

## Board Meeting Minutes

July 30, 2025

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Brian Ball called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>
Brian Ball	City Engineer	Present
Chad Christopher	Fire Chief	Present
Katie Delozier		Present
Kathryn Brechler		Present
Zach Green		Present
Russ Mentzer		Present
Steve Jefferson		Excused

Other in attendance were Rob Broeren, Law Director; Chief Morgan, Police Chief; Brian Marvin, Assistant City Inspector; Scott Zimmerman, City Inspector; Mike Hillier; Jeannie Armstrong, Homeowner; James Mahan, Councilman; Cheyrl Splain, Knox Pages.

### **SWEARING IN OF OFFICIALS**

Russ Metzger was sworn in.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Brain Ball was appointed Chariman.

### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved unanimously.

- Board of Property Maintenance Appeals - Board Meeting - Mar 14, 2023 5:30 PM

### **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE APPEAL - PROPOSAL OF CONDEMNATION**

2 Marma Drive, Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Mr. Brian Marvin, Assistant City Inspector presented documentation showing the deterioration of 2 Marma Drive starting in 2015 to present. Mr. Marvin also explained what steps he had taken to reach out to the homeowner since he became involved in April of 2025.

Mr. Marvin stated that a search warrant of the property was executed on July 2, 2025 and that the state of the house was in such bad shape that he was not able to search through the entire house due to rats being present as well as the condition of the house was deemed unsafe.

Mr. Marvin then cited the code violation.

Mr. Ball asked what recommendation Mr. Marvin's recommendation was. Mr Marvin stated that he recommended that the building be demolished.

Mt. Broeren as Mr. Marvin how many times he has attempted to make contact with the homeowner. Mr. Marvin stated he had mailed three letters and they were all returned. Mr. Marvin then posted a notice on the door of the home which it appears the homeowner received as it was no longer posted.

Mr. Broeren the requirements necessary for demolishing the building.

Mr. Green stated that solid waste complaints have been received since 1996 for this property.

Mr. Green moved to have 2 Marma Drive demolished, seconded by Mr. Christopher.

Mrs. Armstrong the homeowner then spoke on her behalf explaining the circumstances that have led to where the house is today. She stated that she didn't receive notice in a timely manner of the meeting and would like a continuance to be able to obtain an attorney.

Mr. Broeren then asked Mrs. Armstrong how many letters from the City she had received and she stated she had no idea.

Mr. Broeren asked Mrs. Armstrong why she never signed for any of the certified letters sent by the City. Mrs. Armstrong stated she believes she did not receive any as she was not there much due to her husband's health and they were staying with her children.

Mr. Green asked Mrs. Armstrong if she could say how long the building had been unoccupied. Mrs. Armstrong replied that it had been unoccupied since the water was turned off.

Mrs. Armstrong stated they had recently been trying to do work at 2 Marma Drive and she was willing to do what was needed but needed more time.

Mr. Green stated to Mrs. Armstrong that this has been an issue for three decades.

Mr. Christopher apologized to the neighbors for 2 Marma Drive. He also stated that as firefighters they have seen very bad structures and this is the worst they have seen. The condition of the house is so bad that if the Fire Department is called to the structure they will not go in.

Mrs. Armstrong then asked if she would be allowed to get items out of the house that she would like to keep.

Mr. Broeren stated the process and that the property is still Mrs. Armstrong's.

Mr. Zimmerman, City Inspector, explained that he as well as the Fire Department, Knox Health and the Law Director's office were all involved in the search warrant. He also stated in his experience of 30 years and this is the worst structure he has seen.

Mr. Marvin stated that the neighbors had given up that the City would do anything after a decade of trying to get something done.

Mr. Salyers, Safety Service Director, stated that the Administration is sympathetic to the homeowner's situation but that there is an obligation to the citizens of Mount Vernon.

Mr. Menzer asked who is responsible for the cost of demolition.

Mr. Broeren explained it would be the homeowner but if they failed to pay, the City would pay for it and attach a lien to the property.

The Board then voted unanimously for the demolition of 2 Marma Drive.

## **APPROVAL OF BYLAWS**

Mr. Broeren asked that the approval of the Bylaws be moved to the next meeting.

## **OPEN FLOOR**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting from Mr. Christopher, seconded by Mr. Green. The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 PM.