

A Public Hearing was held on August 26, 1999 on the subject of Chapter 54- JT Realty located at 6313 Route 25A, Wading River.

Persons in Attendance:

- Laurie Dowd- Assistant Town Attorney**
- Bruce Johnson- Fire Marshall**
- Melissa A. White- Deputy Town Clerk**

The Public Hearing was opened at 1:17pm.

Laurie Dowd: The time is 1:17pm, on August...what's the date?

Melissa White: The 26th

Laurie Dowd: the 26th...alright.

Melissa White: I have affidavits of publishing and posting for a Public hearing to be held at Riverhead Town Hall, 200 Howell Avenue, Riverhead, New York at 1:00pm on August 26th, 1999 to hear all interested persons who wish to be heard regarding: Chapter 54-Unsafe Buildings and Collapsed Structures: Property Owned by JT Realty Corp., located at 6316 Route 25A, Wading River.

Laurie Dowd: We open the hearing with testimony from our Code Enforcement Officer. Would you state your name and position with the Town of Riverhead?

Bruce Johnson: Yes, it's Bruce Johnson, Fire Marshall for the Town of Riverhead.

Laurie Dowd: What are your qualifications to review unsafe structures pursuant to Chapter 54 of the Riverhead Town Code?

Bruce Johnson: For expediency, I would like to submit a written statement of my qualifications.

Laurie Dowd: Alright. We will incorporate that into the record. Did you inspect the property that is the topic of today's hearing?

Bruce Johnson: Yes, I did.

Laurie Dowd: On what date did you inspect it?

Bruce Johnson: The property was inspected on Wednesday, July 7, 1999 at 3:45 pm.

Laurie Dowd: What did you find when you did that inspection?

Bruce Johnson: There was a small structure there and we found it to be structurally unsafe and structurally dangerous, for the reasons of dilapidation, obsolescence, and abandonment. It is sited in the paperwork under the Chapter 54 there were numerous violations or examples as to why the building is unsafe under the Town Code. If you would like, I can read them into the record.

Laurie Dowd: I think that would be a good idea.

Bruce Johnson: Ok, there were exterior doors that were open or missing, broken windows, structural leaks, structure is rotten in need of repair, holes in the floor, holes in the ceiling. Rotten facial board on the building, rafter for the roof were sagging and cracked. The interior is unfit for human habitation, the building showed signs of vandalism, and the building is exposed to the elements. Based on this we feel that the structure is a dangerous situation, and that our recommendation is that the building be demolished as soon as possible.

Laurie Dowd: What kind of vandalism did you see?

Bruce Johnson: Just that the building has been occupied, that there appears to be things in the building that may lead us to believe that there is someone occupying the building, possibly sleeping there.

Laurie Dowd: Is the building accessible to any persons from the outside?

Bruce Johnson: Very accessible. It is located along Route 25A, which is a well-traveled area.

Laurie Dowd: I see no one here to speak on the matter, have you had any contact with the owners?

Bruce Johnson: Yes I have, I don't recall the date, but I did have a telephone conversation with the representative of the property owner, he was made aware of the situation through the Chapter 54 posting. He agreed that the structure was unsafe and he was going to get quotes and go through the demolition. So I believe, I don't have him here today, I asked him if he could attend the hearing, we don't have any written confirmation to that effect, but we believe that that was the owners intent and we would like to give them 30 days to file for demolition permit, so that we know they are proceeding with the structure of the building.

Laurie Dowd: Ok, so we will proceed with the subject on that basis. Since there is no other testimony, I now call the public hearing closed.

The Public Hearing was closed at 1:22pm.

Melissa A. White