

Town Demolishes Vacant, Unsafe House on Whitepine Way in Medford

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"Fast Track" law allows Town to take action on 4th dangerous eyesore in three weeks

Farmingville, NY - The Town of Brookhaven has demolished a house located at 77 Whitepine Way in Medford. The owner had been issued violations from the Building Department, including those for property maintenance, unsafe structure and unfit for habitation. It was condemned under NYS Property Maintenance Code as a structure unfit for human occupancy due to a collapsed ceiling, rotted main floor support, large holes in the side walls, interior walls blocked from garbage and debris restricting a clear egress.

The house was demolished in accordance with Chapter 73 of the Town Code, which after due process, allows the Town to demolish unsafe structures. The code provides a "fast track" to rid neighborhoods of dangerous eyesores to protect the health and safety of residents. Since July 18, the Town has demolished four unsafe structures, and this demolition comes less than a week after the town razed a house located at 253 Station Road in Bellport.

Supervisor Ed Romaine said, "The people on Whitepine Way have been living with this eyesore for too many years while seeing their property values go down because of it. The laws are in place to remove unsafe structures and our Law and Building Departments will continue to pursue this course of action wherever we can."

Councilwoman Connie Kepert (pictured above) said, "Working with our Law and Building Departments we were able to rid another neighborhood of a dilapidated structure which negatively impacted property values and quality of life."

The cost of demolition and debris removal is the responsibility of the property owner. The Town places a lien on the property that is then placed on the tax bill. The County reimburses the Town and they collect the money from the property owner.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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