



HEARING NOTES

Bill: 22-0204

Vacant Structures - 3-1-1 Complaint Fines

Committee: Economic and Community Development

Chaired By: Councilwoman Sharon Green Middleton

Hearing Date: February 7, 2023

Time (Beginning): 2:00 PM

Time (Ending): 2:18 PM

Location: Clarence "Du" Burns Council Chambers / Virtual WEBEX

Total Attendance: Approximately 50

Committee Members in Attendance:

John Bullock Ryan Dorsey Mark Conway Antonio Glover Robert Stokes Odette Ramos

Bill Synopsis in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Attendance sheet in the file?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Agency reports read?.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Video or audio-digitally recorded?.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Evidence of notification to property owners?.....	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> n/a
Final vote taken at this hearing?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> n/a

Motioned by:.....Councilmember

Seconded by:.....Councilmember

Final Vote:.....

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Councilmember Odette Ramos

- Hilary Ruley, Department of Law
- Brittany Vendryas, Environmental Control Board
- Jason Hessler, Department of Housing and Community Development

Major Issues Discussed

1. Chairwoman Middleton opened the meeting, introduced committee members and City representatives and read the bill into the record. She emphasized the need for agencies to submit reports in a timely fashion.
2. Councilmember Ramos explained her proposed amendments. She indicated that based on her amendments penalties for all failures to comply with notices or citations issued would be \$1000. A second citation within the next twelve months would also be penalized an additional \$1,000. A citation specifically for roof damage would also be an additional \$1,000 as well as a citation for high grass. The increase in penalties would help to qualify the vacant property for “In Rem” status.
3. Chairwoman Middleton read City Council Rule 11-3 *Change of purpose* into the record which states:

A bill may not be amended during its passage in the council by a direction to “strike out everything after the words ‘AN ORDINANCE concerning’ or by any other amendment or series of amendments that would have the effect of changing the original bill’s basic purpose.
4. Chairwoman Middleton asked the Law Department about compliance of the proposed amendment with City Council Rule 11-3. The committee discussed the proposed amendment. Chairwoman Middleton asked for an opinion in writing.
5. Councilman Conway inquired about implementation of the proposed changes by the Environmental Control Board. Jason Hessler and Betty Vendryas answered questions about processing citations and enforcement
6. The hearing was recessed due to technical audio issues.

Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes No

If yes, describe. See Major Issues Discussed

Committee Vote:

Sharon Green Middleton, Chair

John Bullock:

Mark Conway:

Ryan Dorsey:

Antonio Glover:.....
Robert Stokes:.....
Odette Ramos:

Jennifer L. Coates, Committee Staff

Date: February 7, 2023

cc: Bill File
OCS Chrono File