

BLIGHT COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday November 21, 2017 6:00pm

A Blight Commission Meeting was held on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 in the selectmen's conference room.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss, Selectman Evan Brunetti, Selectman Rick Fowler (absent with previous notice), Blight Officer Tom Mitchell, Betsy Bosco, Bob Barry

Call to Order

Mr. Criss called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Discuss current Reports on existing complaints - Follow up on 5 existing Blighted properties.

- **63 South Shore Drive**: A letter was received by Mr. Finley that reads: "In respect to the area north of my driveway there is a red pickup truck that I have owned for 16 years, 285,000 miles, runs great, backed in perfectly on my own property. There are two Albredda receptacles that are put out weekly for garbage collection. To the left of that there is a disassembled brake for bending metals strategically placed there. There is a low, neatly stacked pile of synthetic shingles. Behind those there is an 8 foot pick up bed containing more shingles and beyond that a taller pile of shingles. All this is intended to be used for my roof replacement in spring or summer of next year. The plan was originally to do it sooner but due to a work injury that kept me out of work for 5 years, application of the shingles to my roof has been delayed for financial and physical reasons. Once the shingles are applied the truck bed will be sent out painted and put on the red pickup truck and the 'brake' will be put into the garage. Pertaining to the wood on the south side of my house, it has been picked up and stacked. Please understand my dilemma comprehending this blight complaint. Everything in this complaint is planned to be utilized. You are all welcome to come to my home and have a look at this relatively organized material and truck. I have spoken to all the neighbors except the one directly across the street; they have all responded, 'what pile?' In my own opinion you need to be looking for something to complain about to find this problem." Mr. Mitchell explained that the wood pile was not even part of the complaint but Mr. Finley still cleaned it up. Mr. Mitchell presented pictures to the Blight Commission. The property is now compliant. Ms. Bosco made a motion to state that 63 South Shore Drive has complied with the Blight Ordinance at our request. The property is in decent shape at this place in time, but we are going to keep an eye on it. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All were in favor. Motion carries.
- **18 Cemetery Road**: This property has been discussed since 2011. Mr. Criss has a couple of concerns. The property is not being properly maintained as evidenced by the following: rodent harborage and/or infestation; Persistent debris, rubbish, garage or accumulating refuse on the property; Or two or more

abandoned or unregistered vehicles. There has been no response to Mr. Mitchell's communications. They did accept the letter. The property owner's son & girlfriend are currently living there. Several voice messages were left to reiterate that the property needs to be addressed. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to issue a formal, final warning notice outlining the Town's position on the property with a firm date of when we are going to proceed with the next step in the Blight Ordinance (section 6.a-e.) and having a letter drafted and ready presuming there is no response, and to have Mike Rybak review it. Mr. Criss seconded. All in favor. Motion carries

- **251 Wildcat Hill Road**: A letter was received today from Rick's Auto Parts on Mr. Petrovits behalf:
"Rick's Auto Parts has agreed to clear the vehicles from Ernie Petrovits' Wildcat Hill property in Harwinton, CT. This is an unpaid favor to Mr. Petrovits, and as such, we shall ensure their removal at our leisure by February 1, 2018. Further inquiry can be made during our normal business hours: Monday through Friday, 8am – 5pm. Thank you."
Mr. Mitchell said that 18 vehicles have been removed, only 2 are left. The storage container is on the property however it is not on the tax list and needs to go to zoning for approval; Mr. Petrovits would like to remove it. He is cooperative and making progress. Mr. Criss made a motion to write a letter to Mr. Petrovits acknowledging the receipt of Rick's Auto Parts letter, to confirm the removal of the shed and to have this compliant by February 1st. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All were in favor. Motion carries.
- **8 Ridgewood Drive**: The property had caught fire. Paul Cote is a neighbor who is helping with this property and acting as a liaison for Mr. Pfeiffenberger. Mr. Cote has been mowing the lawn, painted the garage door and front door. He has also cleaned the place up a bit. The complainant is happy with the progress towards compliance. Mr. Cote informed Mr. Mitchell that come Spring he would like to do more work on the property. Mr. Criss made a motion to drop this property as a Blight complaint. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.
- **56 Brookfield Road**: Second letter was sent out to Mr. Skibisky but nothing indicates that he received it yet. He utilized the rubbish day and brought several loads in. Ms. Bosco made a motion to table this property until the second certified letter is received and responded to. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All were in favor. Motion carries.

Executive Session – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to go into Executive Session. Seconded by Ms. Bosco. All in favor. Motion carries. New complaints were discussed. .

Adjournment – Mr. Criss made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00pm. Mr. Brunetti Seconded. All were in Favor. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by _____
Jen Minery