



MINUTES
Committee on Public Safety
Tuesday, September 19, 2023 @ 3:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room, 10th Floor City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Hussain called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm

PRESENT

Council Member Adam Hussain, Chair
Council Member Carol Wood, Vice Chair
Council Member Ryan Kost, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager
Emily Linden, Internal Auditor
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, OCA
Walter Allen, Code Compliance Manager
Clarence Hassel, Jr.
Sonya & Ronnie Ford
Mr. Hussan- 1232 Pompton Circle
Chief Sturdivant, Lansing Fire Department

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 5, 2023, AS PRESENT.
MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment at this time.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

RESOLUTION –Orders to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 1232 Pompton Circle
Council Member Hussain outlined the timeline on the red tag date, violation letter date, demolition board meeting date and determination, and value of the structure. He concluded by noting the show cause hearing was held; September 18, 2023.

Representative of the owner (father/son) was present to speak on the property.

Council Member Wood asked OCA if he is not the owner, and no letter to speak as the owner, how can the Committee hear the appeal. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence confirmed they cannot. Council Member Hussain informed the claimant that since the owner, his son is not present, he cannot speak on it without his son. Mr. Hussan stated he bought the home on auction and put it in his son's name. Mr. Allen confirmed there have been no activity regarding permits. Council Member Hussain informed the representative they need to have pulled permits, proof of financial support and a timeline on progress

for the work. Based on the process and no contact from the owner, Council Member Hussain stated they cannot listen to his appeal. Mr. Hussain asked if his son could email now. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence stated the information the Committee needs is a letter of authority. Council Member Hussain stated there can be public comment, but there needs to be a timeline, financial processes, and pulled permits. Mr. Allen stated they need plumbing, electrical, mechanical and roofing.

Council Member Hussain informed Mr. Hussain this will come out of Committee today and Council action on October 2, 2023. If that does occur the owner would have 60 days from that date. Council Member Wood stated that if all there is to do an inspection, and done before 60 days is up, then no longer a make safe or demolish, then they can get occupancy.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ON ORDERS TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH 60 DAYS FOR 1232 POMPTON CIRCLE.

Mr. Hussain stated he spoke to the inspector on September 18 and told all permits done and just need inspections. Council Member Hussain stated that once that is done, they will need to communicate with Code, and they can then relay the information to Council.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION –Orders to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 1402 Marquette Street

Council Member Hussain outlined the timeline on the red tag date, violation letter date, demolition board meeting date and determination, and value of the structure. He concluded by noting the show cause hearing was held; September 18, 2023.

There was no owner present, no updates from Mr. Allen, and Council Member Hussain confirmed there has been no activity from the show cause hearing.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ON ORDERS TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH 30 DAY FOR 1402 MARQUETTE STREET. MOTION CARRIED 3-0

RESOLUTION –Orders to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 1616 Glenrose Avenue

Council Member Hussain outlined the timeline on the red tag date, violation letter date, demolition board meeting date and determination, and value of the structure. He concluded by noting the show cause hearing was held; September 18, 2023.

Mr. Allen confirmed no permits have been pulled, no work has been done.

Mr. Hassel Jr. confirmed his father was the owner, and now he is the legal representative due to the death of his father. He also has a brother has been working on the property. They have hired an attorney to allow Mr. Hassel as legal property representative, the brother has an interest and the financial backing, there is money in the estate, and there is a buyer with financial backing to bring up to code.

Council Member Hussain asked the OCA if CJ Hassel Jr. has legal standing, and Ms. Hagen-Lawrence stated he does not. Mr. Hassel admitted he understood the process, and asked the Committee how long this process will take because they will get the estate open. Council Member Hussain explained, that after this meeting, it will go to Council 10/2, and if Council says make safe and demolish, then within 30 days. If that has not been done in 30 days, then the City will contract for demolition. Council Member Wood added that it is important to get his name on the property and then speak to Code on what needs to be done. Mr. Allen provided his phone number.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE ON ORDERS TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH 30 DAYS FOR 1616 GLENROSE AVENUE. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION –Orders to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 3301 Turner Street

Council Member Hussain outlined the timeline on the red tag date, violation letter date, demolition board meeting date and determination, and value of the structure. He concluded by noting the show cause hearing was held; September 18, 2023.

