

Minutes of Meeting Held on November 14, 2019

The Board convened in open session at 6:00 pm in the Rumford Falls Auditorium, with all members present (Belanger, Brennick, Chase, DiConzo, Pepin).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Board voted unanimously to re-order the agenda sequence of scheduled public hearings placing the matter of 551 Prospect Avenue ahead of the matter concerning 20 Byron Street.

A copy of the original meeting agenda has been attached to these minutes.

551 Prospect Avenue

Chairman Brennick then opened a public hearing concerning the building at 551 Prospect Avenue, owned by Patrick Gorham. Patrick Gorham and his wife Roxane Gorham were present.

Town Attorney Jennifer Kreckel entered documents into evidence and posed a series of questions to Code Enforcement Officer Richard Coulombe concerning his observed and photographed condition of building and his attempts to contact the property owner. Members of the Board also posed questions to the CEO.

A series of photographs were entered into evidence regarding the status of the property by the Town Attorney

Owner Patrick Gorham and wife Roxanne Gorham addressed to the Board. Individual members of the Board also posed questions to the Gorhams. A conversation ensued.

Following deliberations and on motion of DiConzo and second by Belanger, the Board adopted the following resolution by a vote of 4-1 (Chase).

Property owner shall have a maximum of six months to raze building and lawfully remove its debris. Otherwise town shall assume razing and removal responsibilities and assess property for costs incurred in accordance with provisions of statute.

Property owner shall secure the building and take precautionary measures to insure property does not pose an unreasonable hazard during the period prior to teardown.

Property owner shall reimburse the town for its attorney's fees and costs incurred in contacting and notifying the property owner and for conducting this hearing.

20 Byron Street

Chairman Brennick opened a public hearing concerning the building at 20 Byron Street, owned by Lorraine Lemieux. Lorraine Lemieux did not appear although she had been served by the Sheriff in Massachusetts.

Town Attorney Jennifer Kreckel entered documents into evidence and posed a series of questions to Code Enforcement Officer Richard Coulombe concerning his observed and photographed condition of building and his attempts to contact the property owner. Members of the Board also posed questions to the CEO.

Town Attorney Jennifer Kreckel then posed a series of questions to Health Officer David Saphier, PAC concerning his observed condition of building and his attempts to contact the property owner.

A series of photographs were entered into evidence regarding the status of the property by the Town Attorney.

The property owner was not present.

Following deliberations and on motion of Belanger and second by DiConzo, the Board adopted the following resolution by a unanimous vote.

Property owner shall have a maximum of 30 days to raze building and lawfully remove its debris. Otherwise town shall assume razing and removal responsibilities and assess property for costs incurred in accordance with provisions of statute.”

Other Business

The Board received a memo dated November 14, 2019 from the Town Manager describing the town’s policy for employee sick leave accrual and the specific situation of Public Works Director Dale Roberts with hire date of October 28, 2019.

After deliberation, the Board unanimously voted to assign eight days of sick leave to Roberts’ account on condition that no additional accrual of sick leave will occur until July, 2020.

Executive Session

By unanimous vote at 7:19 pm, the Board entered Executive Session for the purpose of discussion a personnel matter in the Conference Room.

The Board returned to open session and took no action.

The Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:02 pm.

Prepared By:

Scott G. Cole
Interim Town Manager

APPROVED 11/21/2019