March 4, 2015

House Is One of the "Dirty Dozen" Targeted by Supervisor Romaine

Farmingville, NY – Today, Supervisor Ed Romaine (left) and Councilman Neil Foley (right) joined members of the Town Law and Building Departments to oversee the demolition of a condemned house in East Patchogue. The vacant structure has been the source of numerous community complaints. It is on Supervisor Romaine's "Dirty Dozen" list of houses targeted for demolition in accordance with Chapter 73 of the Town Code, which provides a “fast track” to rid neighborhoods of unsafe structures. Because 70 percent of the parcel is on wetlands, Brookhaven Town is attempting to acquire the property for preservation as open space.

Supervisor Romaine said, "Vacant and abandoned houses are a blight on so many neighborhoods in the Town. They severely impact property values and they become attractive nuisances that threaten the health and safety of the residents who live nearby. Thanks to our Law and Building Departments, we are making progress by removing them and improving the quality of life for the families who live in the community."

"Fortunately, the Town has the laws in place that allow us to demolish this house and many others like it," said Councilman Foley. "It's important that residents report vacant and abandoned houses so we can get them on the fast track to demolition and clean up our neighborhoods. I will continue to work with the Supervisor, as well as our Law and Building Departments, to identify others in my district that need to be addressed."

This is the sixth vacant house demolished since the Supervisor announced the list in September of 2014. 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.

The "Dirty Dozen" listed below, includes properties from every Council District in Brookhaven Town:
1. 25 Devoe Place, Mastic
2. 33 Ashwood Drive, Shirley
3. 131 Bedford Avenue, Mastic (Demolished 10/15/14)
4. 10 Murray Lane, Coram
5. 2808 John Roe Smith Avenue, Medford
6. 1 Seacliff Avenue, Miller Place (Demolished 1/22/15)
7. 6 Frank Street, Patchogue (Demolished 3/3/2015)
8. 26 Gabon Lane, Coram
9. 22 Sundial Lane, Bellport (Demolished 11/6/14)
10. 9 Middle Island Road, Yaphank
11. 5 Parnet Court in Port Jefferson Station (Demolished 10/1/14)
12. 26 Berkeley Avenue in Selden (Demolished 9/3/14)