



MINUTES
Committee on City Operations
Monday, March 27, 2023 @ 3:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Spadafore called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Council Member Spadafore, Chair
Council Member Hussain, Vice-Chair - excused
Council Member Kost, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, OCA
Sergio Sousa, AAA Michigan Homes LLC

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MARCH 13, 2023 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Discussion/Action

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal #1922, AAA Michigan Homes LLC for \$8,978 in trash removal fees at 1119 Bement Street

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO REMOVE CLAIM #1922 FROM THE TABLE.
MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Council Member Spadafore outlined the past presentation in February, and there was a challenge with the timeline. The incident was 2021, per code compliance and claimant on the claim form. Date on photos was in military time, and does coincide with Eric's Refuse violation, and the staff photos coincide also. Council Member Spadafore spoke added details from the staff report.

Mr. Sousa stated the invoice states trash was removed twice, and there are cameras at the property, and those photos reflect no trash on the property. Items were noted it was left in the garage and that was the items that were removed once. He concluded it was illegally dumped once and removed once by Code. Council Member Spadafore clarified that the photos again.

Mr. Sousa appealed the cost of the invoice from the contractor. Council Member Spadafore noted it is expensive and has been bid out. Mr. Sousa appealed the time spent and the amount. Ms. Hagen- Lawrence confirmed the invoice the Committee is looking at is specifically trash, not grass. Mr. Sousa appealed for more time, because someone might be gone for 3 weeks, and not aware there is a violation. He added he contacted Code, but never got an invoice.

Council Member Kost stated there was a letter sent to property and 434 West St. Mr. Sousa stated that is not their address. Council Member Kost asked why when he got the notice, why he didn't pick it up, and Mr. Sousa stated code told them not to pick it up. Council Member Spadafore asked what was at the 434 West Street and Mr. Sousa stated it is another property they own.

Mr. Sousa asked, if he does not agree with the Committee then what, and Council Member Spadafore stated after this meeting it will go to City Council. After that the owner can appeal to circuit court directly through courts. Mr. Sousa asked who is checking on the contractor and voiced his concern on the contractor double billing. Mr. Sousa stated he is not arguing there was trash in December, but he appealed it was not as much as they stated in the invoice.

Council Member Kost asked if he is a contractor, why is there still a red tag on the property. Mr. Sousa stated he is trying to address it with funds, and then plans to sell all properties he has in Lansing.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO DENY THE RESOLUTION FOR THE CLAIM APPEAL #1922, AAA MICHIGAN HOMES LLC FOR \$8,978 IN TRASH REMOVAL FEES AT 1119 BEMENT STREET. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Special Assessment; Glenburne Commons, Trash & Grass Abatement
MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT;
GLENBURNE COMMONS, TRASH & GRASS ABATEMENT. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Claims Review Committee; expand claims authority to \$5,000
Council Member Spadafore explained this will raise the appeal limit at Claims Review Committee. It has historically been set to reflect small claims amounts, and as just informed that the amount in small claims is now at \$6,500. The consensus of the committee was to amend the resolution.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE AMENDED RESOLUTION TO STATE A CLAIMS OF \$6,500 OR LESS WILL GOT TO CLAIMS REVIEW COMMITTEE.
MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Other

No other topics

Adjourn

Adjourned at 3:51pm

Submitted by Sherrie Boak

Recording Secretary, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on