

RES 20-1220 Appointing Nilan Johnson Lewis P.A. a special counsel for the purpose of providing advice and counsel on personnel matters. **Adopted**

- 4 <u>Min 20-15</u> Approving the minutes of the June, July, and August 2020 City Council meetings. Adopted
- 5 <u>RES 20-1249</u> Affirming the extension of Declaration of Local Emergency issued September 8, 2020 by Mayor Melvin Carter III.

Adopted

- 7 <u>RES 20-1105</u> Approving the Memorandum of Agreement for the establishment of the 2021 2022 health insurance contribution rates and VEBA contribution rates. (Laid over for adoption) Laid Over
- 8 <u>RES 20-1215</u> Approving adverse action against the Taxicab Driver license held by Michael David Gibbons (License ID #19980002318).

Adopted

FOR DISCUSSION

6 <u>RES 20-1230</u>

Authorizing the City of Saint Paul to transfer \$3,546,442 of the Coronavirus Relief Fund aid to specific accounts for the guaranteed income pilot program and the Bridge Fund program.

Muneer Karcher-Ramos appeared about the People's Prosperity Program. \$293,000 for the City's allocation of CARES funding. This is following the Mayor establishing the program through executive order. A number of mayors across the country are advocating for these guaranteed programs. It provides up to 150 families for \$500 a month guaranteed income for up to 18 months. It has a projected budget of \$1.5 Million. 150 families will be from 55104, 55106, 55119, 55117. They got these zip codes as a result of reviewing the family housing fund and the research fund that came out in July. These are the areas of the City that are most impacted by COVID-19. Of the 1800 families currently enrolled in College Bound Saint Paul, about 1000 live in these zip codes. This is focusing on families who had babies in 2020. What is known about these neighborhoods: the medium household income is \$35,000. That is how they are beginning to target the population. These are randomly selected, and the households will be contacted to find if they have a COVID issue. They will have some sort of job loss, lost wages, unable to get childcare. That is outlined in the resolution. They will not be able to hold public office or be a City employee. The Office of Financial Empowerment is handling this. They are part of a broader national Mayor's for Guaranteed Income network. The budget for the program is \$1.5 Million from philanthropy and other sources. CARES funding must be spent by November 15.

Councilmember Prince said she appreciates this opportunity for the larger City Council audience to hear about the program. They all had one-on-one meetings. Something of this magnitude belongs on the Council agenda. Excited that this is a national pilot and the involvement of the University of Pennsylvania and Tennessee. Much of this funding is from philanthropy. About \$300,000 is coming out the CARES act money. She asks if this is funded exclusively through philanthropy. Karcher-Ramos responded it's not just philanthropy: it's individual donors.

Prince asked are they restoring funding to the business development fund and the housing trust fund that was used on the bridge fund or are they continuing the Bridge Fund with these dollars? John McCarthy responded this is not a new program. It is funding through the CARES dollars.

Prince said the City has restored a million to the housing trust fund. McCarthy responded that is correct.

Prince said she understands Congresswoman McCollum sent a letter raising some concerns. The Administration feels the Council can respond to those concerns and our vote does not preclude these issues from being resolved after today's meeting.

Karcher-Ramos said this is for families impacted by COVID 19. They worked closely with folks and different agencies across the state and city. They have certainty in their responses.

Councilmember Tolbert said that in terms of the income supplement, today's vote is putting money there, but will they come back with an ordinance? Procedurally, how does that work?

Karcher-Ramos said they would be bringing something back after the executive order: 1) to accept the philanthropy dollars to run the program, 2) an ordinance for the Council.

Councilmember Tolbert said that regarding the zip codes and part of the lottery, if you qualify, it shouldn't matter where you live. It should be a citywide program. He asked will there be an ordinance finalizing that? Karcher-Ramos responded they are happy to work with him and others on the Council in shaping what that looks like.

Tolbert asked will they be going forward and doing a lottery for those zip codes before that ordinance goes before the Council? Karcher-Ramos responded that they have it as a stratified enrollment. There will still be an opportunity to enroll additional folks as the ordinance is rolling out.

Tolbert asked if the Treasury Department determines that the CARES Act will not fund this amount, what will the City do?

Karcher-Ramos responded the plan is they are getting it from philanthropic sources. They believe that through all the assurances that they are above board in eligibility and advancing this. He would defer to Director McCarthy.

