



City of Saint Paul

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Minutes - Final

Legislative Hearings

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Thursday, August 22, 2024

9:00 AM

Room 330 City Hall & Court House/Remote

1 [SR 24-129](#)

Review Request of Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 99 ORANGE AVENUE WEST adopted by Council on August 7, 2024 under File RLH AR 24-50. (File No. J2420R, Assessment No. 248524)

Sponsors: Kim

Delete the assessment.

Robert Monson, owner, appeared

[Moermond gives background of appeals process]

Staff report by Supervisor Lisa Martin: a Summary Abatement Order was issued January 4, 2024 to remove and dispose of the chairs, plywood, cardboard and debris from rear of property. Compliance date of January 11, 2024. Wasn't removed, work order was sent for a total assessment of \$353. No mail returned.

Moermond: tell me why you appealed.

Monson: the guy next door moved in during 1983. I moved in October 1987. In 1993 they moved in and built a fence, they moved out in 1997. He left the wood between my wall and his fence. It was on his side. He moved out and 2000 a Mexican couple moved in and have been there ever since. They didn't build the fence, and the wood just sat there, I didn't think anything of it. Sat there for 27 years. The two chairs I admit are mine. But the wood on the side, and the people dumping, the troublemakers, dumping stuff all the time, trying to break into garages. Leave buckets full of cement to block the alley. When the stuff fell over because the fence is wobbly, it came onto my property. I didn't notice that, because it wasn't on my property, then my brother said the fence was wobbly. It wasn't mine. My mailbox has been vandalized many times. I recently bought a locking mailbox; people have been taking mail and stealing things. I put a stop to that. That could be the problem too, I never got it. I definitely would have. I just had my house remodeled. I take care of the yard. Mow once a week. Mattresses have been dumped in the street, City has to come pick them up. It is a mess where el live. I've been graffitied. Lots of trouble over there.

Moermond: graffiti on your property?

Monson: it was borderline, there's a retaining wall, mostly on his and the last letters on mine. Mostly on his. He cleaned it up. That's the opposite side of the fence.

Moermond: the City has a waiver form saying if graffiti shows up we'll send a letter

cleaning it up but if you don't the City will and there is no charge. That's what that waiver is. Then in your own time it can be repainted the color I want. We'll give you one of those so you don't have to worry about a bill in the future.

Monson: guy got killed on Maryland with his dog. They've been taking the copper lights on the street. Stoplights and everything. Tin Cups got closed down because of drugs and gun fighting. Real close to my house. That's for sale. Everything is boarded. I've been shot at at the Holiday on Plato. It has gotten bad over there.

Moermond: and you're in there taking care of your house and I really want to say that is great and it is people like you who turn things around by being good neighbors and constants in the neighborhood.

Monson: I have a small cat named Coco; he was a stray. He's my buddy. I worry about him because the guy next door is mean to him. You can't be mean to animals I like that. Trap and poison him. The kids have no discipline, they run around all night. I had a big cat that got killed. The lawn is taken care of. Garage is repainted. That stuff is almost 30 years old. It fell down and came on my property.

Moermond: I want to let you know I want to work with you and I have a note saying you only want to pay for the chairs. I also want to tell you about the bulky item pickup you already pay for as part of the garbage system. I'm going to recommend this is deleted, but I also want Ms. Martin to tell you some things you can do to help prevent the dumping.

Martin: it helps to put up a sign that says no dumping, under video surveillance.

Monson: I've seen those.

Moermond: you may not want to let Coco out when you aren't there. I used to do that when I had a cat. I let her out and kept an eye on her. Sounds like you've talked to animal control, but you can let them know about an instance of animal cruelty. Explain what happened. They should be able to help you with that.

Monson: he's ok now. When they killed Mika—

Moermond: I want you to call, people need to be held accountable. I recommend this is deleted.

Received and Filed