

# Resolution No. 2009-02

[City Council Meeting Minutes of Jan 5 2009](#)

## RESOLUTION NO. 2009-02

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, confirming the assessment of charges in the amount of \$13,165.24 as a special assessment against property located at 9628 Oak Lane SW for abatement of a dangerous building and public nuisance conditions and authorizing said charges to be certified for collection in the same manner as for property taxes

WHEREAS, in connection with the incorporation of the City of Lakewood, Washington, the City Council adopted a number of health and safety codes and regulations, including regulations providing for fire, building, housing, litter, and other regulations to address adverse and negative impacts on citizens and property in the City; and,

WHEREAS, the City's code enforcement actions achieve a high degree of success through communication with property owners and dissemination of information about the health and safety codes of the City; and,

WHEREAS, in a small number of code enforcement cases the City may use progressively aggressive warning letters, notices to abate, and notices of infractions filed with the Municipal Court in order to achieve positive responses from persons responsible for properties that are in violation of the City's adopted codes; and,

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the efforts described above, the property and buildings located at 9628 Oak Lane SW suffered unpermitted and substandard additions and modifications, fire damage, dilapidation, neglect, trespass, and illegal activity, and the person or persons responsible for the property could not or would not avail themselves of the opportunity to quickly and cooperatively remove these nuisance and dangerous building conditions; and,

WHEREAS, based upon a public hearing held on December 1, 2008, it is the finding of the City Council that it was appropriate to expend \$13,165.24 to abate nuisances and dangerous buildings located at 9628 Oak Lane SW to protect the public health, safety and welfare; and,

WHEREAS, abatement of public nuisances and the procedures therefore are specifically enumerated and authorized under LMC 15A.32, under the Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings, under RCW 35.80.030, and under RCW 7.48, and those procedures were followed in this matter; and,

WHEREAS, as authorized in pertinent codes and statutes, it is appropriate also for the City of Lakewood to seek recovery of fees, compensation for the cost of staff time, and charges expended in abating said nuisances, thereby recovering public funds used in this manner; and,

WHEREAS, an itemized statement of funds expended, and a description of the conditions contained upon the property are set forth in the Report of the Building Official, is identified as Exhibit "A" to this Resolution and the same documents are on file with the Office of the City Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON HEREBY RESOLVES, as Follows:

Section 1. That in protecting the public health, safety and welfare, it was necessary to abate nuisance conditions and dangerous buildings upon property located at 9628 Oak Lane SW within the City of Lakewood, Washington. It is further appropriate to certify and confirm the assessment of charges for this abatement against the property, recording charges in the amount \$13,165.2 on the county tax assessment rolls, and thereafter creating a special assessment against and a lien upon the property for this amount. Further, upon the passage of this resolution and thirty (30) days, as allowed under the Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings, the special assessment shall bear interest at the rate of twelve (12) percent per year from and after that date.

Section 2. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon passage and signatures hereon.

PASSED by the City Council this 5th day of January, 2009.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas G. Richardson, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alice M. Bush, MMC, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney

**?EXHIBIT A?**

**REPORT OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL ON ABATEMENT**

## OF PUBLIC NUISANCE AND DANGEROUS BUILDINGS

DATE: December 24, 2008

PROPERTY OWNER: Peter & Paul Boros

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 9628 Oak Lane SW, Lakewood, Washington

TAX DESCRIPTION: Section 02 Township 19 Range 02 Quarter 22 WESTS 1ST: WESTS 1ST L 5

PARCEL NO.: 9415000050

TOTAL AMOUNT EXPENDED ON ABATEMENT: \$13,165.24

### REPORT OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL

In this matter Mark Nelson, the Building Official for the City of Lakewood, cites the following facts and procedural steps relevant to the abatement performed on the above-identified property, as follows:

1. Based upon inspections by the Building Division and a report from City of Lakewood Code Enforcement Officer Doug Price in January, 2008, it was determined that the property located at 9628 Oak Lane SW contained public nuisances and buildings located on the property were dilapidated and had unpermitted and substandard additions, were open to trespass, were filled with garbage, and the house was extensively damaged by fire and improper alteration.
2. On January 29, 2008, the City of Lakewood posted the property with a Notice and Order to Abate Public Nuisance and Dangerous Buildings. The notice declared the property a public nuisance and containing dangerous buildings. The property owner was ordered to clean the property and secure the buildings from unauthorized entry and to obtain permits to repair or demolish the buildings no later than February 18, 2008. The notice was mailed to the property owner and mortgage company via certified US mail. There was no appeal of the order.
3. The owner made limited efforts to clean up the property and secure the buildings from entry, but completed neither task.
4. The owner did obtain a permit to repair the house, but cancelled the permit upon removing the wallboard and discovering the extent of the structural damage and deficiencies.
5. The owner did not obtain the required engineering analysis of the structures and did not apply for additional permits to repair or demolish the buildings. The buildings and property continued to deteriorate and the buildings came to be habited by transients and/or other unwanted persons
6. On March 11, 2008, the City filed a Certification and Notice of Intent to Abate Dangerous Building and Public Nuisance with the Pierce County Auditor.
7. On July 22, 2008, having solicited bids from various contractors listed on the City's Small Works Roster, the City entered into a contract with Able RTW Corp., a licensed contractor, to perform the abatement of the property.
8. On or about October 28, 2008, the contractor completed the abatement.
9. Funds were expended on various dates to conduct the abatement, properly notify the property owner, and conduct the public hearing, as follows:

Abatement contract with Able RTW Corp. \$ 11,889.66

Recording notice of intent to abate with Pierce County Auditor \$ 44.00

Publication of notice of public hearing \$ 59.15

Costs of mailing notices by certified mail \$ 10.64

Cost of staff time \$ 1161.79

Total costs \$ 13,165.24

10. The Lakewood City Council held a public hearing regarding this matter on December 1, 2008. Notice of this public hearing was posted on the property and mailed to the property owners via certified mail, in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings. Notice of the hearing was also published in The News Tribune on November 6, 2008. During this public hearing, testimony was taken from City officials and a member of the public.

Signed this 24th day of December, 2008

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Mark Nelson, Building Official

City of Lakewood