

STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 8, 2021

DISCUSSION

AGENDA ITEM: Commercial Assessment Review for Old Village Phase 5 and 6 Improvements

SUBMITTED BY: Jack Griffin, City Engineer

REVIEWED BY: Kristina Handt, City Administrator

Chad Isakson, Assistant City Engineer

ISSUE BEFORE COUNCIL: Should the city revise the assessment methodology or assessment amounts for the commercial properties for the Old Village Phase 5 and 6 Street and Utility Improvements?

BACKGROUND: On March 16, 2021 the city council held a public improvement hearing for the Old Village Phase 5 and 6 Street and Utility Improvements, after accepting the Feasibility Report at the February 16, 2021 council meeting. Following the hearing, the council passed a Resolution Ordering the Improvements and awarding a construction contract. The improvements include street and drainage improvements; watermain improvements; sanitary sewer improvements including new municipal sanitary sewer service to replace individual on-site septic systems; a reconstructed bituminous street with new concrete curb and gutter; and a repair or restoration of the existing street drainage system.

With this action, the preliminary assessment roll was adopted in accordance with the Feasibility report dated February 2021. However, after receiving public input regarding the applicability, assessment methodology and preliminary assessment amount for several commercial assessments along Upper 33rd Street North, the council directed staff to complete a review of all commercial assessments on the project prior to the adoption of the final assessment roll.

PROPOSAL DETAILS/ANALYSIS: In accordance with the City's Special Assessment Policy the city council has broad authority for determining the methodology and amount to be assessed to the benefitting properties for public improvement projects, as long as the Special Assessments are in accordance with Minnesota Statutes Chapter 429, and meet the following three criteria:

- The property must have received special benefit from the improvement.
- The amount of the assessment must not exceed the special benefit.
- The assessment must be uniform in relation to the same class of property within the assessment area.

It is important to recognize that the actual cost of extending an improvement past a particular parcel is not the determining factor in determining the amount to be assessed. However, in most cases the method for determining the value of the benefit received by the improvement, and therefore the amount to be assessed, shall be the cost of providing the improvement, as long as the cost does not exceed the increase in the market value of the property being assessed. While there is no perfect assessment policy, it is important that assessments be implemented in a reasonable, consistent manner.

At the workshop, staff will present preliminary assessment calculations using each of the applicable assessment methods outlined in the City's Special Assessment Policy to assist the council with determining how best to uniformly allocate the improvement costs to the benefitting commercial properties.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Make no changes to the Preliminary Assessment Roll adopted on March 16, 2021.
- 2) Direct staff to make changes to the assessments for the commercial properties when preparing the Final Assessment Roll for adoption, and specify the assessment methodology to be used.
- 3) Direct staff to prepare additional assessment review for continued discussion and review by council.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Preliminary Assessment Roll.
- Planning Department Review and Analysis of Commercial Properties along Upper 33rd Street N.
- Section I. General Policy Statement (pages 3 and 4 of the City's Special Assessment Policy).
- Section VI. Methods of Assessment (pages 14-16 of the City's Special Assessment Policy).

OLD VILLAGE PHASE 5 AND 6: STREET AND UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS 32ND STREET NEIGHBORHOOD PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT ROLL

