this, they've updated this.

Ms. Moermond: I'll cut it in half to \$32.00. You could have done more.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

32 [RLH TA 19-598](#)

Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1950 LINCOLN AVENUE. (File No. CG1902C4, Assessment No. 190112)

Sponsors: Jalali Nelson

Reduce assessment from \$176.01 to \$160.01.

Richard Stadther appeared

Staff report by Chris Swanson: \$176.01 for Quarter 1, 2019, appealing resident didn't receive a bill for Quarter 1 and had been talking to Chris and Diana, resident has been receiving service and is responsible for the payment. This is two large carts with a billing error.

Ms. Moermond: I had asked why there's a strange number with two large containers. That would normally be \$204.88.

Mr. Stadther: and they've now changed that. I paid \$160.01 and didn't receive a bill, paid it April 14, that was the number Republic established this was for Quarter 2. I didn't receive a bill for Quarter 1. I brought in a copy I paid. It shows there are late fees and charges with no explanation. I called and they couldn't explain it.

Ms. Moermond: that has to do with how their invoices are generated.

Ms. Chao: Republic did have an error with their billing, during this quarter they sent the original bill to the site address instead of the primary tax addressed. You got the final notice because they corrected it during the quarter.

Ms. Moermond: he didn't receive the bill until end of quarter 1, and it was confusing because it was the same time as Quarter 2.

Mr. Stadther: I got no explanation. I think I owe \$160.01.

Ms. Chao: he has two large carts.

Ms. Moermond: the good news is I'm willing to decrease the bill down to the \$160.01. Moving forward it will be higher. There won't be another invoice that comes out, it will just go on your taxes, but you can go and pay with financial services.

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

Special Tax Assessments-GARBAGE ROLLS

- 33 RLH AR 19-84** Ratifying the assessment for the City's cost of providing Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for services during January to March 2019. (File No. CG1902C1, Assessment No. 190109)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 34 RLH AR 19-85** Ratifying the assessment for the City's cost of providing Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for services during January to March 2019. (File No. CG1902C2, Assessment No. 190110)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 35 RLH AR 19-86** Ratifying the assessment for the City's cost of providing Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for services during January to March 2019. (File No. CG1902C3, Assessment No. 190111)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019

- 36 RLH AR 19-87** Ratifying the assessment for the City's cost of providing Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for services during January to March 2019. (File No. CG1902C4, Assessment No. 190112)

Sponsors: Brendmoen

Referred to the City Council due back on 9/11/2019