



## **MINUTES**

**Committee on General Services  
Wednesday, October 19, 2016, 2016 @ 9:30 a.m.  
City Council Conference Room, City Hall 10<sup>th</sup> Floor**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

Councilmember Tina Houghton, Chair  
Councilmember Carol Wood, Vice Chair  
Councilmember Patricia Spitzley, Member-excused

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager  
Robert Hudson  
Mohamd Khan  
Billie O'Berry, Assistant City Attorney  
Scott Sanford, Code Compliance

### **Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Public comment will be addressed during each agenda item.

### **Minutes**

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 21, 2016 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

### **RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal # 1296; R. Hudson; 815 Seymour Avenue**

Mr. Sanford updated the Committee on the violations on the property, and this claim is regarding the second violation on the property.

Mr. Hudson questioned why Code does not place a tag on the door instead of photos and letters, acknowledging that once he got the notice he did take care of the issue. Mr. Sanford informed Mr. Hudson that the code requires them to send the notification, and also states they need to take photos if they are going to fine. Council Member Wood also added that the repeat violation fee of \$75 was established to address repeat offenders. The City can no longer be the reminding factor without a charge. Mr. Hudson then submitted to them a rain gauge sheet for the months he was fined to explain his reasoning for not mowing.

Ms. O'Berry informed the Committee that Mr. Hudson was before the Claims Review Committee and was denied there as well.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO DENY THE CLAIM BASED ON CONTINUAL ISSUES AND THE FEE WAS THE FEE FOR A SECONDED CITATION. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Council Member Wood recommended Mr. Hudson reach out to Teen Challenge for assistance and told him that if his claim is denied at the Council meeting his next step is circuit court.

**RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal #1319; F. Khan; 418 Huron Street**

Mr. Sanford outlined the violation which included the date the property was cited, 12/15/2015 with a compliance date of 12/22/2015. Mr. Sanford's records noted the owner called 2/15/2016 and acknowledge they had received the bill and spoke to the premise inspector. The inspector informed Mr. Khan the only recourse was to file a claim, which was not done until the assessment appeared on the tax bill. Mr. Sanford acknowledged that even though the tax bill states "Board-Up Fee", there was no board up, but was all trash removal. The department recommends denial.

Mr. Khan did acknowledge he had gone before the claim review committee and they addressed the invoice and gave him a credit of \$78. Mr. Khan believed that the Committee overlooked the tax bill and the incorrect "Board-up Fee", and he wanted it known that the house is not a rental, but he had sold on a land contract logged with register of deeds. Council Member Wood questioned who the owner of record was and who could file the claim. Council Staff confirmed there was a new tax payer in the City Assessor system. Ms. O'Berry admitted it has to be the tax payer, however referenced the tax bill in the claim and it still had Mr. Khan's name on it, so he can be responsible and file the claim.

Council Member Wood asked if the "Board-Up Fee" on the bill should have been "Trash". Mr. Sanford confirmed it was a clerical administrative error. Council Member Wood then outlined the fees of \$518 and \$75 which totals the \$593 Mr. Khan was claiming, then less the \$78 the Claims Review Committee granted. With that reduction, the total was down to \$515, and if the \$75 second notice was reduced then the \$265 administrative fee the actual balance was \$175 for the trash.

Mr. Kahn asked for the Committee to consider removing the "Board-Up Fee" of \$253 off the tax bill in addition to the \$78 granted by the Claims Review Committee.

The Committee reviewed the photos of materials left in a recycling bin, and the debris from the neighboring property owned by the Land Bank on Mr. Khan's property.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO REDUCE THE CLAIM OF \$593 BY \$78 PER THE CLAIM REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION AND THEN DENY THE CLAIM FOR \$515. ADVISED THE CLAIMANT TO PURSUE WITH THE LAND BANK SINCE IT WAS THEIR ITEMS THAT WERE LEFT ON SITE AND CLEANED UP. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

**Placed on File**

- New SDM License for Dolgencorp, LLC at 5146 N Grand River Avenue
- New SDM License for Jawed Razmal at 3135 S Pennsylvania Avenue

Council Member Wood asked Ms. O'Berry about past discussions on establishing a regulation that a claim has to be filed within so many months after the violation. Ms. O'Berry confirmed the conversations and they had looked at the time frame from when the violation was billed.

Adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Submitted by Sherrie Boak, Office Manager,  
Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on November 16, 2016