1													TOTAL ASSESSMENT	STREET AND DRAINAGE ASSESSMENT	STREET AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT	COMMERCIAL PROPERTY STREET FRONT	SANITARY SEWER ASSESSMENT	
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44 BERG JEFFREY J & DEBORAH L 3271 LAMPERT AVE N 3271 LAMPERT AVE N 45 LENGYEL DAVID J 3330 LAMPERT AVE N 33	42		3309	LAMPERT	AVE N	3309	LAMPERT	AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042				1		\$12,500.00	1
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45 LENCYEL DAVID J 3330 LAMPERT AVEN 3330 LAMPERT AVEN 3330 LAMPERT AVEN 3316 LAMPERT AVEN 3316 LAMPERT AVEN 3316 LAMPERT AVEN LAKE ELMO MN 55042 1302921320073 526,200.00 \$13,700.00 1 \$12,500.00 46 ARNDT JARRIETT & HOAGIER AVEN 3266 LAMPERT AVEN 3266 LAMPERT AVEN LAKE ELMO MN 55042 1302921320073 526,200.00 \$13,700.00 1 \$12,500.00 48 VICEDAHL RODGER LE PATRICIA L 3268 LAMPERT AVEN N 268 LAMPERT AVEN LAKE ELMO MN 55042 1302921320073 526,200.00 \$13,700.00 1 \$12,500.00 49 KOTOWSKI SUSAN & TADEAUS 3311 KRAFT CIRN AVEN N 268 LAMPERT AVEN N LAKE ELMO MN 55042 1302921320073 526,200.00 \$13,700.00 1 \$12,500.00 50 LEIKAM DAVID \$8 ANNEM 3311 KRAFT CIRN 14KE ELMO MN 55042 1402921410010 \$26,200.00 \$13,700.00 1 \$12,500.00 51 PLATZ ROBERT \$8 PAMELA JB 3211 KRAFT CIRN 3265 KRAFT CIRN 3265 KRAFT CIRN N 2641 LAKE ELMO MN 55042 1402921410011 \$26,200.00 \$13,700.00 1 \$12,500.00 52 DESCHAMP-SCHMITZ MANDIE L 3265 KRAFT CIRN 3265 KRAFT CIRN N 2645 KRAFT CIRN N 2656 KRAFT CIRN 3265 KRAFT CIRN 3265 KRAFT CIRN 3265 KRAFT CIRN N 2656 KRAFT CIRN 3265 KRAFT	44	BERG JEFFREY J & DEBORAH L	3271	LAMPERT	AVE N	3271	LAMPERT	AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320065	\$26,200.00	\$13,700.00	1		\$12,500.00	1
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53 VIVONA DANIEL M 54 STEINKE DOUGLAS & KATHRYN M SCHIFFERDECKER 55 CITY OF LAKE ELMO 56 STARK MICHAEL & ANNE 57 MOLLERUD COLTON & STEPHANIE OLSON 58 GORMAN JASON 59 JOHNSTON PETER & NATALIE A 510 SUSS STARK STEPLANE 59 JOHNSTON PETER & NATALIE A 510 SUSS STARK STEPLANE 50 SUSS STARK STEPLANE 510 SUSS STARK STEPLANE 52 STARK STEPLANE 53 STARK STEPLANE 54 STEPLANE 55 CITY OF LAKE ELMO 56 STARK MICHAEL & ANNE 56 STARK MICHAEL & ANNE 57 MOLLERUD COLTON & STEPHANIE OLSON 58 GORMAN JASON 59 JOHNSTON PETER & NATALIE A 510 SUSS STARK STEPLANE 59 JOHNSTON PETER & NATALIE A 510 SUSS STARK STEPLANE 50 SUSS STARK STEPLANE 510 SUSS STARK STEPLANE 510 SUSS STARK STEPLANE 511 SUSS STARK STEPLANE 512 STARK STEPLANE 512 STARK STEPLANE 512 STARK STEPLANE 513 STARK STEPLANE 514 STARK STA	51	PLATZ ROBERT T & PAMELA JB	3281	KRAFT	CIR N	3281	KRAFT	CIR N	LAKE ELMO	MN		1402921410011	\$26,200.00	\$13,700.00	1		\$12,500.00	1
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61 MISENER JEREMY P & HOLLY M 10906 33RD ST LN N 10902 33RD ST LN N 10															_			1
62 BRENNAN MARTIN 10902 33RD ST LN N 10902 33RD ST LN N LAKE ELMO MN 55042 1402921410016 \$26,200.00 \$13,700.00 1 \$12,500.00 65.5 \$750,000.00 6																		1
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	62	BRENNAN MARTIN	10902	33RD ST	LN N	10902	33RD ST	LN N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1402921410016	\$26,200.00	\$13,700.00	1		\$12,500.00	1
													4					
	anastias!-	PED represent commercial lot or apartment building										TOTAL	\$1,670,750.00	\$920,750.00	65.5		\$750,000.00	60

^{*}Properties in RED represent commercial lot or apartment building

^{**}Properties in BLACK reprsent residential lots
*Properties in BLUE represent subdividable parcels

OLD VILLAGE PHASE 5 AND 6: STREET AND UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS UPPER 33RD STREET NORTH PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT ROLL

