



# City of Saint Paul

15 West Kellogg Blvd.  
Saint Paul, MN 55102

## Meeting Minutes - Action Only

### Legislative Hearings

*Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer*  
*Mai Vang, Hearing Coordinator*  
*Joanna Zimny, Executive Assistant*  
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*651-266-8585*

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Tuesday, June 23, 2020

9:00 AM

Via Telephone due to Covid-19 health pandemic

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#### 9:00 a.m. Hearings

##### Remove/Repair Orders

- 1 [RLH RR 20-13](#) Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 134 ELIZABETH STREET EAST within fifteen (15) days after the April 8, 2020 City Council public hearing. (To be referred back to Legislative Hearing on April 21)

**Sponsors:** Noecker

*Layover for work plan and evidence of financing.*

**Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 7/14/2020**

- 2 **RLH RR 20-23** Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 1915 IVY AVENUE EAST within fifteen (15) days after the July 8, 2020, City Council Public Hearing.

**Sponsors:** Yang

*To be referred back to Legislative Hearing on July 28 to provide bids, financial documentation for the rehab (\$5000 performance deposit was received and code compliance ordered on June 25)*

**Referred to the City Council due back on 7/8/2020**

- 3 [RLH RR 19-29](#) Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 864 MARION STREET within fifteen (15) days after the December 18, 2019 City Council public hearing. (Amend to remove within 15 days) (Public hearing continued from December 18, 2019)

**Sponsors:** Thao

*Layover for work plan, evidence of financing and the property to be maintained.*

**Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 7/14/2020**

- 4 [RLH RR 19-30](#) Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 1904 PRINCETON AVENUE within fifteen (15) days after the December 18, 2019 City Council public hearing. (Public hearing continued from April 1) (Legislative Hearing on June 23)

**Sponsors:** Tolbert

*To be referred back to Legislative Hearing on July 28, 2020 for work plan and financial plan review, noting that property should be cleaned out and a code compliance inspection in completed.*

1904 Princeton Avenue

Steve Anderson is on the phone line.

Marcia Moermond: Anyone else to get on the line?

Anderson: I'm good on my own.

Moermond: Right now, we have a performance deposit. Nothing else that we normally look for.

Steve Magner: That is correct.

Anderson: What would you be looking for? Signed contract?

Moermond: We talked about the house being cleaned out. That is a benchmark we have been using for a very long time for delays and bringing forward a rehabilitation plan. Where are we with the cleanup? Also, you said someone submitted a bid. Do you have other information?

Anderson: We have 3 bids. Buying it outright.

Moermond: Which isn't acceptable...

Anderson: Yes. We have people contacting her for the pending hearing. We don't have anything that would tell you not to tear down the house right now. That would be fair to say. I have updates. 1) There was no progress when we started this. She has dumpsters. It is in 3 piles. There are items that she no longer has a need to hold onto. She has a pile of stuff to donate. She has a pile of stuff to wants to hold onto. That is big stuff from her. 2) It is not done. She continues to throw stuff out. If she cannot get them donated, she will throw them out. 3) She can't seem to let go of it now. She is working on a statement. She is going to ask for an order contingent. Can't say we have progressed far enough. We're going to ask that it be an order to put it out to August 1. I'm not going to say she will have everything correct. After August 1, you can do whatever you want to do.

Moermond: Do I have a memo?

Anderson: It's her statement and my memo. I want to make sure I have the right place to send it.

Moermond: Mai Vang can send you an e-mail right away.

*Mai Vang: If you have any of our letters, the e-mail is on the letter.*

*Moermond: (Said the e-mail address) It's in the header of the letter.*

*Anderson: It's a proposal to let you go forward.*

*Moermond: The Council issues the order or they don't. The Council cannot turn the decision making over to staff which is what would be asked for with an order contingent.*

*Magner: It would be simpler if Anderson requested another layover providing documentation that the cleanup is moving forward. There is a pod currently in the driveway. If he could include information or photos that progress is being made, that would go a long way in moving the process forward.*

*Anderson: The photos will be included in her statement. Everything is organized in the house in those 3 piles.*

*Moermond: She's chosen to not hire someone to work on the cleanout?*

*Anderson: She has people helping her. Her last offer was to get it cleaned out for \$2,000. She has definitely decided that she cannot store things. A lot of things she's throwing out is furniture. She has recycled books. Surprised she got this far without any help.*

*Moermond: Have the people who made offers been inside the house?*

*Anderson: She lets them come in. They walk through it. She just had someone come over there unannounced. She really wants to clean it out. She would rather not be on the phone for the hearing.*

*Moermond: I can see working for one last delay on the cleanout, but I want to have a development plan in hand when we talked about this the beginning of August. I would like a contractor showing up and saying what they will do. Understanding a code compliance needs to be done. This is about showing up and being clear about what needs to be done. She has a problem with hoarding, and we have been extraordinarily patient. She has received assistance.*

*Anderson: You said our next gathering is August 1. Who could write it? What are you looking for?*

*Moermond: A plan, a contract with someone who will do the work.*

*Anderson: Without a contractor, you don't think it will get done?*

*Moermond: It hasn't yet. She is not a general contractor. She is not going to manage the building. Who is going to be the general contractor? I hear there are several people willing to do those roles. I know this plan will need to be revised. People who know their business will be able to draft a plan and come close to what the code compliance will be asking for. I would also like to see they have the money to do the work.*

*Anderson: I don't think the money is a bigger problem than the hoarding.*

*Moermond: I wouldn't know. I haven't seen anything. The only thing I have is a performance deposit that got posted. I'm thinking of July 28 for a work plan.*

