

CITY OF DERBY

BLIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2019 – 6:00 P.M.

DERBY CITY HALL – JOAN WILLIAMSON ALDERMANIC CHAMBERS

MINUTES

Chairman Joseph DiMartino called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. All rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call

Present: Joseph DiMartino, Bev Moran, Jim DiMartino, Thomas Donofrio

Also Present: Andrew Baklik, Chief of Staff – City of Derby
Andrew Cota, Blight Officer
Carlo Sarmiento, Building Official
Marc J. Garofalo, Town & City Clerk

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CORRECTIONS AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

There were none.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Jim DiMartino with a second by Mr. Donofrio to adopt the agenda as posted. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC PORTION

Mr. Joseph DiMartino asked if anyone wished to speak during public portion.

Thomas Donofrio said he would just like to get this on record as he has already spoken to him about it – a citizen complained to me about 111 Pleasant View Road. He asked Mr. Cota if he is working on that. Mr. Cota said they put it on the Blight List and they're at the sixty day process. They already sent the sixty day letter out. They already had the thirty days and they didn't comply and it's now in the bank's hands. Now the sixty day letter went out yesterday so they're already in the penalty phase.

Carlo Sarmiento, the City's Building Inspector said he would like to add to that statement. He had a citizen, which is probably the same citizen that called you called me telling me to send Public Works and get it done. I informed this individual that it cannot be done – that's not the way this is done. I was told he'll give me a week and if you don't take care of it in a week I'm going to take care of it. He said ok – I'm sorry you feel that way but there is a process that we need to follow. We are a government agency and we just can't go onto people's front yards and trespass.

Mr. Cota said they're at \$3,200.00 in the penalty phase. Mr. Donofrio said he just wanted to make sure they were on it and thanked them.

Mr. Joseph DiMartino asked three times if anyone else wished to address the committee. There were no requests and the public portion was closed.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 29, 2018 MEETING

A MOTION was made by Mr. Joseph DiMartino with a second by Mr. Jim DiMartino to approve the Minutes of the November 29, 2018 meeting as presented. Mr. Donofrio abstained as he was not in attendance at the November 29, 2018 meeting. **Motion carried.**

MOVE TO RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD OF ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN TO ADD 204-206 DERBY AVENUE TO THE BLIGHT LIST.

Mr. Cota said there was a fire at this property a number of years ago. There is now overgrown brush and shrubs and the sidewalk is cracked. Letters have been sent and there has been no response. Mr. Sarmiento noted that he has also sent a letter regarding the condition of the sidewalk as it has become a safety issue.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Jim DiMartino with a second by Mr. Donofrio to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen that 204-206 Derby Avenue be added to the Blight List. **Motion carried.**

MOVE TO RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD OF ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN TO ADD 210-214 DERBY AVENUE TO THE BLIGHT LIST.

Mr. Cota said the same party that owns 204-206 Derby Avenue also owns this property. Letters have also been sent regarding this property. He said they leave their large trash barrels out on the sidewalk all week long. The sidewalk at this location is also in horrible shape. It was noted that the trash barrels hinder getting fast access to the fire hydrant. Mr. Sarmiento informed the committee that on Summit, Olivia, Minerva there are steps, which seems to be too much effort for the people to bring in their garbage barrels. He said they have been working with corporation counsel to come to a solution. There is an ordinance in place and letters have been sent. He said the next letter will include penalties.

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 210-214 Derby Avenue Street be added to the Blight List. **Motion carried.**

MOVE TO RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD OF ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN TO REMOVE 15 EIGHTH STREET FROM THE BLIGHT LIST.

Mr. Cota said this ended up being a neighbor dispute. He said it was blighted and they cleaned up the part that we were concerned about and then it remained on the list for a long period of time until it was resolved. We are satisfied that the blight is all cleared up.

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 15 Eighth Street from the blight list. **Motion carried.**

MOVE TO RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD OF ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN TO REMOVE 308 HAWTHORNE AVENUE FROM THE BLIGHT LIST.

Mr. Cota said this property has been on the list for quite some time. There were constantly garbage cans in front of the house and abandoned used cars. The cars have been removed and they are now in compliance.

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 308 Hawthorne Avenue from the blight list. **Motion carried.**

MOVE TO RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD OF ALDERMEN/ALDERWOMEN TO REMOVE 145 MOUNT PLEASANT STREET FROM THE BLIGHT LIST.

Mr. Cota said this particular property has been on the blight list three times. He said this has been the most success we've had. Prior to the penalty phase they removed four vehicles, one truck and a whole pile of trash that was on the side of the house. This is the best job that they've done and they met the timeline.

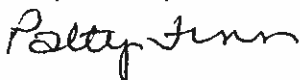
A MOTION was made by Mr. Joseph DiMartino with a second by Mr. Jim DiMartino to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen to remove 145 Mt. Pleasant Street from the blight list. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Joseph DiMartino told the blight officials that they're doing a great job – the committee agreed.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. Joseph DiMartino with a second by Mr. Jim DiMartino to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 p.m. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Patty Finn
Recording Secretary

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