											TOTAL ASSESSMENT	STREET AND DRAINAGE ASSESSMENT	STREET FRONT	SANITARY SEWER ASSESSMENT	
NO.	NAME		ADDRESS			MAILING	G ADDRESS			PID	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	FOOTAGE	AMOUNT	SAC
1	SIMICH CHAD & KELLY	11123	UPPER 33RD ST N	1340	PARIS	TR N	STILLWATER	MN	55082	1302921320096	\$33,668.00	\$21,168.00	98	\$12,500.00	1
2	SIMICH CHAD & KELLY			1340	PARIS	TR N	STILLWATER	MN	55082	1302921320085	\$5,400.00	\$5,400.00	25	\$0.00	0
3	LAKE ELMO INN INC			PO	BOX 182		LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320010	\$40,176.00	\$40,176.00	186	\$0.00	0
4	QWEST			1025	ELDORADO	BLVD	BROOMFIELD	CO	80021	1302921320008	\$12,960.00	\$12,960.00	60	\$0.00	0
5	JOHNSON ELIZABETH M			PO	BOX 403		LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320009	\$12,960.00	\$12,960.00	60	\$0.00	0
6	NOVAK PAUL R			3413	LAKE ELMO	AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320007	\$32,400.00	\$32,400.00	150	\$0.00	0
7	JOHNSON ELIZABETH M			PO	BOX 403		LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320086	\$50,760.00	\$50,760.00	235	\$0.00	0
8	LAKE ELMO INN INC	11104	UPPER 33RD ST N	PO	BOX 182		LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320047	\$23,300.00	\$10,800.00	50	\$12,500.00	1
9	MARTIN DANIEL D	11090	UPPER 33RD ST N	10941	32ND	ST N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320048	\$23,300.00	\$10,800.00	50	\$12,500.00	1
10	MARTIN DANIEL D			10941	32ND	ST N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320049	\$10,800.00	\$10,800.00	50	\$0.00	0
11	NOVAK PAUL R	11074	UPPER 33RD ST N	3413	LAKE ELMO	AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320050	\$20,100.00	\$7,600.00	150	\$12,500.00	1
12	NOVAK PAUL R			3413	LAKE ELMO	AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320051	\$10,800.00	\$10,800.00	50	\$0.00	0
13	NOVAK PAUL R			3413	LAKE ELMO	AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320052	\$27,000.00	\$27,000.00	125	\$0.00	0
14	DUNN ROBERT B TRUST & SUSAN C HOPPER DUNN TRUST	11018	UPPER 33RD ST N	PO	BOX 153		LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320090	\$20,100.00	\$7,600.00	125	\$12,500.00	1
15	MARTIN JILL M TRUST	11002	UPPER 33RD ST N	11002	UPPER33RE	ST N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320054	\$20,100.00	\$7,600.00	76	\$12,500.00	1
16	LAKE ELMO INN INC	3442	LAKE ELMO AVE N	РО	BOX 182		LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320046	\$26,568.00	\$26,568.00	123	\$0.00	0
										TOTAL	\$370,392.00	\$295,392.00		\$75,000.00	6

^{*}Properties in RED represent commercial lots

^{**}Properties in BLACK reprsent residential lots

OLD VILLAGE PHASE 5 AND 6: STREET AND UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS 34TH STREET NORTH PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT ROLL

NO.	NAME		ADDRESS			MAILIN	G ADDRESS			PID	TOTAL ASSESSMENT AMOUNT	STREET AND DRAINAGE ASSESSMENT AMOUNT	STREET AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT UNITS	SANITARY SEWER ASSESSMENT AMOUNT	SAC
1	JOHNSON STEPHEN D	11105	34TH ST N	2915	LAKE ELMO	AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320020	\$23,600.00	\$23,600.00	4	\$0.00	0
2	EVERSON ELIZABETH A	11075	34TH ST N	11075	34TH	ST N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320018	\$18,400.00	\$5,900.00	1	\$12,500.00	1
3	GUSTAFSON STEPHEN TRS	11051	34TH ST N	11051	34TH	ST N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320017	\$18,400.00	\$5,900.00	1	\$12,500.00	1
4	SCHILTZ GREGORY & COLLEEN	11098	34TH ST N	PO	BOX 175		LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320023	\$5,900.00	\$5,900.00	1	\$0.00	0
5	EDER JOEL R & JUDITH H	11082	34TH ST N	PO	BOX 127		LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320024	\$18,400.00	\$5,900.00	1	\$12,500.00	1
6	JOHN F SCHULTZ TRUST	11072	34TH ST N	721	10TH	AVE N	SOUTH ST PAUL	MN	55075	1302921320015	\$18,400.00	\$5,900.00	1	\$12,500.00	1
7	CITY OF LAKE ELMO			3880	LAVERNE	AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921320012	\$5,900.00	\$5,900.00	1	\$0.00	0
										TOTAL	\$109,000.00	\$59,000.00	10	\$50,000.00	4

