

**Cuyahoga Falls City Council
Minutes of the Finance and Appropriations Committee Meeting**

April 1, 2019

Members: Tim Gorbach, Chair
Jerry James
Mary Ellen Pyke

Mr. Gorbach called the meeting to order at 8:57 p.m. All members were present.

Legislation Discussed

Temp. Ord. B-23

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. B-23

An ordinance authorizing the Director of Public Service to enter into a contract or contracts, according to law, for the demolition of buildings and removal of demolition debris at various locations in the City, and certifying the cost thereof to the County Fiscal Officer for collection in the manner provided by law, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Gorbach stated that there are two properties denoted in this legislation on Lines 39 and 40: 3310 Wilson Street, all structures; 1521 Main Street, all structures. 1521 Main Street has been foreclosed, utilities have been shut off and numerous housing code violations have been found. When that order was issued, the property owner's father called to say the son is the property owner and has no interest in the property. Housing observed the property and it continues to deteriorate. In February of this year, Summit County Building reviewed it for condemnation and did so on the 13th. 3310 Wilson Street has had numerous housing code violations. March 26th of 2018 and August 21st of 2018, the utilities were briefly shut off. They were shut off again on September 7th. In February of this year, the roof completely collapsed. Summit County Building was asked to review for possible condemnation on the 8th of February. On February 13th, they issued a condemnation order. The neighbors indicate that the property owner isn't even living there anymore.

Mrs. Pyke stated that it sounds like the owners have no interest in these properties. She asked who is going to take care of the property. Mr. Tony Demasi, Engineer, stated that the City never takes ownership. It simply demolishes and assesses the costs. Sometimes they would be demolished when they had deceased, and then it goes through a sale and somebody will just purchase the property. Some of them are bank-owned, and the banks have companies that maintain them. Right now, banks are maintaining these not in a very good way. They could do a better job of mowing grass.

Mrs. Pyke asked if there is a list of these properties that are demolished. Ms. Colavecchio stated that they can find out. Mr. Reilly stated that this might be a good opportunity to utilize the Summit County Land Bank in another setting, because they can take care of the property and then they have a side law property where they can split the property, themselves, with the adjacent

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homeowners. Ms. Colavecchio stated that, as a follow-up to what Mr. Reilly is saying, the Land Bank will be here making a presentation to Council in the near future.

Mr. Gorbach asked what the timeframe for demolition was, assuming an approval next Monday night. Mr. Demasi stated that, assuming approval, the Law Department will send out letters to all interested parties and lienholders, and they'll have 30 days to review those letters. Then, after 30 days, they can begin our demolition actively.

Mrs. Pyke moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-23 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. James. Motion passed (3-0).

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.