



MINUTES
Committee on City Operations
Wednesday, December 4, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Hussain called the meeting to order at 4:00pm

PRESENT

Council Member Jackson, Chair - unexcused
Council Member Hussain, Vice-Chair
Council Member Kost, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Richmond, Council Administrative Assistant
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, OCA
Greg Venker, OCA
Nick Montry, Deputy Director ED&P
Lior Ron
Colette Warren, attending virtual
Alex Priest

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 20, 2024, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public present.

Discussion/Action

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal #2064; C. Warren 524 Avon Street \$755 trash fees

Mr. Montry stated notice was given on 11/15/23 compliance due date of 11/22/23 and rechecked 12/1/23 the violation was still present, contractor arrived on 12/4/23 still present and was removed. Proper notice was given to the owner and occupant, the department recommends denial.

Councilmember Hussain asked regarding the invoice it states Eric's Refused but the staff report notes Crutcher are they the same, and with the extra yardage was a call made to the office for authorization. Mr. Montry confirmed they are the same person, and believes a call was made and authorized for additional yardage but going forward will make sure it is noted.

Councilmember Kost noted the photos don't support 6 yards. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence added this was heard at CRC and all were present and voted to deny claim.

Ms. Warren explained she was in and out of the hospital with COVID during this time and contacted Amy the inspector and she told Ms. Warren she didn't have time to go through the itemized invoice. Ms. Warren continued that she had people come and clean it up and then asked Amy to come back out to see if she got everything out, concluding items in the photos wasn't what was picked up and she shares a driveway with neighbor whom she believes was putting stuff there.

Councilmember Kost noted some confusion that Ms. Warren said she had someone come clean up, do we know anything about that Nick, was it different trash when they came out. Mr. Montry answered if you look at the photos and what's on the notice they are the said items.

Mr. Ron added looking at the photos it doesn't look like 6 cubic yards. Councilmember Kost asked Mr. Montry how they verify the yardage, he answered they rely on his knowledge of his business.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO GRANT AN ADJSUTMENT TO DEDUCT \$90 FROM THE AMOUNT OF \$755 FOR THE CLAIM APPEAL #2064; C. WARREN 524 AVON STREET LEAVING A BALANCE OF \$665 IN TRASH FEES. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal #2112; A. Priest 4417 Ballard Road \$475 Board Up Fees

Mr. Montry noted there was a missing window and the home was accessible. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence added this was heard on 10-10-2024 at CRC meeting, and recommended denial of claim appeal.

Mr. Priest argued that the amount is excessive noting a photo that had boards between the opening, and nobody could fit through. Councilmember Hussain explained unfortunately it is still open and accessible.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO DENY THE CLAIM APPEAL #2112; A. PRIEST 4417 BALLARD ROAD IN \$475 BOARD UP FEES. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal #2111; A. Priest 4417 Ballard Road \$1050 Red Tag Fees

Mr. Montry explained the home has been on NEAT Team and the department has procedures in place that they monitor monthly. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence stated this was also heard on 10-10-2024 and has nothing to add.

Mr. Priest stated he does not believe he incurred all those fees and complained about a former Code Officer and that he was stalling, not helping him, making excuses and stated he didn't have 3 hours of his time to go over things.

Mr. Montry added if he has a grievance there is a process, but with the employee gone nothing can be done on that situation, and stated there are no open or applied for permits. Councilmember Hussain asked when he purchase the property, Mr. Priest thought around October-September of 2023. Councilmember Hussain continued that when homes are purchased and have red tags he was fully aware of the responsibility, and Mr. Priest confirmed.

Councilmember Kost asked if he was flipping houses, Mr. Priest responded he primarily rents, but the cost of this one is making hard to rent. Councilmember Kost voiced it was bought in July 2023 for \$16,500 with red tag fees, a total of 23 violations with 9 of them since he bought it.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO DENY THE CLAIM APPEAL #2111; A. PRIEST 4417 BALLARD ROAD IN \$1050 RED TAG FEES. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal #2109; A. Priest 4417 Ballard Road \$2309 Trash Fees

At 33 mins

Mr. Montry noted this was cited on 1/24/24 and proper procedure and notice was sent. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence mentioned it was heard at CRC on 10-10-24, and understanding the CRC felt there was not enough photo evidence to support and did vote to grant a portion. Claimant did not accept so the full amount of \$2629 is the total amount due.

Mr. Priest referenced the photo from the street with the driveway snow covered and no date stamp on it with another photo with no snow stamped in Feb '24 and the trash. Feels the amount billed was excessive, along with labor cost, it doesn't take 4 men to take 4 hours.

Councilmember Kost asked how CRC came up with the \$320 grant, Ms. Hagen-Lawrence couldn't answer since she is not part of that Committee. Councilmember Hussain informed Mr. Priest they charge by the hour even if it takes 45 minutes and it is per person. Councilmember Kost noted there is no photo of the day cited and is willing to grant a portion.

RK – agree with CRC on 320 relief, and be fair, no photos on day of when cited, willing to grant 265 admin fee so partial grant of 585, for denial total of 2044

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO GRANT AN ADJUSTMET TO DEDUCT \$585 FROM THE ORIGINAL AMOUNT OF \$2629 FOR THE CLAIM APPEAL #2109; A. PRIEST 4417 BALLARD ROAD LEAVING A BALANCE OF \$2044 IN TRASH FEES. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Introduction and Set a Public Hearing; Amending Chapter 206, Preference for Local Bidders

Councilmember Hussain asked if law could address the questions from the previous meeting.

Mr. Venker noted that all concerns of consequences, if they lie about if the subcontractor is in the City and what type of enforcement, would all be addressed within the bidding contract not the Ordinance

COUNCILMEMBER KOST MADE A MOTION TO UNTABLE THE RESOLUTION TO INTRODUCTION AND SET A PUBLIC HEARING; AMENDING CHAPTER 206, PREFERENCE FOR LOCAL BIDDERS. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO INTRODUCTION AND SET A PUBLIC HEARING; AMENDING CHAPTER 206, PREFERENCE FOR LOCAL BIDDERS. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Other

Adjourn

Adjourned at 4:49 pm

Submitted by Renee Richmond

Recording Secretary, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on December 18, 2024