^{*}Properties in RED represent apartment building

^{**}Properties in BLACK reprsent residential lots

OLD VILLAGE PHASE 5 AND 6: STREET AND UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS 36TH STREET AREA PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT ROLL

NO.	NAME		ADDRESS		MAILING	ADDRESS			PID	TOTAL ASSESSMENT AMOUNT	STREET AND DRAINAGE ASSESSMENT AMOUNT	SANITARY SEWER ASSESSMENT AMOUNT	SAC
1	ZIEMER MICHAEL R & KAREN A	11091	STILLWATER BLVD N	11091	STILLWATER BLVD N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921230043	\$12,500.00	\$0.00	\$12,500.00	1
2	GROBNER JOSHUA A	11079	STILLWATER BLVD N	11079	STILLWATER BLVD N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921230042	\$12,500.00	\$0.00	\$12,500.00	1
3	BAILLIE JOHN W II & MARGARET J GUILFOYLE	11051	STILLWATER BLVD N	11051	STILLWATER BLVD N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921230067	\$37,500.00	\$0.00	\$37,500.00	3
4	EDWARD THOMAS GORMAN FAMILY LIVING TRUST	11011	STILLWATER BLVD N	12660	12TH ST N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921230071	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00	16
									TOTAL	\$262 500 00	\$0.00	\$262 500 00	21

^{*}Properties in RED represent commercial lots

^{**}Properties in BLACK reprsent residential lots

OLD VILLAGE PHASE 5 AND 6: STREET AND UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS LAKE ELMO AVENUE (PRIVATE DRIVEWAY) PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT ROLL

NO.	NAME	ADDRESS		MAILIN	G ADDRESS			PID	TOTAL ASSESSMENT AMOUNT	WATERMAIN ASSESSMENT AMOUNT	SANITARY SEWER ASSESSMENT AMOUNT	SAC
1	WALDEMAR JAMES D & BARBARA W	3407 LAKE ELMO AVE N	3407	LAKE ELMO AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921310004	\$39,500.00	\$27,000.00	\$12,500.00	1
2	CHAPMAN JASON & ERIN	3409 LAKE ELMO AVE N	9580	53RD ST N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921310004	\$39,500.00	\$27,000.00	\$12,500.00	1
2	SCHWARZ MICHAEL	3411 LAKE ELMO AVE N	4715	LAKE ELMO AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921310013	\$39,500.00	\$27,000.00	\$12,500.00	1
3	NOVAK PAUL R	3411 LAKE ELMO AVE N	3413	LAKE ELMO AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921310020	\$39,500.00	\$27,000.00	\$12,500.00	1
4												1
5	MACTAVISH KELSEY	3415 LAKE ELMO AVE N	3415	LAKE ELMO AVE N	LAKE ELMO	MN	55042	1302921310008	\$39,500.00	\$27,000.00	\$12,500.00	1
								TOTAL	\$197,500,00	\$135,000,00	\$62,500,00	- 5

Review and Analysis of Upper 33rd Street Properties - April 2, 2021

City of Lake Elmo Planning Department

PIN: 13-029-21-32-0086

Owner: Liz Johnson

Size: 0.25 acres

Location: South side of Upper 33rd Street, south of UP Railroad

Land Use Plan designation: VMX – (Village Mixed Use)

Zoning: VMX (per City Resolution 08-176 adopted on May 2, 2017) **Note:** VMX zoning allows for a variety of land uses including residential and commercial uses. <u>Many of the land uses listed in the VMX zoning code require City approval of a conditional use permit (CUP).</u>

Required Setbacks: 0 feet on front, 10 feet minimum on rear, 0 feet to side (if not abutting residential, 10 feet minimum if abutting residentially zoned parcels or those with residential uses).

Maximum Impervious Surface Allowed: 75 percent

Existing Lot Depth: approx. 27 feet north-south

Summary: It appears unlikely that a structure of any type could be placed on this parcel as the maximum depth it could be is 17 feet while meeting the City-required front and rear yard building setbacks.

