



City of Saint Paul

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Minutes - Final

Legislative Hearings

CPH 8/20

Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer
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651-266-8585

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

9:00 AM

Room 330 City Hall & Court House/Remote

3 [SR 25-153](#)

Review to a Ratifying of the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 725 FULLER AVENUE. (File No. J2522R, Assessment No. 258555)

Sponsors: Bowie

Approve the assessment. (CPH 8/20)

Russ Chavie, occupant, appeared
Sarah Collins, owner, appeared

Moermond: looks like we have two assessment appeals to talk about today.
[Moermond gives background of appeals process]

Staff report by Supervisor Lisa Martin: March 12, 2025 a Summary Abatement Order was issued to remove and dispose of the garbage bags, plastic bins, cage and other misc. items from rear of property along the fence. Reinspected and found additional items on the boulevard. March 2 the items still were not removed. Total assessment of \$389. Work crew went out 4/2 and the work was done by owner. There is a history at the property.

The second is April 14, 2025 we have a Summary Abatement Order to dispose of remove/dispose of the furniture, and other misc. items from the front of the property. Please remove the two cages and table from the rear of the property along the alley. Compliance date April 21. Rechecked 4/21 and there was some progress made. Rechecked again 4/25. Sent to work order for a total assessment of \$724.

Moermond: complaint comes in, identifies items in the back. Those were gone when the crew showed up. At the same time new orders went out for additional items, and those were not cleaned up. A trip charge on the first one. Full cleanup on the second.

Collins: I hope it is just a series of unfortunate events. The crew cleaning up is false. Everything we were told about, I am very literal, we went item by item and removed each thing. The neighbors across the alley we don't get a long with, they took the items from their clearing and threw the bags on our property. We did remove those. The "cage" in the back is our compost bin and it still is there today. It was never picked up. The furniture was out for 2 days on boulevard but pulled them right back in. We got a Bagster. We had flooding in our basement. No one cleaned our yards. The Bagster was there for 2 days. When we got the photos and realized how bad it looked, we cleaned up right away. They took the green bag 2 days after we got it, no one told

us we couldn't have it there.

Moermond: yes, please email us those photos. What I'm struggling with is the grass under the bag is dead.

Chavie: we had a planter there that got removed.

Collins: that was a different letter. We had reclaimed wood we used as a planter, but it looked like furniture so we didn't fight it. We left it dead so we could plant flowers there. If you go by now there's flowers.

Chavie: I think our problem was lack of communication.

Martin: we normally note the Bagster if its there, it wasn't here.

Chavie: I think it was done after he reinspected. A series of unfortunate events.

Moermond: he shows up, original items done, trip charge. Inspector says the original items are gone and wrote fresh orders but has a trip charge associated with it. I don't know if the orders were taken care of?

Martin: he gave until the 25th to get rid of it.

Moermond: we don't charge for an extension do we typically?

Martin: it should have been an Excessive Consumption.

Moermond: he's saying it was done by owner and gave an extension. It was done on the 2nd after the extension. The second one was different items.

Martin: yes.

Moermond: the cleanup charge of \$724 items is different item than what you had orders to take care of. Therefore, you didn't have the opportunity to do it, so I'm going to recommend deletion. We have an inspector writing orders when he didn't see Code Compliance. He sent a work order for the crew and when they showed up they just picked up whatever they say, not noting the original set of orders said something else. I think that's what happened here. I will recommend deletion on the cleanup. With respect to the trip charge, What I'm looking at is they want to charge you for sending the truck out. The work was done when the truck got there. That was for the March 12 orders, not done March 19 on reinspection, and was given a week extension, he revisits March 26 and wasn't done, the crew shows up April 2. They want to charge you for the crew visit since it wasn't done on the extension date. I'm inclined to say yes you should pay that one.

Collins: that is fair, thank you.

Received and Filed