


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	25-156	Meeting:	April 21, 2025
	Agenda Item:	13	Roll Call:	25-0563
	Submitted by:	Chris Johansen, Neighborhood Services Department Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Resolution authorizing release of special assessments for 1904 11th Street acquired through the tax sale certificate process.

SYNOPSIS:

The City has requested and been issued the tax sale deed for 1904 11th Street. Releasing the special assessments against the property will clear the title and allow rehabilitation and redevelopment.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This request is to abate \$6,753.79 in special assessments.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The special assessments against the property were all issued against the previous owner. That owner has been unresponsive to addressing the issues, paying the fines or taxes or throughout the tax sale process. The listed special assessments are not removed through the tax sale process as they were issued after the taxes were sold and certificate issued.
- 1904 11th Street is currently a vacant lot. It is in the City's best interest to release the assessments encumbering this property to make the lot marketable for redevelopment. The property previously had a public nuisance structure that was demolished, and this is one (1) more step towards stabilizing the property. Neighborhood Services staff is currently working to identify a path forward for the property.
- City staff are also in communication with Polk County and Des Moines Water Works to abate their special assessments and back taxes on the property.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: June 3, 2024

Roll Call Number: [24-0802](#)

Action: [Request](#) to Polk County Treasurer and approving agreements with nonprofits for assignment of tax sale certificates for various properties for development and/or rehabilitation of housing. ([Council Communication No. 24-236](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Neighborhood Services will continue the redevelopment process including securing proposals for acquisition and rehab or redevelopment, setting the date of and holding public hearings on each of the properties.

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