CITY OF DERBY

BLIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2018 – 6:00 P.M.

DERBY CITY HALL

MINUTES

Chairman Joseph DiMartino called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. All rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call

Present: Joseph DiMartino, Jim DiMartino, Thomas Donofrio

Also Present: The Honorable Mayor Richard Dziekan
Alderman Charles Sampson
Alderman Ron Sill
Alderwoman Evelyn Browning
Alderman Louis Oliwa
Ed Armeno, Public Works Director
Andrew Cota, Blight Officer
Vincent Marino, Corporation Counsel

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CORRECTIONS AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA
There were none.

PUBLIC PORTION
Mr. Joseph DiMartino asked three times if anyone wished to speak during public portion. There were no requests to speak and public portion was closed.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MAY 24, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING
A MOTION was made by Mr. Joseph DiMartino with a second by Mr. Jim DiMartino to approve the Minutes of the May 24, 2018 special meeting as presented. Mr. Donofrio abstained from voting as he was not present at the May 24, 2018 meeting. ***Motion carried***.

MOVE TO RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD OF ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN TO ADD 273 OLIVIA STREET TO THE BLIGHT LIST.
Mr. Cota told the committee that this building is vacant and he believes it is bank owned. This is the second year that there has been significant over grown grass and vegetation. Numerous notices have been sent and they have failed to remediate the situation.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Joseph DiMartino with a second by Mr. Jim DiMartino to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen that 273 Olivia Street be added to the Blight List. ***Motion carried***.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING 190 SEYMOUR AVENUE

Mr. Cota said this is the gas station that is located at the intersection of Seymour Avenue and Hawkins Street. He said there has been a lien on this property for quite some time and now it appears that the building is being used for storage. He is recommending that the City commence foreclosure on this property.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Joseph DiMartino with a second by Mr. Donofrio to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen to commence foreclosure action on 190 Seymour Avenue. ***Motion carried.***

Mr. Donofrio directed a question to Mr. Armeno regarding grass growing from the gutters and sewers on Anson and Hawthorne Avenues. Mr. Armeno said the Public Works Department has sprayed on many streets to kill the vegetation. Mr. Donofrio said the crabgrass is about 12' high by the Barron Block. Mr. Cota said the homeowner would be responsible for taking care of items growing on their sidewalk. Mr. Donofrio said he thinks the house might be abandoned. Mr. Cota said if it's 23 Anson that property is currently in foreclosure. Mr. Armeno said if they see it they do spray. Mr. Cota said his department has also been sending out letters regarding overgrowth.

Mr. Cota informed the committee that he had sent three more items to the Town & City Clerk's Office to be added to the agenda and they aren't listed. As this is a regular meeting the committee voted to re-open agenda item #4 – Additions, Deletions and Corrections to the agenda.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Joseph DiMartino with a second by Mr. Donofrio to re-open agenda item #4 to add the following items:

9a. 30 Atwater Avenue – Recommendation to remove this property from the Blight List
9b. Lot 7-10, 20 B Division Street – Recommendation to remove this property from the Blight List
9c. 188 Elizabeth Street – Recommendation to remove from Blight List and immediately add back on to the Blight List.

MOTION CARRIED.

30 ATWATER AVENUE – RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD OF ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN TO REMOVE THIS PROPERTY FROM THE BLIGHT LIST

Mr. Cota said this property has been on and off the blight list. The City placed a lien on the property and the person who received the lien is deceased and the bank is now involved. Work has been done on the property and it is under new ownership. He would request that it be removed from the blight list.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Joseph DiMartino with a second by Mr. Donofrio to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen to remove 30 Atwater Avenue from the blight list. ***Motion carried.***

LOT 7-10, 20 B DIVISION STREET – RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD OF ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN TO REMOVE THIS PROPERTY FROM THE BLIGHT LIST

Mr. Cota said the City is working with the owner of this property to get some remediation and he would ask that it be removed from the blight list.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Joseph DiMartino with a second by Mr. Jim DiMartino to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen to remove Lot 7-10, 20 B Division Street from the blight list. ***Motion carried.***

188 ELIZABETH STREET – RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD OF ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN TO REMOVE FROM THE BLIGHT LIST AND IMMEDIATELY PLACE BACK ON THE BLIGHT LIST

Mr. Cota said when this property went on the blight list the owner came in and pulled permits and even presented a set of plans; however six months have gone by and nothing has ever happened. He said since it's still showing on the blight list and he thought the owner was going to work in good faith he wants to have it taken off and put right back on. Proper notifications can then be sent.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Joseph DiMartino with a second by Mr. Donofrio to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen to remove 188 Elizabeth Street from the blight list and immediately place it back on the blight list. ***Motion carried.***

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. Joseph DiMartino with a second by Mr. Donofrio to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m. ***Motion carried.***

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Finn
Recording Secretary

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BLIGHT COMMITTEE AT THEIR NEXT MEETING.