PIN 13-029-21-32-0052

Owner: Paul Novak

Size: 12,499 square feet (125 by 100) 0.29 acres

Location: North side of Upper 33rd Street, east of 11018 Upper 33rd Street

Land Use Plan designation: VMX (village mixed use)

Zoning: VMX (per City Resolution 08-176 adopted on May 2, 2017). Had been zoned GB (general

business) previous to the VMX zoning in 2017.

Minimum Lot Area: Non-Residential use – none

Minimum Lot Width: commercial use - none

Required Setbacks: Front yard - non-residential use – shall maintain the prevailing setback of that block

or a maximum setback of 20 feet, whichever is less.

Rear Yard Setback: all uses - 10 feet minimum

Maximum Impervious Surface Allowed: 75 percent

Summary: Based on the existing VMX zoning, this parcel should be buildable for a commercial (non-residential) use based on its size while meeting all the VMX zoning standards.

PIN 13-029-21-32-0051

Owner: Paul Novak

Size: 5,000 square feet (50 by 100), 0.115 acres

Location: North side of Upper 33rd Street, west of 11074 Upper 33rd Street

Land Use Plan designation: VMX (village mixed use)

Zoning: VMX (per City Resolution 08-176 adopted on May 2, 2017). Had been zoned GB (general

business) previous to the VMX zoning in 2017.

Minimum Lot Area: Non-Residential use - none

Minimum Lot Width: commercial - none

Required Setbacks: Front yard - non-residential use – shall maintain the prevailing setback of that block

or a maximum setback of 20 feet, whichever is less.

Rear Yard Setback: all uses - 10 feet minimum

Maximum Impervious Surface Allowed: 75 percent

Summary: Based on the size and shape of this property, it appears buildable for commercial (non-

residential) land uses while meeting all the VMX zoning standards.

PIN 13-029-21-32-0007

Owner: Paul Novak

Size: 3,049 square feet (18 x 169), 0.07acres

Location: South side of Upper 33rd Street, west of existing storage garage building

Land Use Plan designation: VMX (village mixed use)

Zoning: VMX (per City Resolution 08-176 adopted on May 2, 2017). Had been zoned GB (general

business) previous to the VMX zoning in 2017.

Minimum Lot Area: Non-Residential use – none, SF residential – 9,000 square feet

Minimum Lot Width: commercial – none, SF residential – 70 feet

Required Setbacks: Front yard - non-residential use - shall maintain the prevailing setback of that block or

a maximum setback of 20 feet, whichever is less. SF detached - 25 feet minimum

Rear Yard Setback: all uses - 10 feet minimum

Maximum Impervious Surface Allowed: 75 percent

Summary: It appears that no structure of any type could be placed on this parcel as no structure would fit on the parcel while meting the City required front and rear building setbacks.

PIN 13-029-21-32-0009

Owner: Elizabeth Johnson

Size: 1,307 square feet, 0.03 acres

Location: South side of Upper 33rd Street

Land Use Plan designation: VMX (village mixed use)

Zoning: VMX (per City Resolution 08-176 adopted on May 2, 2017). Had been zoned GB (general

business) previous to the VMX zoning in 2017.

Minimum Lot Area: Non-Residential use - none

Minimum Lot Width: commercial use - none

Required Setbacks: Front yard - non-residential use - shall maintain the prevailing setback of that block

or a maximum setback of 20 feet, whichever is less.

Rear Yard Setback: all uses - 10 feet minimum

Maximum Impervious Surface Allowed: 75 percent

Existing Use: Storage building (with 4 garage stalls)

Summary: This property has a legal non-conforming commercial structure due to the amount of impervious surface on the parcel and because the setbacks of the existing building not meeting current.

City code standards.

PIN 13-029-21-32-0008

Owner: Qwest (CenturyLink)

Size: 1,307 square feet, 0.03 acres

Location – South side of Upper 33rd Street

Land Use Plan designation – VMX (village mixed use)

Zoning–VMX (per City Resolution 08-176 adopted on May 2, 2017). Had been zoned GB (general

business) previous to the VMX zoning in 2017.

Minimum Lot Area: Non-Residential use - none

Minimum Lot Width: commercial use - none

Required Setbacks: Front yard - non-residential use - shall maintain the prevailing setback of that block

or a maximum setback of 20 feet, whichever is less.