Tolbert asked if there is a sign off that this is an acceptable use of CARES money from the Treasury Department as McCollum's letter discusses?

John McCarthy, Finance, says they are doing this based on the guidance from the Treasury Department. They have not specifically sent anything to Treasury. They are overwhelmed with hundreds of governments across the country that are weighing these same questions. They are regularly updating their own guidelines. They feel confident that this meets those eligibility guidelines that they have laid out. Tolbert said the CARES money is \$300,000 of the program?

McCarthy said \$293,000 have to be spent by November 15. They can get 3 months of payments out by the November 15 deadline.

Tolbert said it would be philanthropic dollars and no city dollars included in it?

Karcher-Ramos responded philanthropic and other sources, correct. The other sources are not City dollars. The Mayor has not precluded from using City dollars, but the plan and intent is not to use City dollars.

Tolbert asked the timeline to respond to McCollum's letter. It is important that her questions be given answers. Why vote on this today rather than next week? Karcher-Ramos responded they plan to respond to those questions this week. Time is of the essence. The team is waiting for Council approval so they can begin outreach in getting the program going. The delay would prevent moving forward.

Tolbert stated the program has been shown to the Council in the past week. A lot of it got lifted off the ground without Council approval. Karcher-Ramos responded they are waiting for Council approval before they start the outreach. That's waiting for the authorization from the Council.

Councilmember Noecker said she has similar concerns. It would be helpful if they walked through the letter from McCollum's office and respond to those questions. They have Treasury Department guidance but have not gotten approval from them. She is not supportive of using property tax dollars for these cash payments, taking tax dollars from people in St. Paul and given them out to others in St. Paul. They should be building systems to benefit somebody and not just a few. She's concerned about issues that lead to litigation or call backs or anything else that would lead to staff time or money from the general fund for this. She would like the answers to those questions and assured it would be justified.

Karcher-Ramos asked how would the Council like to handle that? Council President Brendmoen said that McCollum laid out 5 questions. If they could get the answers.

Karcher-Ramos said he will take some of them: 1) Benefits click – They have worked with Department of Human Services and others to pursue an exclusion so that people are not negatively impacted by receiving the transfers. 2) They have been working on the questions about eligibility. They know the COVID impact outline in the resolution are things within Treasury Guidance in a number of programs. They believe that is above board. 3) Undocumented folks have access? Yes. They will not be using CARES dollars. They have philanthropic sources to support the programs. Other items?

McCarthy said the other question is the one related to the State. They have had verbal phone conversations about eligibility requirements. Some of these same questions come from not having seen the program design.

Brendmoen said they appreciate being copied on the letter and the response. Moving forward, the councilmembers were late to the dance in hearing about this program. Although there is a ton of support, the City can step forward with funds from philanthropy and other partners and other CARES dollars. It is her hope the City moves forward with this, collect that data. \$150 is great for 150 people, but the need is so much greater.

Councilmember Yang said she is supportive of the initiatives here. After the 150 families receive the guaranteed income, does he have a plan to collect information on how beneficial the program is for them? What is the plan for after the 18 months being able to support this and even more families?

Karcher-Ramos said part of this initiative is to build that this program works. What are the implications? They will be working with evaluators from the University of Pennsylvania and University of Tennessee Knoxville. They're the same researchers that will be evaluating the national network. What does that entail? Folks will receive a cash card or debit card. The City will get a spending report. In addition, the researchers will be doing surveys and checking in with participants. They are interested in understanding income volitivity and will be looking at economic agencies. How does this \$500 a month inform and instruct choices made, how they use it, and what they are able to do? Looking at financial health and economic well-being. How much gets placed in savings? What is the impact of having a savings account with the guaranteed income? They will be reporting back.

Councilmember Jalali said the City of Saint Paul has continually done what the federal government should be doing. She was obviously surprised and disappointed by the letter from McCollum. Those questions are fair to ask, but this City government has proven ability to deal with the resources. When they start to scrutinize programs that are just giving money to families that need it when handouts are given to people who are richer every day. I think it is fair to answer all those questions. She is confident in the accounting that has been done. She is supportive of the programs moving forward. The City needs to do much more and can't do it alone. She will speak in support and will be voting in support today.

Tolbert said he had one more question. For the purposes of other public assistance, the State said this will not be considered income? Will this be counted towards applicants' income for other assistance programs?

