

Agenda Abstract BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date: Aug. 25, 2025

Department: Planning & Economic Development

Agenda Section: Regular

Public hearing: No
Date of public hearing: N/A

PRESENTER/INFORMATION CONTACT

Shannan Campbell, Planning & Economic Development Manager

ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED

Subject: Code Enforcement Updates

Attachments:

Code Enforcement Presentation

Summary:

The town was conducting code enforcement on a complaint generated basis for many years, meaning that in order for a zoning or code violation to get any attention someone had to complain. This led to some inequitable results across town as well as some egregious code violations going unhandled because there were no specific assigned staff to deal with the sometimes complex legal processes involved in enforcement and eventual abatement.

In Fiscal Year 2025, \$50,000 was allocated to contract with a part-time (10-15 hours per week) code enforcement service that would do a few things: 1. Identify code enforcement and zoning violations town wide and send those property owners courtesy letters letting them know that the town was going to start doing pro-active code enforcement and that they had a violation and then 2. Start to formally issue notices of violation to properties with overgrown grass, junk vehicles, junk piles/appliances, and other town code and zoning violations.

Most properties resolved their violations but there remains a need for some additional support to make this code enforcement program successful:

- Additional budget for the town to be able to perform abatement on properties where the owners either can't or won't resolve the violation(s) and
- Updated ordinances that address and/or better handle: abandoned/dilapidated structures, keeping of animals, accumulations of solid waste and junk and what is defined as 'junk', additional health and sanitation standards for properties.

Staff will come back to another meeting with proposals for the two items above.

Staff will share some successes and challenges from the first several months of the implementation of the code enforcement program tonight.

Financial impacts:

Low/none

Staff recommendation and comments:

Staff recommends continuing with the contracted code enforcement officer and continuing to implement and improve the town's approach to code enforcement.

Action requested:

None at this time.