

**WESTFIELD TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC HEARING
7611 GREENWICH ROAD
December 3, 2007
6:30 pm**

The purpose of the public hearing is to hear testimony by sworn witnesses and to hear the owner's reason why the property has not been maintained.

Chairman, Jeff Plumer opened the public hearing with the statement "I don't believe Mr. Nelson will be here, as the certified letter to him was returned unclaimed".

In attendance: Trustees: Carolyn Sims, Timothy Kratzer and Jeff Plumer: Lee Evans, Road Maint. Supervisor; Jack Snoddy, Fire Chief; Martha Evans, Fiscal Officer; Bill Hutson, agent representing Westfield Insurance Company; Mr. & Mrs. Ken Beckman, neighbor to the above mentioned property.

Lee Evans and Jack Snoddy located the cistern today. (Pictures are in the file of the cistern). The trustees, Lee Evans, and Jack Snoddy all agreed that the cistern and basement is definitely a safety issue.

Carolyn mentioned that she has spoken with the prosecutor's office concerning the basement and cistern issue. Carolyn was informed that the basement and cistern may be considered a structure and would be addressed under a different code than ORC 505.87, which is the code that this hearing is being conducted.

Ken Beckman 7583 Greenwich Rd. was sworn in and read his testimony (copy of the statement is in the permanent file).

Wm. Hutson, representing Westfield Insurance Co. stated the insurance company paid the claim of \$127,000 to Mr. Nelson.

Jack Snoddy, Westfield Fire Chief was sworn in and gave testimony referring to his report that was made 11-15-2003 and also his inspection of the property today (12-03-2007) with photos. The inspection report is per ORC Section 3737.41.

Carolyn asked about the area being a dumping sight, such as shingles & timber. Carolyn also mentioned the trees in the back corner. Carolyn asked about the utilities, Jack said all were sealed off. Jack's professional opinion is the open holes; foundation and debris are truly a hazard.

Brian Smith, a neighbor, was sworn in and gave the following testimony: He has seen on 2 different occasions dumping. It is an easy dumpsite.

Lee Evans, Road Maint. Supervisor was sworn in and testified that he was with Jack Snoddy today (12-03-2007) inspecting the property and taking pictures of the open cistern that was full of water, foundation with debris and timber in it. All these issues are

hazardous. Carolyn asked about the condition of the foundation. Jack replied right at grade level

Carolyn made a motion to close the public participation part of the public hearing, Jeff seconded the motion. Roll call: Jeff, aye; Carolyn, aye; Tim, aye.

Carolyn made a motion based on testimony and photo's on the property of 7611 Greenwich Road the failure to maintain the property free of vegetation, garbage, refuse, and/or other debris constitutes a nuisance and move to Step #9, seconded by Jeff. Roll call: Carolyn, aye; Jeff, aye; Tim, aye.

Carolyn will ask the Assistant Prosecutor to word the letter for Step #9 at their earliest convenience.

Carolyn made a motion to adjourn the public hearing, seconded by Jeff. Unanimous.

APPROVED December 17, 2007