

MINUTES

On October 1, 2020, the Condemnation Appeals Commission met at 4:00 p.m. for a Regular meeting at City Hall, 601 S Buchanan St.

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED
Tom Roller, Chairman	Yes	38	34
Frank Willburn, Vice Chair	No	33	20
Richard Constancio Jr.	Yes	38	27
Joel Favela	No	38	31
Jim Banes	No	17	10
ALTERNATE MEMBER			
George Cumming	Yes	38	17

Also in attendance were:

Ismael "Izzy" Rivera Jr.	BUILDING OFFICIAL, CITY OF AMARILLO
Johnny Scholl	DEPUTY BUILDING OFFICIAL, CITY OF AMARILLO
Bryan McWilliams	CITY ATTORNEY, CITY OF AMARILLO
Courtney White	ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY I, CITY OF AMARILLO
Gwen Gonzales	BUILDING SAFETY MANAGER, CITY OF AMARILLO
Stephanie Garcia	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST I, CITY OF AMARILLO

This meeting of the Condemnation Appeals Commission was called to order by Mr. Tom Roller, established a quorum at 4:02 p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Tom Roller opened the floor for any public comments to speak to any item on the agenda that doesn't have a public hearing.

ITEM 1: Minutes:

Mr. Richard Constancio Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. George Cumming, the motion passed with a 3:0 vote.

ITEM 2: Resolution-Calling a Public Hearing to determine whether certain conditions described herein constitute a Public Nuisance at the locations stated:

This resolution sets the date and time for a public hearing on November 5, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. to determine if the properties located at 2602 Olive Street and 803 Pittsburg Street constitute public nuisances and thereby declare as dangerous structures or an accumulation of solid waste and order the removal of such. A copy of this resolution will be mailed to all interested parties providing ten (10) days notice of public hearing. Mr. George Cumming made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard Constancio Jr., the motion passed with a 3:0 vote.

ITEM 3: Resolution - Public Hearing:

This resolution conducts a public hearing on and considers ordering the removal of substandard structures located at 2404 NW 1st Avenue.

Mr. Izzy Rivera, Building Official, presented the case with a PowerPoint presentation describing the conditions of the property. This property consists of 2 residential structures. Only the rear structure is being considered. The property has an active water account. The Amarillo Police Department has been called out 8 times to this since this case started. Building Safety has worked 3 cases; weeds/junk & debris, open structure and this Dangerous Structure case since this case started. This property is located 3/4 mile from an elementary school, 1/2 mile from a city park and 4 blocks from a railroad. Building Safety has had no recent permit activity. This property is an attractive nuisance, represents a hazard to the neighborhood, blight on the area and an unsafe environment. Mr. Rivera's recommendation is demolition; Item II. The current taxes are paid and there is money owed to the City for prior mowing and cleanup jobs. The Commissioners then had the opportunity to ask Mr. Rivera any questions. The Chairman then asked if there was anyone present with a legal interest in the property.

Augustina Ramos, 2404 NW 1st Avenue, approached the podium. Ms. Ramos asked for more time to repair the property. She states that she had forgot about the letter she received due to COVID-19 and the letter being sent so long ago. The Chairman asked her about how much time she needed. She said a couple of months. She also said she did not know about the police phone calls. The Chairman then asked if there was anyone else who wished to speak concerning the property. No one was present. The Chairman closed the hearing. Mr. George Cumming made a motion to approve the resolution for Option III, seconded by Mr. Richard Constancio Jr., the motion passed with a 3:0 vote.

ITEM 4: Resolution - Public Hearing:

This resolution conducts a public hearing on and considers ordering the removal of substandard structures located at 1929 NW 15th Avenue.

Mr. Izzy Rivera, Building Official, presented the case with a PowerPoint presentation describing the conditions of the property. This property consists of a residential structure and an accessory structure. The property has been without water service since August 4, 2016. The Amarillo Police Department has not been called out to this location since this property became vacant. Building Safety has worked 8 cases; including weeds, junk and debris, open structure and this Dangerous Structure case since the property became vacant. This property is located 3 blocks from an elementary school and park. Building Safety has had no recent permit activity. This property is an attractive nuisance, represents a hazard to the neighborhood, blight on the area and an unsafe environment. Mr. Rivera's recommendation is demolition; Item II. The current and delinquent taxes are due, there is a tax suit and there is money owed to the City for prior mowing and cleanup jobs. The Commissioners then had the opportunity to ask Mr. Rivera any questions. The Chairman then asked if there was anyone present with a legal interest in the property. No one was present. The Chairman then asked if there was anyone else who wished to speak concerning the property. Timothy Gassaway, President of the Amarillo Area Black Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 3423, approached the podium. He asked for the Commissioners to allow him more time in order to contact the property owner's son. He believes the property can be rehabbed and state he would rather fix than have it torn and have an empty lot. The Chairman asked about how much time he thought he needed. Mr. Gassaway stated he believed he needed about a month. Richard Constancio said that because the structure is open anyone could go inside and it could be dangerous. He also said that it is safer most time to just have an empty lot rather than a structure no one has interest in maintaining. The Chairman closed the hearing. Mr. George Cumming made a motion to table the property until November 5, 2020, it was seconded by Mr. Richard Constancio, the motion passed with a 3:0 vote.

ITEM 5: Resolution - Public Hearing:

This resolution conducts a public hearing on and considers ordering the removal of substandard structure located at 4121 S Van Buren Street.

Item 5 was removed from the agenda.

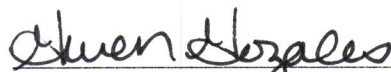
Adjournment:

The Chairman, Mr. Tom Roller concluded the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m. This meeting was recorded and all comments are on file with the Department of Building Safety.



Tom Roller, Chairman

ATTEST:



Gwen Gonzales, Building Safety Manager