

Minutes of the May 8, 2017 Public Hearing

Minutes:

The Minutes of the Public Hearing on Property Inspections, held on this 8th day of May in the year 2017, said meeting held in the Council Chambers of the Du Quoin City Hall.

Call to Order:

Mayor Alongi called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the following individuals present: Commissioners Dale Spencer, Charles Genesio, and Gerald Whitley. City staff included City Attorney Aaron Atkins and City Clerk Andrew Croessman.

Public Comment:

Mayor Alongi opened the Public Hearing stating that the City and all involved in real estate need to find a common solution that all can live with to prevent Du Quoin's housing stock from deteriorating.

Mayor Alongi said that requiring rental property inspections every three years was tabled because it was too intrusive. He proposed drafting an ordinance that only required a rental property inspection if both of the following conditions were met: 1.) a public or tenant complaint was made to the City and 2.) the Fire Department validates complaint as legitimate.

Chase Porter suggested that if a tenant had an issue and there was a known solution to fix it, he should be able to fix it immediately without wasting money on an inspection that just confirms that there is an issue. The Council agreed that this could be addressed in the ordinance. Another landlord said that she has younger tenants that are not educated in property maintenance and would likely report small or nonissues. Commissioner Genesio assured her that the City is only concerned about significant life and safety issues. Bart Bishop asked if the City already had the authority to do what it was proposing. Mayor Alongi said that it did, but that this proposed ordinance was an effort to formalize and streamline the process.

Mayor Alongi expected that the first draft of the ordinance would appear at the next Council meeting.

Adjournment:

The Public Hearing adjourned at 5:34 p.m., motion by Commissioner Spencer, seconded by Commissioner Whitley; all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Croessman, City Clerk