



Mayor, Council and PFEED Members,

On June 25, 2021, the Community Development Department was contacted by Brandon Bush, the owner of 202 4th Ave. Brandon asked if the city was interested in taking the home and the property.

The Community Development Department scheduled an inspection of the structure. Based on the condition of the property, the dwelling was placarded as unsafe to occupy and ordered to be demolished by July 30, 2021.

This is one of many homes in the City of Oelwein that needs to be addressed to help improve neighborhoods and improve blight. The city already owns two properties to the north. If the city decides to take the property, it could be combined with the north properties, or re-surveyed and split into multiple lots for future housing. If the city decides to not accept the property, we will be facing yet another property that the owner does not have the money available to demolish the home. The city will order the home demolished, assess the cost to taxes and end up with a lot that we will maintain and not have ownership.

Please keep in mind that this was a property that was quit claim deeded to Brandon by his father on 12-22-2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jay Shekleton', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jay Shekleton
Building Official/Zoning Administrator

To the oelwein city council.

My name is Brandon Bush and I am the current owner of the house at 202 4th Ave NW. The house was given to me by my dad Paul Ellis when he decided to move to waverly after him and my mom separated. This ended up leaving me with two houses, 202 4th Ave and my house I live at with my fiancé 11 6th St NW. My mom ended up moving in with me since her health hasn't been the best and I didn't know how bad of shape the house was in when I decided to say yes to taking the house.

I ended up calling the city asking if they would be interested in the house and property after my fiancé and I decided that within a year or two we wish to move to cedar falls. I also found out the trials of trying to deal with two properties and realized I don't have enough time or money to deal with the house at 202 4th Ave properly. I would like to give the property to the city because I think they would take better care of the land and would have a better use for it since there is a walking trail going in next to the property.

It's sad to see my childhood home in the shape it is and I would much rather see it torn down and used for something meaningful for the city than see it in its current shape it is now. Thank you for your consideration of the situation and your time.

Sincerely, Brandon Bush













































