

STELLARTON TOWN COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING  
OCTOBER 23, 2023

A Public Hearing of the Stellarton Town Council was held on Monday, October 23, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**Present**

Present were Mayor D. MacGillivray, Couns. B. Knight, S. Lawand, and S. Campbell. Also present CAO S. Higdon and Building Official Mannie Withrow

**Agenda**

The agenda was approved on motion by Coun. B. Knight, seconded by Coun. S. Lawand. **Motion Carried.**

**Demolition Order**

129 River Street – Mayor D. MacGillivray asked if any interested parties wanted to speak against or for the property. Mayor D. MacGillivray stated that the Town received complaint on August 29, 2023; the property was inspected and deemed to be vacant, dangerous and unsightly and in poor structural condition; therefore date was set for today for Council decision.

Trevor Feit, owner of 129 River Street, addressed Council:

- Bought property from the Town in a tax sale
- Challenge to get any contractors to do repairs
- Wants to get an assessment to decide whether to complete renovations or to demolish it

Building Official M. Withrow went through the sequence of events:

- Complaint received August 29, 2023
- Property inspected on September 5, 2023
- Property deemed to be vacant, dangerous and unsightly, and in poor structural condition
- Presented photos of the property
- Recommends a demolition within 30 days; or have a “Structural Engineer’s Report” within 30 days stating that it’s structurally sound and salvageable with a plan of action; take out a building permit and complete repairs to create an inhabitable building

Questions/Comments:

Coun. S. Lawand comments; understands the contractor issues; two options on the floor – demolition or an extension in order to provide a Structural Engineer Report and a plan of action; asked Mr. Feit if he could provide the Structural Engineer Report within 30 days and a plan of action submitted to the Building Official.

Discussion commenced. Coun. S. Lawand recommended 30 day extension to provide report and action plan. Coun. B. Knight recommends demolition. Coun. S. Campbell feels the property is unsafe. Mayor D. MacGillivray noted that the foundation is unsafe. Coun. B. Knight made motion to have 129 River Street demolished, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell.

On the Question:

Coun. S. Campbell asked for the opinion of the owner. Mr. Feit realizes the cost of repairs; he also can demolish the house himself.

Motion denied.

Coun. S. Lawand made a motion to give owner 30 days to come up with action plan and structural engineer report, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell. **Motion Carried.** Coun. B. Knight voted nay.

Building Official M. Withrow stated that if the engineer report is not received within the 30 days, or if property owner does not demolish house, the Town will carry out the demolition.

134 MacKay Street – Mayor D. MacGillivray asked if any interested parties wished to speak on 134 MacKay Street; hearing none; he asked the administrator to present the evidence.

Building Official M. Withrow provided background information; house was boarded up last year; the house is structurally sound and can be renovated; permit was taken out to repair garage/accessory building, but work stopped. M. Withrow recommends taking the accessory building down and leave the house as is for now. Coun. S. Lawand

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made motion to demolish the accessory building, seconded by Coun. S. Campbell.  
**Motion Carried.**

**Adjournment**

Public Hearing adjourned at 5:30 p.m. on motion by Coun. S. Campbell.

**MAYOR**

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**