

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
IMMINENT PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT
CITY COUNCIL
October 7, 2022
9:00 am

Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Present:

Ms. Barrow
Mr. Chaple
Ms. Galbreath
Ms. Gibson
Mayor Kelly

Also Present: Chief Hutto, Police Officer Sikes, Code Enforcement Officers Jim Talley, and Melissa Correia.

Discussion of 739 N. 9th Plaza: Mr. Talley stated no garbage service at residence, trash in the yard and on the porch, grass over 6' in height, neighbors are complaining, photos presented to council in packet. Ms. Correia stated that the owner is Mrs. Arthur Harris, deceased, her son and grandson live in the home, in July of 2017 the water service was turned off. August of 2017 a Regina Riser began water service at the home, but that service was shut off in August of 2022. Mr. Arthur Harris and his daughter, Ms. Riser were at the quasi-judicial hearing in May and stated they were working on probate to have the home put in Mr. Arthur Harris' name. Mr. Talley stated that Arthur Harris, son of owner, and grandson live in home. Officer Sikes entered the home on August 28, 2022, for a service call. Home was in disarray, standing water on floor. Floor was rotting, raw sewage in bathroom. Video of body came shown to council. Mr. Harris shown in wheelchair in bedroom. Officer Sikes entered each room, TV playing in living room, food containers in kitchen, piles of debris on counters. Officer Sikes state he has entered the home on other occasions and witnessed Mr. Harris using a bottle as a urinal. Discussion that a large section of the roof is tarped, tarp is decaying and roof leaking. Chief Hutto has contacted DCF Adult section, trying to work out a place for Mr. Harris. DCF has difficulty placing an amputee. Family members live in Springfield. Ms. Barrow stated neighbors have witnessed drug use on property. Discussion that it is a personal health threat in the home but is it a public health threat? House is leaning and in danger of collapse. Neighbors are complaining that there is human waste in the backyard. Home is coming before the magistrate in later in the month to determine unfit/unsafe status. No water service at home, excessive growth of grass, building official has said it is unfit/unsafe, half the front door is missing and fear of animals getting inside by Mr. Talley. Mr. Talley states he has jurisdiction over the outside of the property and the garbage and feces fall under section 26.20. the home meets the criteria to deem it an imminent public health threat. Mr. Sloan stated the trash, weeds, waste does fit the definition of an imminent public health threat.

Motion by Ms. Gibson to move forward with declaration of imminent public health threat and removal of residents by noon on Thursday, amended motion to 5 pm on Thursday, amended again to Monday the 17th at 5 pm, second by Ms. Galbreath.

Ms. Barrow - aye
Mr. Chaple - aye
Ms. Galbreath - aye

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Ms. Gibson -aye
Mayor Kelly - aye

Meeting Adjourned

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jami Hinrichs", is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jami Hinrichs, City Clerk