

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 17, 2014

The Substandard Buildings Commission of the City of Athens, Texas met in Regular Session on **Monday, February 17, 2014 at 5:30** p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Athens City Hall Annex with the following members present to-wit:

Tere Lawyer
Billy Murphree
Tim Jones
Will Traxson

Sheila Garrett, Public Health & Safety Coordinator
Gary Crecelius, Director of Planning & Development
Ronnie Denton, Fire Marshall

constituting a quorum at which time the following proceedings were enacted, to-wit:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lawyer.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A motion was made by Member Murphree, seconded by Member Traxson to re-elect Tere Lawyer as Chairman of the Substandard Buildings Commission. The motion passed unanimously. A motion was made by Member Jones, seconded by Member Traxson to re-elect Billy Murphree as Vice-Chairman of the Substandard Buildings Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS/CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 28, 2014 REGULAR SESSION

A motion was made by Member Jones, seconded by Member Murphree to accept the January 28, 2014 Regular Session as written. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 715 HAMLETT, LOT 19, BLOCK 113 - ORIGINAL TOWN SUBDIVISION OWNER TOMMY BOWIE

Property owner Tommy Bowie, was present and informed the Commission that he had bought the property from a tax foreclosure sale. Mr. Bowie stated once he began working on the structure and cleaning up the property, he was told that the original property owner has six months to reclaim the property, so he stopped working on the structure. Mr. Bowie requested to wait until the six months are up, which he thinks is April and then continue to work on the structure.

Mr. Bowie was questioned as to when he bought the property and Mr. Bowie stated he thought it was in October 2013. Member Murphree stated that the Henderson County Appraisal District record shows the Deed date in June 2013. Mr. Bowie stated he would have to look at his paperwork for the Deed date.

DISCUSS/CONSIDER ACTION ON SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 715 HAMLETT, LOT 19, BLOCK 113 - ORIGINAL TOWN SUBDIVISION OWNER TOMMY BOWIE

After a discussion, a motion was made by Member Murphree, seconded by Member Traxson to allow property owner ninety (90) days from the Deed date to complete the work on the structure. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURE LOCATED
AT 401 ST. JOSEPH, LOT 22, BLOCK 1 - FAIRVIEW SUBDIVISION
OWNER NELLIE BROWN C/O SHIRLEY ANN ANDREWS**

Johnny Andrews, son of Shirley Ann Andrews, and other siblings were present. Mr. Andrews informed the Commission they were representing their mother who is ill. Mr. Andrews stated they just recently became aware of the situation with the structure and requested time for the family to make a decision whether they should demolish the structure themselves or to pay to have the demolition done.

Sheila Garrett, Public Health & Safety Coordinator, informed Mr. Andrews that the City would tear down the structure for the property owner if the property owner signs a release form giving the City permission to demolish the structure. Ms. Garrett stated that the property owner is responsible for the cost incurred by the City and will be billed for those costs. Gary Crecelius, Director of Planning and Development, informed Mr. Andrews the City could give them an estimate of the cost for demolition. Mr. Andrews requested the City give an estimate for the cost of demolition and email it to him.

**DISCUSS/CONSIDER ACTION ON SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURE LOCATED
AT 401 ST. JOSEPH, LOT 22, BLOCK 1 - FAIRVIEW SUBDIVISION
OWNER NELLIE BROWN C/O SHIRLEY ANN ANDREWS**

After a discussion, a motion was made by Member Murphree, seconded by Member Traxson to table action for thirty (30) days, to allow time for family members to come to a decision on demolition of the substandard structure. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURE LOCATED
AT 707 N. PRAIRIEVILLE, LOT 3A, BLOCK 104 - ORIGINAL TOWN
SUBDIVISION
OWNER ED REEVE**

Ms. Garrett presented to the Commission a faxed letter from the property owner Mr. Reeve, which states his intentions on cleaning up the burnt structure and requesting ninety (90) days to complete the clean up work. Ms. Garrett also stated that some clean up has already begun at the location.

**DISCUSS/CONSIDER ACTION ON SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURE LOCATED
AT 707 N. PRAIRIEVILLE, LOT 3A, BLOCK 104 - ORIGINAL TOWN
SUBDIVISION
OWNER ED REEVE**

A motion was made by Member Jones, seconded by Member Murphree to allow property owner ninety (90) days to complete the clean up of the burnt structure. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURE LOCATED
AT 839 N. PRAIRIEVILLE, LOTS 9B, 9B1 & 9B2, BLOCK 103 - ORIGINAL
TOWN SUBDIVISION
OWNER FLOYD VINEYARD**

Kelly Harris, Power of Attorney for Floyd Vineyard, was present and informed the Commission that Mr. Vineyard is selling the property to adjacent property owner James "Smokey" Donnell, who will be tearing down the burnt structure and cleaning up the property. Mr. Harris stated the sell should be going through in the next few weeks.

**DISCUSS/CONSIDER ACTION ON SUBSTANDARD STRUCTURE LOCATED AT
839 N. PRAIRIEVILLE, LOTS 9B, 9B1 & 9B2, BLOCK 103 - ORIGINAL TOWN
SUBDIVISION
OWNER FLOYD VINEYARD**

A motion was made by Member Jones, seconded by Member Traxson to allow the new property owner ninety (90) days after the purchase of the property to complete the demolition of the burnt structure. The motion passed unanimously.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO EXPRESS ITEMS OF CONCERN

(Citizens appearing during this item will be allowed to present their concern, however, members of the Substandard Building Commission are prohibited from entering into deliberation and the item may be referred to a future agenda for discussion.)

There were none and the meeting was adjourned.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 17TH DAY OF MARCH 2014.

Tere Lawyer, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sheila Garrett