

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
PUBLIC HEARING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2014, 6:30 P.M.
TOWN HALL**

Board Members Present: Supervisor Herrington, Councilman Poletto, Councilman Christian and Councilman Sullivan. **Board Members Absent:** Councilman Casale
Also Present: Town Attorney, Thomas Cioffi and Town Clerk, William J. Lewis.

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and instructed the Town Clerk to read the Notice of Public Hearing.

The hearing concerned two structures located at 352 Tamarac Road, owned by Barbara Hewitt. Two inspections of the premises were conducted. One by the Town of Brunswick Code Enforcement Officer, with a report dated August 12, 2014 and one by Russ Reeves, CEng., P.E., with a report dated July 31, 2014. Both reports determined the structures to be unsafe and recommended their demolition. At the Town Board meeting of August 14, 2014, the members approved a resolution ordering the demolition according to the provisions of Town Code Section 59-6, which included a notice ordering this demolition to be sent to the property owner. The notice was sent and this Public Hearing was scheduled. All documents were available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office.

VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

Mr. Tom Farnam, 225 25th Street, Troy, whose mother and grandmother are owners of the property, agreed as to the condition of the structures but asked for more time in order to demolish them himself section by section with the intention of rebuilding the house to its original plans, which according to his research date back to 1707. His intentions are to pour a new basement and rebuild the house using the refurbished timbers and woodwork.

Councilman Poletto asked how long this might take to complete.

Mr. Farnam estimated demolition would take about one year, one to one and a half years to construct the exterior and another six months to one year to finish the interior.

Councilman Sullivan asked if the taxes on the property were paid to date.

Mr. Farnam said they were not and about \$21,000 dollars were due and have not been paid for seven years.

Councilmen Poletto and Sullivan were concerned that at this point the County would have taken over the property.

Mr. Farnam acknowledged the County was considering this and that he had until March of 2016 to reconcile with the County.

Councilmen Christian and Poletto voiced their concerns that new regulations for septic systems, well placement, zoning setbacks and wetland regulations may actually not allow for the structure to be rebuilt on this parcel and that Mr. Farnam needs to be certain these are not issues before he spends time and money for nothing.

Barbara Rifenburg of Rifenburg Road, commented that she agrees with the assessment of the condition of the structures and feels that they are eyesores, having a negative impact on property values in the area, are a real safety concern and should definitely be taken down as soon as possible.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Poletto made a motion to close the Public Hearing seconded by Councilman Christian. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis III
Town Clerk

Note: An audio compact disc of this meeting is available in the Town Clerk's Office.