Karcher-Ramos said he will defer to CAO. (No response.) He will follow up on that.

Tolbert asked does this jeopardize the other CARES money. That is what McCollum is discussing. Will this take someone off other public assistance? That can be anything from grants, child grants, medical assistance. He wouldn't want any of the applicants to get disqualified. That is an important question.

Karcher-Ramos said the scenarios with Children's Defense Fund, household sizes, with the \$500, they are well aware of the work. Each participant is making an informed decision. Again, they have been speaking to the Minnesota Department of Human Services. That is where they are in the moment.

Prince said she is deeply concerned about the letter from McCollum's. She regrets that her colleague would consider it to be anything other than an important piece of advice from our congresswoman who represents are City well. Prince did not have a chance to fully digest the letter, but has some concerns. She wonders if the city attorney has considered McCollum's letter.

Karcher-Ramos said they have not had a conversation with her office. They received that letter at the same time as the Council. He and McCarthy are confident in the program and where things are headed and being able to address those questions and the quick letter and keeping the Council informed. Brendmoen asked would Karcher-Ramos be helpful to hear from Rachel Tierney, City Attorney's office, before moving on.

Tolbert said he wants to ensure that any applicants that receives this money, it would not be considered income for calculating their other public assistance cash. Tierney responded all of those things are still being figured out. They have not distributed any funds yet. There is a little bit of learning that is going on.

Tolbert asked is it possible they could be counted as income? Tierney responded the City still needs to dig into those programs to understand the impact of these funds.

Prince asked has she reviewed McCollum's letter to see if there are issues? Tierney responded she has reviewed it and received it about 15 minutes before this meeting. She has been communicating with the attorney assigned to this project. At this point, her office doesn't have additional concerns but needs to analyze questions to make sure.

Councilmember Thao said there is no doubt that they want people to do well and get the help and support they need. Reading the letter and listening to what is being said, they need more time to look through this. The Council always has good intentions, but sometimes good intentions without proper analysis can lead to unintended consequences. What about seniors on fixed income who are also affected by this? They may not have kids but they are struggling. What about folks with disabilities? That range of folks should be stretched across the City and different demographics. This should be laid over. He'd like to call McCollum to clarify the questions.

Brendmoen said there is a call from Thao to lay this over. Thoughts on that? They did legal research with the Bridge Fund and should be able to answer that question. If the Council does not have answers, she's sensing discomfort in moving forward today.

McCarthy responded that under the bridge fund, they determined the emergency assistance was not included in gross income.

Tolbert said the situation is different now. It is worrisome that the City doesn't have a specific answer. It should have been the first research done. It is called a guaranteed income program, but it is a public assistance safety net. He supports in theory. This will be leveraging a lot of money outside the community for people who are struggling. The City is not the right unit of government to administer this because of large scale administrative cost. This being counted as income could be damaging. McCollum's letter raises questions about the larger CARES package. The Council should lay this over for another week. The program seemed to be rolled out without Council authority to do it or approval. The next steps could continue that process. He doesn't understand the zip code issue and strongly objects to that. If you qualify and meet the other qualification, it doesn't matter where in Saint Paul you live. He will support the motion.

Noecker said she also will support the motion. She will second Tolbert's concerns about the zip codes. McCollum talks about the national attention that it will garner and want to make sure that is positive national attention. She and her colleagues are going to be searching for hundreds of millions of dollars.

Brendmoen asked for thoughts on motion to lay over for one week.

Councilmember Yang said she concurs with Tolbert. It is helpful to hear everyone's

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thoughts. She will support the one-week layover.

Noecker wonders if there is any way to separate out the dollars for the Bridge from the dollars for Prosperity. The business funds are eager to be replenished. Any mechanism to divide those two out?

Tierney said she'd be interested in what McCarthy thought about that. Unknown how readily that could be done. You could orally amend the resolution, but maybe there is a problem she doesn't see.

McCarthy said it would require an amendment to the resolution. He would refer back to the line item adjustment if the proposal is just to remove that section of People's Prosperity pilot. If the test can be amended at the table, that is the bulk of the enforceable language from the resolution.

Brendmoen said they are talking about 7 days. She's wondering if the effort in this short amount of time merits the staff time. Noecker responded it probably doesn't.

