Supervisor Romaine and Councilman Panico Oversee Demolition of "Zombie House" in Mastic

posted on 7/15/2016 10:07:00 AM

Farmingville, NY – On July 12, Supervisor Ed Romaine and Councilman Dan Panico were on-hand for the demolition of a "zombie house" located at 173 Somerset Avenue in Mastic. The house, which had been vacant for several years, was the source of resident complaints leading to numerous Town of Brookhaven housing code violations. There were holes in the roof and a wooden deck off the upper level was in poor condition. The interior of the house was cluttered and strewn with debris and the yard contained a dilapidated shed and trash throughout. The property will be cleared of debris and graded by the Town. The house was demolished by the Town's Department of Waste Management in accordance with Chapter 73 of the Town Code which provides a "fast track" to rid neighborhoods of unsafe structures. The cost of demolition and debris removal is the responsibility of the property owner, and the Town places a lien on the property that is then placed on the tax bill. The County reimburses the Town and then they collect the money from the property owner.

Supervisor Romaine said, "This house was a blight on the neighborhood and a health and safety hazard for the residents who live nearby. Thanks to Councilman Panico, our Law and Waste Management Departments, we are making progress in the town of Mastic by demolishing houses like this one and improving the quality of life for the families who live in the community."

Councilman Panico said, "The demolition of this blighted and unsafe structure is the latest in a long line of demolitions during the most aggressive crackdown in the history of Brookhaven Town. With every demolition, every property clean up and every court case we pursue, we are turning communities around and giving people the quality of life that they deserve."