

**Minutes from Public Hearing  
For 10735 Elm St. house  
July 19th,  
2011**

**Call to Order-** 6:30 P.M. Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Ben Prescott, Roger Hawkins, Linda Clark, Linda Schilling, Marty Hura, Giles Seith.

**Others:** Clerk-Treasurer Jenny August, Mayor Donna Hawkins, Village Solicitor Michele Stuck.

**Citizens:** Aaron Snopek arrived at 6:38 p.m.

**Discussion of whether action should be taken regarding 10735 Elm St, Mantua Ohio:**

Michele Stuck asked if certified letters were sent, and if return receipt cards were returned. Jenny said yes. Jenny noted that Portage County Treasurer Steve Shanafelt called and said he regrettably would not be available to attend. For the record, Michele noted that the property owners were not in attendance nor were any lien holders. Linda Schilling then asked if we should get bids now for demolition. Michele said there are two bids attached.

Linda Clark asked if the Village will assess his taxes to recover our costs. Michele said yes, or we could file a lawsuit and get a judgment. Assessing taxes would be better. Another option would be to ask the Prosecutor to move for foreclosure due to back property taxes owed, there would be two Sheriff Sales, and try to have the property forfeited to the Village. Linda Clark asked about other liens on the property. Michele said we would probably come second after Portage County Treasurer. Ben said it is possible that the owner may take it down himself.

Linda Clark asked if there is any kind of financial aid or funding available for this. Donna said the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) would have worked for this but the timing is off. The deadline was June 29<sup>th</sup>. Ohio Department of Development will let us know if anything else is available. Portage Planning doesn't have anything available either.

Linda Schilling asked if the Village owns it, would we be able to sell it as is? Michele said that we could, but we would not have it forfeited to us so quickly that we would allow the building to stay as is. It would take years.

Roger asked if all of this paperwork would be void if there was a transfer of ownership. Michele said "No, the rules go with the property." Michele said if we did the demolition, we would assess the taxes and our costs would have to be satisfied at the time of transfer.

Linda Clark asked if we are under a timeframe with the County, or could it sit like this for years. Michele said no, and if Council passes this ordinance, we have to wait 30 days for anyone to appeal. After that we would want to get it done quickly.

Jenny asked if a "Controlled Burn" would be possible. Giles said there is so much red tape involved that they don't do it anymore.

Motion to adjourn the public hearing at 6:44 P.M. by Linda Schilling, seconded by Ben Prescott. All ayes on vote.

---

Donna Hawkins, Mayor

---

Jenny August, Clerk-Treasurer