

**City of DeFuniak Springs  
Special Magistrate Hearing  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, January 21, 2021  
2:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers**

**A. CALL TO ORDER OF THE HEARING SESSION**

Special Magistrate Recca Rene Youell called the Hearing to order at 2:00 p.m.

Magistrate R. Youell briefly presented the rules of the Court, as no one was present except for staff in the Chambers.

Staff present: Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn, City Manager Mell Smigielski and City Clerk Maryanne Schrader.

**B. STATEMENT ADDRESSED TO RESPONDENTS AND WITNESSES OF PROCEDURES OF HEARINGS**

**C. DOCKET:**

**1. Case: 2014**

Physical Address of Parcel: 57 Thomas Avenue, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435

Parcel: 25-3N-19-19440-00D-0120

Property Owner: Estate of Elmer Barker

Mailing Address: 4501 East Johnson Avenue, APT 812, Pensacola, FL 32514

Violations: Chapter 5, Section 5-21. – Unsafe Structures and Chapter 14, Section 14-3 (e). - Violations Enumerated

Special Magistrate R. Youell asked if anyone was present regarding the case. No one was present and so noted.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn presented Case 2014, stating it was a non-compliance case. He displayed visuals of the property violations along with dates stating he would like to initiate fines. He stated the property was posted with a “Notice of Hearing” notice, as well as at City Hall. Conditions have not changed. He requested a fine of \$25 a day in addition to a \$200 Court Hearing fine until property is brought into compliance per Ordinance.

Special Magistrate Recca Rene Youell accepted the presentation for the record.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn added the order on November 19<sup>th</sup> was for the property to be in compliance by November 30<sup>th</sup>.

Special Magistrate R. Youell recommended a fine of \$2600 and continue the \$50 a day penalty until the property is brought into compliance.

Special Magistrate R. Youell said a lien may be placed on the property.

Special Magistrate R. Youell announced the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order and to be made part of the record.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn called in the Chambers for the Representatives of the Respondent, and the Estate of Elmer Barker with no response. The halls were then called, again with no response.

**2. Case: 2016-0000006**

Physical Address of Parcel: 481 East Sloss Avenue, DeFuniak Springs

Parcel: 25-3N-19-19070-001-0620

Property Owner: Ervin Dawkins C/O Mary Joseph

Mailing Address: 9230 Rio Dell Street, Rosemead, CA 91770-1457

Violations: Chapter 5, Section 5-21. – Unsafe Structures and Chapter 14, Section 14-3 (e). - Violations Enumerated

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn called in the Chambers for the Representatives of the Respondent, and the Estate Ervin Dawkins with no response. The halls were then called, again with no response.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn presented testimony on Case 2016-0000006.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn provided visuals of the property in violation, provided a timeline of the Municipal Code violations, proper notices, letters, inspections, certified letter violation notices and hearing notice postings on property and City Hall. He added there has been no change to the condition on the property.

Special Magistrate R. Youell accepted the presentation for the record.

Special Magistrate R. Youell noted no one was present in defense of the case.

Special Magistrate R. Youell announced the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order and made part of the record.

Special Magistrate R. Youell ordered Ervin Dawkins C/O Mary Joseph pay a fine of \$2600 which has accrued on the property and shall continue to be assessed, as well as a \$50 a day fine per day until the property is brought into compliance.

**3. Case: 2016-0000020**

Physical Address of Parcel: 230 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32433

Parcel: 25-3N-19-19070-001-6582

Property Owner: Denzel J. Dockery

Mailing Address: P O Box 342, Ponce de Leon, FL 32455-0342

Violations: Chapter 5, Section 5-21. – Unsafe Structures and Chapter 14, Section 14-3 (e). - Violations Enumerated

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn called in the Chambers for the Representatives of the Respondent, Denzel J. Dockery, with no response. The halls were then called, again with no response.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn presented Case 2016-0000020. He briefly went over the visuals of the property in violation, provided a timeline of the Municipal Code violations, proper notices, letters, inspections, certified letter violation notices and hearing notice postings on property and City Hall. He added there has been no change to the condition on the property.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn recommended the respondent comply within 15 days and a \$100 fee a day be assessed. He said proper notices were placed on the property and City Hall. He asked the fine to continue until the property is in compliance.

Special Magistrate R. Youell noted no one was present to represent the respondent.

Special Magistrate R. Youell accepted the presentation for the record.

Special Magistrate R. Youell announced the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order are made part of the record.

Special Magistrate R. Youell ruled that a fine of \$4800 has accrued and shall continue to be assessed until it is in compliance, and a fine of \$100 a day will continue. The respondent shall notify the code enforcement officer when the property is brought into compliance.

**4. Case 2020-0000037**

Physical Address of Parcel: 162 Dorsey Avenue, DeFuniak Springs, FL 32433

Parcel: 36-3N-19-19050-000-0033

Property Owner: Phillip Dixon

Mailing Address: 7401 Blackmon Rd, Apt 3501, Columbus, GA 31909

Violations: Chapter 5, Section 5-21. – Unsafe Structures

The Chambers were called by Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn for the Respondent, Phillip Dixon, with no response. The halls were then called, again with no response.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn went over the violations stating on November 19, 2020, the respondent was given 30 days to get the property into compliance and fined \$25 a day plus Court costs.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris Strawn stated proper notice was placed on property and at City Hall. Conditions have not changed on the property. A total fine of \$1,325 has been assessed.

Special Magistrate R. Youell noted no one was present to represent the respondent.


Special Magistrate R. Youell accepted the presentation for the record.

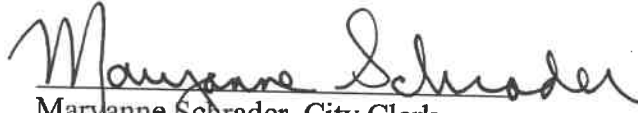
Special Magistrate R. Youell announced the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order are made part of the record.

Special Magistrate R. Youell mentioned the violations on the property continue to be an attraction for children. She ruled that a fine of \$1,325 be assessed and the fine of \$25 a day continue until the property is brought into compliance.

**5. ADJOURN**

Special Magistrate R. Youell adjourned the Hearing at 2:27 p.m.

  
The Honorable Magistrate Reca Rene Youell

  
Maryanne Schrader, City Clerk  
*Proper Notice having been duly given*

