

RESOLUTION NUMBER 30

WHEREAS, the enactment of Ordinance 56054 in 1971 approved the adopted of the provisions of the Municipal Land Reutilization Law, as codified in Section 92.700 et. seq. RSMo., as the City's procedure for the collection of delinquent property taxes; and

WHEREAS, since that time the Land Reutilization Authority (LRA) has acquired title to thousands of properties in the City of St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, property held by LRA is subject to the provisions of Section 92.700 et seq RSMo. and the sale of such property to private individuals and developers must be approved by the LRA Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, at any one time LRA has possession of hundreds of side lots which are not suitable for development, a nuisance to the neighborhood, full of debris and overgrown with weeds and not subject to taxation; and

WHEREAS, if these properties were transferred to adjacent property owners they would be properly maintained, once again subject to property tax and an enhancement to the property of the new owner and to the entire community; and

WHEREAS, the current LRA Commission appears reluctant to properly address this growing neighborhood issue and develop appropriate procedures designed to quickly return these properties to the tax rolls;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we direct the Public Safety Committee to convene hearings for the purpose of ascertaining the current policy regarding the transfer of title to side lots owned by the Land Reutilization Authority; to investigate the extent to which these properties are in compliance with the City's health and property maintenance codes and to make recommendations as to how these properties can be successfully returned to private ownership.

We further direct that the Public Safety Committee is authorized to issue subpoenas to compel the testimony or the production of documents, if necessary, to aid in this examination.

Introduced on the 19th day of May, 2006by:

Honorable Charles Quincy Troupe, Alderman 1st Ward

Adopted this the 19th day of May, 2006 as attested:

Patrick J. Connaghan
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

James F. Shrewsbury
President, Board of Aldermen