Rear Yard Setback: all uses - 10 feet minimum

Maximum Impervious Surface Allowed: 75 percent

Existing Use: building for telecommunications equipment

Summary: This property has a legal non-conforming commercial structure due to the setbacks of the existing building not meeting current City code standards.

PIN: 13-029-21-32-0010

Owner: Lake Elmo Inn

Size: 3,485 square feet, 0.08 acres

Location – South side of Upper 33rd Street

Land Use Plan designation – VMX (village mixed use)

Zoning—VMX (per City Resolution 08-176 adopted on May 2, 2017). Had been zoned GB (general business) previous to the VMX zoning in 2017.

Minimum Lot Area: Non-Residential use - none

Minimum Lot Width: commercial uses - none

Required Setbacks: Front yard - non-residential use – shall maintain the prevailing setback of that block or a maximum setback of 20 feet, whichever is less.

Rear Yard Setback: all uses - 10 feet minimum

Maximum Impervious Surface Allowed: 75 percent

Existing Use: paved for commercial business parking

Summary: Due to the shape of the property and the required building setbacks, this property could not have a structure of any type constructed on it that would meet all City zoning standards.

PIN: 13-029-21-32-0085

Owner; Simich IV

Size: 436 square feet, 0.01 acres

Location – South side of Upper 33rd Street

Land Use Plan designation – VMX (village mixed use)

Zoning—VMX (per City Resolution 08-176 adopted on May 2, 2017). Had been zoned GB (general business) previous to the VMX zoning in 2017.

Minimum Lot Area: Non-Residential use – none

Minimum Lot Width: commercial use - none

Required Setbacks: Front yard - non-residential use – shall maintain the prevailing setback of that block or a maximum setback of 20 feet, whichever is less.

Rear Yard Setback: all uses - 10 feet minimum

Maximum Impervious Surface Allowed: 75 percent

Existing Use: This property is part of a site with an existing commercial business (with PIN 13-029-32-0096)

Summary: This property has an existing non-conforming commercial structure. The size and type of existing development on the property is non-conforming due to the amount of impervious surface on the property and because the setbacks of the existing building do not meet current City code standards.

PIN: 13-029-21-32-0096

Owner; Simich IV

Size: 3,920 square feet, 0.09 acres

Location: South side of Upper 33rd Street

Land Use Plan designation: VMX (village mixed use)

Zoning: VMX (per City Resolution 08-176 adopted on May 2, 2017). Had been zoned GB (general

business) previous to the VMX zoning in 2017.

Minimum Lot Area: Non-Residential use – none

Minimum Lot Width: commercial uses – none

Required Setbacks – Front yard - non-residential use – shall maintain the prevailing setback of that block or a maximum setback of 20 feet, whichever is less.

Rear Yard Setback: all uses - 10 feet minimum

Maximum Impervious Surface Allowed: 75 percent

Existing Use: This property is part of a site with an existing commercial business (With PIN 13-029-21-

00085)

Summary: This property has a legal non-conforming commercial structure due to the existing building setbacks not meeting current City code standards.

SECTION I. GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT

A special assessment is a levy on a property to defray the cost of public improvements. Chapter 429 of the Minnesota Statutes grants cities the authority to use special assessments as a mechanism to finance a broad range of public improvements. The primary purpose of special assessments is to have the properties that benefit from the public improvements pay as much of the cost of the improvements as reasonable, thereby reducing a city's reliance on general property taxes. However, Chapter 429 of the Minnesota Statutes limits the amount that may be assessed to the increase in the market value of the property being assessed as a result of the public improvement.

The purpose of this Special Assessment Policy is to establish a fair and equitable manner of recovering and distributing the cost of public improvements. The procedures used by the City of Lake Elmo ("City") for levying special assessments are those specified by Minnesota Statutes § Chapter 429, which provides that "all or a part of the cost of improvements may be assessed against benefiting properties." This assessment policy is intended to serve as a general guide for a systematic assessment process in the City of Lake Elmo.

Special Assessments must meet the following criteria:

- A. The land must have received special benefit from the improvement.
- B. The amount of the assessment must not exceed the special benefit.
- C. The assessment must be uniform in relation to the same class of property within the assessment area.

It is important to recognize that the actual cost of extending an improvement past a particular parcel is not the determining factor in determining the amount to be assessed. However, in most cases the method for determining the value of the benefit received by the improvement, and therefore the amount to be assessed, shall be the cost of providing the improvement, as long as the cost does not exceed the increase in the market value of the property being assessed. The entire project shall be considered as a whole for the purpose of calculating and computing an assessment rate. In the event City staff has doubt as to whether or not the costs of the project

may exceed the special benefits to the property, the City Council may obtain such appraisals as may be necessary to support the proposed assessment.