6 in favor, 1 opposed (Jalali) Resolution is laid over to September 16 Laid Over

- Yea: 6 Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince and Councilmember Yang
- Nay: 1 Councilmember Jalali

<u>RES 20-1194</u> Approving the 2020 Cultural Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) General Operating Fund Grant Program Guidelines.

Nora Reimenschneider, PED (Planning and Economic Development), is here. This year, with the 2020 Cultural Star program, there was an earlier Round 1 with a deadline of late February. What is being proposed is that program be cancelled due to the COVID impact, emergency orders, and the lack of events now. They are proposing a general operating fund for all of the 2020 Cultural Star dollars. This would be the one and only application cycle for this year. This would be more of a general fund and a streamlined application process. With the money, the City would maintain the STAR law requirement of at least 80% of the funds being rewarded. Those located Downtown or have had some programming and cultural STAR grant could be designated as a cultural district organization. The other pool is much smaller, 20% of the budget, organizations based inside Saint Paul and outside the Cultural STAR district. It would be a random selection process. Looking for a streamlined efficient way to support these arts and cultural organizations so they are around when art can be experienced again.

Councilmember Noecker moved approval. 7 in favor, none opposed Resolution is adopted Adopted

- Yea: 7 Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang
- **Nay:** 0

ORDINANCES

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

Final Adoption

10Ord 20-28Amending Legislative Code Chapters 60, 63, and 66 pertaining to the RM
zoning districts.

Councilmember Noecker thanked Bill Dermody and staff, Summit Hill Association, and many other district councils work. SHA put a lot of brain power and time into developing recommendations, Excel charts, calculations of density. Main thrust of their comments if that the City should be encouraging density through shorter, bulkier buildings that are a better fit inside neighborhoods. She has decided to support the recommendations as they are. They do encourage the shorter bulkier buildings over the taller buildings. They get rid of the 9,000 square foot lot minimum and max lot coverage. The new zoning expands the size you build on a parcel and keeps height the same. She worries about lowering the base height that it wouldn't take advantage of the opportunity on corners, mixed message to send to developers, and encouraging density. She supports the recommendation.

Councilmember Prince said SHA raised some valid points. She is concerned about the issues of generational wealth building. She's concerned the City is not looking at these issues in conjunction with each other. She is not prepared to vote on this today. All of the housing issues should be pulled together to take a better look at these all at the same time.

Councilmember Noecker moved approval. 6 in favor, one opposed Prince Ordinance is adopted Adopted

- Yea: 6 Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang
- Nay: 1 Councilmember Prince

Second Reading

11 Ord 20-30 Amending Chapter 66 of the Legislative Code pertaining to residential standards in planning districts 14 and 15.

Laid Over to Third Reading/Public Hearing

PUBLIC HEARINGS

12 <u>RES PH 20-188</u> Amending the financing and spending plans in the Fire Department in the amount of \$250,000 for a contribution received from the Minnesota Board of Firefighter Training and Education to pay for training and equipment for the Minnesota Aviation Rescue Team and helicopter training with the Minnesota State Patrol.

Council President Brendmoen said the Council accepted input online and by phone.

Councilmember Tolbert moved approval. 7 in favor, none opposed Public hearing is closed and resolution is adopted Adopted

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

Nay: 0

- **13** <u>RES PH 20-189</u> Amending the financing and spending plans in the Fire Department in the amount of \$100,000 for a contribution received from the Minnesota Board of Firefighter Training and Education and the Fire Service Advisory Committee to pay for training and equipment for the Minnesota Aviation Rescue Team. Adopted
 - Yea: 7 Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang
 - **Nay:** 0
- **14** <u>RES PH 20-183</u> Authorizing the Police Department to enter into a grant agreement with the Office of National Drug Control Policy for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Programs, and amending the 2020 budget and activity budget.

Council President Brendmoen said the City Council accepted input online and by phone.

Councilmember Noecker moved approval. 7 in favor, none opposed Public hearing is closed and resolution is adopted Adopted

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

Nay: 0

15 <u>RES PH 20-184</u> Authorizing the Police Department to enter into a grant agreement with Ramsey County, a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota, on behalf of Workforce Solutions for the Coronavirus Emergency (WFS-CARES-093) grant agreement.

Council President Brendmoen said the City Council accepted input online and by phone.

Councilmember Thao moved approval. 7 in favor, none opposed Public hearing is closed and resolution is adopted Adopted

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

Nay: 0

16 <u>RES PH 20-182</u> Approving the application of Tom Schroeder, Waldmann, for a sound level variance for amplified music at 445 Smith Avenue North, September 18-20 and September 25-27, 2020 during the Waldmann Oktoberfest.