*Magner: If they can get the interior cleaned out for the inspectors. It is dependent on getting cleaned out so the inspector can take the next step.*

*Anderson: I appreciate this opportunity. If she can get the contractors and get this set up, I think she can do this. After we get it cleaned out.*

*Moermond: This is getting another 5 weeks. This is 7 months in this process. It was hoarded in 2007. Put another 5 to 10 years before that. This is a long-term problem here. They have not displayed the capacity to address it. I'm looking for someone else to drive on the rehabilitation. I'm looking for someone to make the day to day decisions on what needs to be done. I haven't seen anything to give me progress. I would be looking for work plans that are durable. If it's a \$100,000 fix-up, I need to see \$100,000. I will need a liquid asset. That would show they have the money.*

*Anderson: Should we appear tomorrow?*

*Moermond: Send the photographs. I am looking for progress. Send the letter to put into the record. I will ask for more time, but I am upping the ante: July 29th back with me, plan in hand.*

*Anderson: And money.*

*Moermond: And money.*

**Referred to the City Council due back on 6/24/2020**

- 5 [RLH RR 19-23](#) Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 1179 SEVENTH STREET EAST within fifteen (15) days after the September 11, 2019 City Council public hearing. (Public hearing continued from September 11)

**Sponsors:** Yang

*Layover to provide work plan and evidence of financing.*

**Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 7/28/2020**

- 6 [RLH RR 20-22](#) Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 678 SNELLING AVENUE NORTH within fifteen (15) days after the May 27, 2020 City Council public hearing. (To be referred back to Legislative Hearing on June 23)

**Sponsors:** Jalali

*Layover to discuss development plans from potential purchaser and evidence of financing to execute the plans.*

**Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 9/8/2020**

**10:00 a.m. Hearings**

- 7 [RLH RR 20-9](#) Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 578 LAFOND AVENUE in Council File RLH RR 19-26. (Legislative Hearing on June 23, 2020)

Sponsors: Thao

*Grant additional 180 days for the remove or repair of the building.*

*578 Lafond Avenue*

*Judy Carvalho is on the phone line.*

*Marcial Obregon is on the phone line.*

*(Due to technical issues, Mr. Magner was not heard on this issue.)*

*Marcia Moermond: We will have to figure out what is wrong with Mr. Magner's phone line. I will update the record. We were looking for a \$5,000 performance deposit in addition to the performance deposit already in place. We will be continuing that deposit. We were also looking for an updated scope of work, documentation of financial capacity to execute the rehab. We did receive the additional \$5,000 performance deposit and evidence of ability to complete the financing on the property. We received information from both indicating the amount of money that has already been paid and the balance. There is sufficient money to cover the balance that is required to complete the rehab. Last week, the work plan submitted was on the skinny side, especially considering that the work had not been initiated until May when we were looking at it to begin months earlier. I was looking for something more fleshed out about how we wouldn't be running behind. I received an e-mail from Obregon at 9:21 this morning that is a more specific schedule for the work. I looked at it, and it seems like a reasonable approach. I am turning to Mr. Magner for additional comments. (Magner is still having technical difficulties with his phone line.) This does look like a coherent plan to me to approach this. I do like to have Mr. Magner to sign off, too. I will recommend to the Council that you be given 6 months to finish the project. Hopefully that is a load off your mind. We are ready to move forward.*

*Obregon: That is a load off. We are anxious to get started again.*

**Referred to the City Council due back on 6/24/2020**

- 8 **RLH RR 20-18** Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 489 SHERBURNE AVENUE in Council File RLH RR 19-11.

Sponsors: Thao

*Grant additional 180 days provided owner/contractor to provide updated work plan with schedule by July 6, 2020.*

**Referred to the City Council due back on 7/8/2020**

- 9 **RLH RR 20-7** Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 1143 WOODBRIDGE STREET in Council File RLH RR 19-20.

Sponsors: Brendmoen

*Grant an additional 180 days provided owner provides an updated work plan with*

*schedule no later than July 6, 2020.*

**Referred to the City Council due back on 7/8/2020**

## 11:00 a.m. Hearings

### Correction Orders

- 10 [RLH CO 20-9](#) Appeal of Colleen Mulcahy to a Correction Notice at 272 RICHMOND STREET.

**Sponsors:** Noecker

*Layover to July 13 @ 12:00 P.M. Inspection to occur on June 29 at 10 a.m.; extension of deadline to address orders is conditioned upon owner allowing access for inspection.*

**Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 7/14/2020**

## 11:30 a.m. Hearings

### Orders To Vacate, Condemnations and Revocations

- 11 [RLH VO 20-19](#) Appeal of Thuzong Xiong, Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services to a Fire Certificate of Occupancy Revocation and Order to Vacate at 1242 WOODBRIDGE STREET.

**Sponsors:** Brendmoen

*Extension of deadline to address orders is conditioned upon access being provided for July 2 @ 1 p.m.*

**Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 7/7/2020**

## 1:30 p.m. Hearings

### Fire Certificates of Occupancy

- 12 [RLH FCO 20-39](#) Appeal of Robin Magee to a Correction Notice-Reinspection Complaint at 464 MARSHALL AVENUE.

**Sponsors:** Thao

**Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 7/7/2020**

- 13 [RLH FCO 20-59](#) Appeal of Robert Anderson to a Reinspection Fire Certificate of Occupancy With Deficiencies at 968 PAYNE AVENUE.

**Sponsors:** Yang

*An inspection to occur before July 10 for photos and floor plan; antifreeze to be done before July 10th.*

**Laid Over to the Legislative Hearings due back on 7/14/2020**

**2:30 p.m. Hearings (NONE)**

**Vacant Building Registrations**