The City must recover the expense of installing public improvements undertaken, while ensuring that each parcel pays its fair share of the project cost in accordance with these assessment guidelines. While there is no perfect assessment policy, it is important that assessments be implemented in a reasonable, consistent and fair manner. There may be exceptions to the policy or unique circumstances or situations that may require special consideration and discretion by City staff and the City Council.

SECTION VI. METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

A. GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT

The City of Lake Elmo has adopted the following three methods for assessment of public improvements: fixed cost unit, adjusted front footage, and by area method. For any particular project one of these methods will more adequately reflect the true benefits received in the assessment area than the other methods. The City Engineer, in his Feasibility Study to the Council, will recommend one or a combination of these methods for each project, based upon past practices and the method that would best reflect the benefit received for the area to be assessed. The City Council will select the preferred method of calculating the assessments at the time the project is ordered.

The general rule is to assess platted residential lots using the "unit" assessment basis; however, where platted residential lots do not reflect a general similar size and shape, consideration will be given to an adjusted front footage basis. Commercial, institutional, and industrial lots will be assessed on an adjusted front footage basis; however, consideration will be given to a "unit" assessment if the special benefit to the property in the district is essentially the same. The methods of assessment outlined within this policy are not intended to be an exhaustive list of acceptable approaches. The Council may adopt alternative approaches as they deem necessary to fairly and equitably allocate assessments for unique situations.

B. ASSESSMENT METHODS

The following methods of assessment, as described and defined below, are hereby established as the official methods of assessment in the City of Lake Elmo:

1. Fixed Cost "Unit" Method of Assessment

When it has been determined to assess by the "unit" method, all lots within the benefited area shall be assessed equally for the improvements.

The "fixed cost per unit" shall be defined as a quotient of the "assessable cost" divided by the total assessable lots or parcels benefiting from the improvement.

For the purpose of determining the "units" or "parcels", all parcels, including governmental agencies, shall be included in such calculations.

When large lots can be subdivided into more than one lot, the number of assessable lots attributed to that parcel will be determined from the number of potential future lots that could be obtained using current subdivision regulations.

For multi-family, commercial, industrial and institutional properties, the number of fixed units assigned to the property may be determined by an equivalent "residential" factor representing the properties use compared to a single family residential home (e.g. SAC units, WAC units, or standard traffic generation units).

2. "Adjusted Front Footage" Method of Assessment

When it has been determined to assess by the "Adjusted Front Footage" method, the "cost per adjusted front foot", or assessment rate, shall be defined as the quotient of the "assessable cost" divided by the total assessable frontage benefiting from the improvement. The assessment for each parcel is then obtained by multiplying the assessment rate times the adjusted front footage for each property. For the purpose of determining the "assessable frontage", all properties, including governmental agencies, shall have their frontages included in such calculation.

The actual physical dimensions of a parcel abutting an improvement (i.e., street, sewer, water, etc.) shall NOT be construed as the frontage utilized to calculate the assessment for a particular parcel. Rather, an "adjusted front footage" will be determined. In the Adjustment Front Footage method, odd shaped lots are adjusted to an average footage that would be the equivalent to the frontage of a rectangular shaped lot of the same area and depth. The purpose of this method is to equalize assessment calculations for lots of similar size.

3. "Area" Method of Assessment

When it has been determined to assess by the "area" method, the area shall be defined as the number of square feet or acres within the boundaries of the appropriate property lines of the areas benefiting from the project. The assessment rate (i.e. cost per square foot) shall be calculated by dividing the

total assessable cost by the total assessable area. The assessment for each parcel is then obtained by multiplying the assessment rate times the benefitting area of the parcel. On large lots, the City Engineer may determine that only a portion of the lot receives the benefit and may select a lot depth for the calculations equal to the benefit received.

For the purposes of defining assessable areas, all properties included in the benefited area, including other governmental areas, churches, etc. shall be included in the assessable areas. The following items may not be included in area calculations: public right-of-ways, natural waterways, swamps and lakes or other wetlands designated by the Mn/DNR. The City Engineer will make the recommendation on the benefited area in the Feasibility Report.