

SUBJECT

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 24-1790

Pertaining to the Permit Agreement with Rice Street Gardens for the purpose of developing and maintaining a community garden on Board property.

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: Stakeholder Understanding and Support

On March 16, 2016, the Board of Water Commissioners of the City of Saint Paul (“Board”), acting through its Saint Paul Regional Water Services General Manager, and Galilee Evangelical Lutheran Church (“GELC”) entered into a permit agreement, permitting GELC to use the premises addressed as 1958 Rice Street in the City of Maplewood for the purpose of developing and maintaining a community garden for non-commercial purposes only.

The permit agreement was extended annually through December 31, 2020, when it was allowed to expire due to the Board’s approval of a purchase agreement to PAK Properties for the premises. The purchase agreement was cancelled on January 30, 2022, because the buyer could not secure the needed financing during the Financing and Design Contingency Period of the purchase agreement.

The community garden has continued to operate on the premises since that time, however, GELC is no longer affiliated with the community garden. It is now being managed and operated by Rice Street Gardens (“RSG”), a Minnesota domestic nonprofit corporation. RSG has provided a written request for a 12-month extension of the Agreement through December 31, 2025.

Staff have prepared a new permit agreement naming RSG as the permit holder.

See attached Agreement.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval