

To whom it may concern.

I am unable to attend the meeting, 1/24/2021 due to working 3rd shift. I will, however, be providing comments on agenda item 22-0106 as I am the homeowner of 1013 Denton St. My home was subject to unprovoked snow removal that I was then billed for.

I have reviewed the code as stated in the letter sent by the Chief Building Inspector. Please understand that the code is semi-ambiguous in its wording. Examples being, "sidewalk shall be cleared to full width", and "packed snow shall be treated with [salt] until such a time it can be removed". Code does not state that snow must be cleared to bare pavement, this distinction is important to me because I have lived in this dwelling for 3 years and have never received a snow violation in that time. I always use my electric snowblower to remove snow from walkways and my personal driveway.

Additionally, it feels as though the city is accusing me of failing to salt my sidewalk, which is not the case, and that is peculiar because the water works bill just sent to me via the city, asked us citizens to moderate the use of salt carefully as the city uses it for roadways. This is not only confusing but causes more ambiguity of what is too much and what is not enough.

Truthfully most arguments are hyperbole because I could accept the fine if and only if the city had notified me of the violation to begin with. Citizens should not be reasonably expected to be aware of all applicable city ordinances because there are simply too many of them. In some regards, my Section 8 rights (often referred to as Amendment 8 on the bill of rights) are being violated.

Please allow me to explain. I work 40 hours per week and make \$8.50 per hour working for a local food establishment. My wage then works out to \$1,430 USD per month and the fine I am being charged is \$212.xx USD. That amounts to ~15% of my monthly income and per amendment 8 no excessive fines shall be imposed on a sovereign (often called a US Citizen). We can all agree that ~15% of someone's monthly income (before taxes even) is excessive by all justification.

All of this could be forgiven in my eyes if the city had left me some kind of notice. Instead I received no emails, no phone calls, no letters, not even a sticky note on my door/car. How can someone be in the wrong when they have been given no rightful opportunity to correct the issue? They simply cannot and are being fined without due process.

I worry for my community as the powage-hamilton district is largely low income with low income rentals and the city is increasingly gentrifying the area. This type of thing would be largely ignored but when poverty stricken and underserved communities are fined without notice, it's hard to ignore the feeling of blatant disregard and overreach.

I ask the board to please reconsider the large fine imposed upon me, as it will cause measurable consequences to me financially.

-Ronald DeLong