Council President Brendmoen said the City Council accepted input online and by phone.

Councilmember Noecker moved approval. 7 in favor, none opposed Public hearing is closed and resolution is adopted Adopted

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

Nay: 0

17 Ord 20-31 Creating Chapter 142 of the Legislative Code (Title XII) pertaining to a Special Service District in Downtown. (Public hearing to be continued to September 16.)

Shari Moore, City Clerk, said the Council needs to continue the public hearing for next week.

Councilmember Noecker moved to hold open the public hearing and lay over to next week.

7 in favor, none opposed Public hearing is continued to September 16 Continue Public Hearing

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

Nay: 0

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LEGISLATIVE HEARING ITEMS

Approval of the Consent Agenda

	Councilmember Yang moved to close the public hearing and adopt these items as recommended by the Legislative Hearing Office. Public hearing is closed and resolutions are adopted. Adopted Consent Agenda
	Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang
	Nay: 0
<u>RLH RR 20-27</u>	Ordering the razing and removal of the structures at 1064 BUSH AVENUE within fifteen (15) days after the September 9, 2020 City Council public hearing.
	Adopted
<u>RLH FCO</u> <u>20-118</u>	Appeal of Jannrit Chranh to a Correction Notice-Reinspection Complaint at 725 CLARK STREET. Adopted
<u>RLH FCO</u> <u>20-121</u>	Amending Council File RLH FCO 20-61, adopted July 22, 2020, to grant Phil and Keia Isaacson, PBK Properties, LLC, an additional extension for property at 47-49 COOK AVENUE WEST. Adopted
<u>RLH TA 20-545</u>	Amending Council File RLH AR 20-108 to delete the assessment for Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for services during January to March 2020 at 1827 HYACINTH AVENUE EAST. (File No. CG2002C1, Assessment No. 200128) Adopted
<u>RLH FCO</u> <u>20-114</u>	Appeal of Stephanie Reis, Olson Property Investments, to a Re-Inspection Fire Certificate of Occupancy With Deficiencies at 1133 LAWSON AVENUE EAST. Adopted
<u>RLH CO 20-12</u>	Appeal of Alan Hausladen to a Correction Notice at 103 MAGNOLIA AVENUE WEST.
	Adopted
<u>RLH SAO 20-19</u>	Appeal of Kartumu King to a Summary Abatement Order at 1281 MARGARET STREET.

Adopted

29	<u>RLH VO 20-33</u>	Appeal of Ruby Nguyen to a Revocation of Fire Certificate of Occupancy and
		Order to Vacate at 777 SIXTH STREET EAST.

Adopted

31 <u>RLH AR 20-114</u> Ratifying the assessment for the City's cost of providing Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for services during January to March 2020. (File No. CG2002E1, Assessment No. 200136)

Adopted

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Councilmember Thao moved to close the public hearing and amend and adopt these items as recommended by the Legislative Hearing Officer. Public hearing is closed and resolution is adopted as amended. Adopted Consent Agenda

- Yea: 7 Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang
- Nay: 0
- 19 <u>RLH TA 20-138</u> Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 994 CARROLL AVENUE. (File No. J2004E1, Assessment No. 208311) (Public hearing continued from March 18) Adopted
- 22 <u>RLH RR 20-13</u> 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. (Amend to grant 180 days)

Adopted

24 <u>RLH TA 20-148</u> Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1322 GRAND AVENUE. (File No. J2007E, Assessment No. 208306) (Public hearing continued from April 8)

Adopted

- **30** <u>RLH RR 20-19</u> Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 985 WOODBRIDGE STREET in Council File RLH RR 19-34. Adopted
- **23** <u>RLH RR 20-16</u> Making finding on the appealed substantial abatement ordered for 530 GERANIUM AVENUE EAST in Council File RLH RR 20-5.

Council President Brendmoen moved to continue the public hearing to September 23. Public hearing is continued to September 23 Continue Public Hearing

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

Nay: 0

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The public may comment on public hearing items in writing or via voicemail. Any comments and materials submitted by 12:00 pm of the day before the meeting will be attached to the public record and available for review by the City Council. Comments may be submitted as follows:

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

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

Council Meeting Information

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Web

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Cable

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