Council Member Hussain acknowledged a phone call, via email from Mr. Hallert who stated he no longer owned the home, had closed July 25, 2023. Per that phone message the new owner, Mr. Covic was pulling permits. Mr. Allen stated there were no permits pulled so far. Council Member Wood asked OCA if the Committee can hear the appeal since the ownership has changed, and also when there is new ownership on a make safe property is the new owner informed the process has started. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence stated they do not inform the new owner, and it is a civil issue between the two and the seller could have chosen to tell the buyer. Mr. Abood stated it would be best practice to notify the new owner. They can make sure the new owner is aware of the October 2, 2023, Council determination date.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ORDERS TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH 30 DAYS FOR 3301 TURNER STREET. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION –Orders to Make Safe or Demolish to the owners of 5016 Connors Avenue

Council Member Hussain outlined the timeline on the red tag date, violation letter date, demolition board meeting date and determination, and value of the structure. He concluded by noting the show cause hearing was held; September 18, 2023.

Mr. and Ms. Ford were present.

Mr. Allen stated that no permits have been pulled and there is no change with the property.

Mr. Ford provide historical information on the fire and his concerns with the City because they did not give him the time, he need to deal with the insurance company. They currently will finalize floor plans for the repairs on 9/20/2023 and will then bring those to Code. Ms. Ford stated that they have a builder, McKissic Construction. Mr. Ford asked Mr. Allen how the estimated costs for repair are determined and Mr. Allen stated they use a standard remodeling cost from the State.

Council Member Wood encouraged the owners to moving on their process and update Code. If they have pulled permits, provided proof of financial capability and a timeline on the repairs before October 2, 2023, to Code, then Code can inform Council and they can take this action off the Council agenda for final action that night.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ON ORDERS TO MAKE SAFE OR DEMOLISH 30 DAYS FOR 5016 CONNERS AVENUE. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

DISCUSSION – Warning Siren Decommission/Replacement Project

Chief Sturdivant distributed materials and a copy of the Ingham County 911 policy and procedures. He began speaking on the siren replacement project, a study from a 2020 development plan. They looked at installation, decommissioning old sirens, and the last siren was unhooked from power in August 2023. The testing of the sirens occurs weekly on Saturdays, and the handout spoke to the activation and intended use. The handout provided location of old and current sirens.

Council Member Hussain stated he has heard concerns the siren cannot be heard inside the homes. Chief acknowledged the concern, but assured them it was not a malfunction, but the need to do better in the educational piece on warnings, work with the media, etc. He continued by noted there are 12 in the city and they are operable. All the old ones are not operable and they are working with BWL on the

removal of the old ones. With the new system they have been expanded from 80 to 90% coverage. Everything has been expanded to increase technology.

Council Member Wood voiced her concerns with the senior population not receiving the warnings now that they cannot be heard in the homes. The senior population is more than likely not to have smart phones, or the apps for the alerts, and do not always have a television on for the television alerts. The Chief acknowledged the concern but assured her that the siren program is just one layer, and not intended to be the stand-alone pieces. The sirens are part of the component of the alerting, and they will continue to talk through what other sources can be used.

Council Member Kost asked if they did a sound test during their preliminary testing. The Chief confirmed they used Federal Signal to do the decibel level of testing to ensure adequate for outdoor population. In some extent they did get calls it was heard indoors. Council Member Kost then asked about the new location near Foster on the map, stating he lives near that area and had a hard time hearing the sirens on Saturdays when he was outside due to the height of the siren in conjunction with the trees and homes. The Chief understood that they might have to fill in the gaps from time to time and have a solid relationship with Consumers, BWL and Ingham County 911. The platform has been paid for and installed, so the project now is to dismantle the older ones. Council Member Hussain asked if they can supplement the sirens or change the sound level. Chief stated he would look into it and adding more geographic areas.

Council Member Wood asked if the city paid for this in total or did Ingham County pay for a portion. The Chief stated the components were all paid for by the city, but they have to use the County wide system. Council Member Wood encourage a survey after they have done a few Saturday tests to narrow down the areas where people cannot hear it.

The Committee requested that the materials handed out today be distributed to all Council, with the information that Council Member Hussain will report out on this in his committee report at the October 2, 2023 Council meeting.

OTHER

Council Member Hussain asked OCA for an update on the proposed sign ordinance changes, specific to a request from Council Member Wood on abandoned signs. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence had no information and when Mr. Abood returned to the meeting, he stated they are reviewing the drafts and hope to speed up the timeline. The Committee asked for action on this ordinance in 2023.

Committee asked OCA for an update on homes on Sycamore. Mr. Abood stated they are aware of the issues and engaging in enforcement actions. It is moving towards coming out of EDP to OCA. Council Member Hussain asked if they were issuing tickets, and Mr. Abood stated it would depend on EDP but they would support them.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 4:23 pm

Submitted by

Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on October 3, 2023