
CITY OF PORT LAVACA

COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING: AUGUST 19, 2024

AGENDA ITEM:

DATE: 8.14.2024

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: JODY WEAVER, INTERIM CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: 1406 Hwy 35 South – declared substandard on

At the May 13, 2024 regular meeting, staff submitted 4 properties to be declared substandard. One of those properties was 1406 Hwy 35 South which had been substantially damaged by fire and despite various efforts to make contact with the property owner, the property owner could not be located. Anne Marie had commented that it was unlikely that we would be successful in making contact with the heirs to the property. We were fielding numerous complaints from the community regarding health and safety concerns with this property.

It was staff's intention to have Council go ahead and include in the motion to declare substandard the authorization to demolish this property following whatever time frame council provided to the property owner to bring the property into compliance. While preparing for the list of substandard buildings for the August 12 meeting, we realized that the approved minutes for this May 13 list only reflected the 30 days and did not include the authorization to demolish. I went back and listened to the recording and although getting authorization to get bids to demolish was mentioned during the discussion, with all the back and forth discussion with the other properties on the list, authorization to demolish was not included in the motion.

Not realizing that the authorization to actually demolish had not been included in the Council's motion and the continued health and safety concerns posed by the condition of the property, once the 30 days was up, Code Enforcement got 3 bids and the demolition was awarded to Axis Demolition for \$15,000, which is within the limit of expenditure I can authorize without Council approval.

We are asking Council to RATIFY ACTION TAKEN BY ADMINISTRATION TO AUTHORIZE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE AT 1406 SH 35 SOUTH THAT WAS DECLARED SUBSTANDARD ON MAY 13, 2024 AND PLACE A LIEN ON THE PROPERTY FOR SUCH COST.

Moving forward it is our intention to have individual motions for any properties submitted as substandard so as to not experience such an oversight again.