

Mai Vang

From: Spencer Bennett <spencer.bennett@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2025 3:02 PM
To: Mai Vang
Subject: Re: 1982 Longfellow Ave, J2504T
Attachments: city_council - Google Docs.pdf

Think Before You Click: This email originated outside our organization.

Hi, Mai.

I just want to confirm with you whether the attached PDF will be an appropriate format to send as my contestation.

Thanks again Mai!

On Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 7:57 AM Mai Vang <mai.vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us> wrote:

Thank you. You can email anytime between now and February 25.

Mai

From: Spencer Bennett <spencer.bennett@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2025 9:25 PM
To: Mai Vang <mai.vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Re: 1982 Longfellow Ave, J2504T

Think Before You Click: This email originated outside our organization.

Thank you Mai.

Yes, Marcia seemed to have a very hard time accepting my version of things as well as keeping things on topic and I certainly mean no disrespect to the city I've chosen to call home for most of my life, but I am quite surprised Marcia is the person who represents the city in these matters. She approached the entire situation as if it were something criminal. She gave the fact that I was recovering from shoulder surgery and could not possibly operate a lawn mower no consideration in her judgement and, in my opinion, wasted a lot of time and money in doing so.

I was physically unable to operate a lawn mower for most of the year last year. I don't feel I should have to explain myself any further.

Nor did Marcia understand it when I told her that most of the long grass in question was on park property which I had made a previous agreement with the county not to mow. The rest of the grass was about a three foot strip running from the street to the house in the front yard that I'd sprayed with grass killer -- it was the last bit of grass I had to dig up in the front yard -- again, while recovering from shoulder surgery.

Let's just say I was doing what I could.

Nor did she seem to appreciate that I was engaged in a project I had been working on since 2022 to convert my yard into a "waterless/mowerless" yard friendly for pollinators as well as the environment while remaining aesthetically pleasing for the neighborhood.

No. Even as I explained to Marcia that I reached out to the phone number at the bottom of the complaint and left a message explaining all of this, she insulted me further by trying to suggest that the police officer I happened to see that day, who drove by and waved at me, was driving by and waving at me to tell me that I had been given an extension in the matter. Apparently an extension had been given that I was completely unaware of. I was never contacted verbally or in writing with regard to the voicemail I left or the status of the complaint.

I love Saint Paul, but yes Mai, expect me to contest things via email. Is there a deadline?

Thanks again.

Respectfully,

Spencer Bennett

On Fri, Jan 17, 2025 at 8:41 AM Mai Vang <mai.vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us> wrote:

Hello Mr. Bennett,

You appealed before the Legislative Hearing Officer, Marcia Moermond, back on October 15, 2024 and she recommends approving the assessment of \$451.50. If you wish to contest her recommendation the Council Public Hearing is now rescheduled to **February 26, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 300 Council Chambers** (originally date was January 29, which was scheduled in error as the Council does not meet).

Below are options on how to testify:

1. Interested parties who wish to speak on a specific [Council Agenda](#) item via telephone are required to pre-register. You are asked to [register here](#) by 12 noon on Tuesday before the meeting to participate; or
2. submit your comments in writing or voicemail. Please email Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us OR CouncilHearing@ci.stpaul.mn.us, mail your comments, or leave a voicemail at 651-266-6805. All information provided in the email or voicemail will be added to the public record. (For your information, e-mails will be attached as written, voicemails will be transcribed and attached in writing.);
3. Appear in person – check in with staff at hallway 15 mins before the start of the meeting

If you are not contesting further, no action is needed.

Thank you.

Mai Vang

(She, her)

Legislative Hearing Coordinator | St Paul City Council

M: (651) 266-8585 ; D: (651) 266-8563

310 City Hall, 15 W. Kellogg Blvd, St Paul, MN 55102



SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA