

RESOLUTION NO. 24-26

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN STRUCTURE(S) TO BE DILAPIDATED, DETRIMENTAL TO THE HEALTH, SAFETY, OR WELFARE OF THE CITY OF LAWTON AND ITS INHABITANTS, A BLIGHTING INFLUENCE, AND A PUBLIC NUISANCE; DIRECTING THE OWNER(S) TO OBTAIN A REMODEL OR DEMOLITION PERMIT WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AND ABATE THE NUISANCE; AUTHORIZING SUMMARY ABATEMENT SHOULD THE OWNER(S) FAIL TO ABATE THE NUISANCE; AND ALTERNATIVELY AUTHORIZING THE CITY ATTORNEY TO COMMENCE LEGAL ACTION IN COMANCHE COUNTY DISTRICT COURT TO ABATE SUCH NUISANCE IF SUMMARY ABATEMENT IS NOT ECONOMICALLY PRACTICAL.**

WHEREAS, the condition of the structure(s) on the property located at:

**Fields and Dunning Addition, Block Sixteen (16), The North Sixty-Three (63) Feet of Lot 17, to the City of Lawton, Comanche County, Oklahoma, according to the recorded plat thereof, 1303 NW Laird Avenue**

has become dilapidated and detrimental to the health, safety or welfare of the City of Lawton and its inhabitants, a blighting influence and the property therewith has therefore become a public nuisance; and

WHEREAS, as required by statutes of the State of Oklahoma and the ordinances of the City of Lawton, a City official caused more than ten (10) days' notice to be given to the following-named property owner(s), recorded mortgage holders, lienholders or other persons who may assert a claim thereto:

Title Holder: Raymond W Hawkinson  
1303 NW Laird Avenue  
Lawton, Oklahoma 73507

Mortgages: U.S. Bank National Association  
4801 Frederica Street  
Owensboro, Kentucky 42301

Lienholders: City of Lawton

Other: Kim S Jenkins  
Baer & Timberlake, P.C.  
5901 N Western Avenue Suite 300  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118

by mailing a copy of said notice by certified mail to each of the aforementioned interested parties on November 21, 2023;

by posting a copy of said notice on the property on November 21, 2023;

and by publishing a copy of said notice in the Lawton Constitution on November 21, 2023;

notifying them that on a day certain the City Council of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma, would hold a public hearing, be presented with evidence concerning the condition of the said structure(s) and then determine whether said structure(s) should be declared dilapidated, detrimental to the health, safety or welfare of the City of Lawton and its inhabitants, a blighting influence and a public nuisance; and

WHEREAS, such notice being given, and said public hearing being held, the Council of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma, determined and found the structure(s) located on the following-described real property:

**Fields and Dunning Addition, Block Sixteen (16), The North Sixty-Three (63) Feet of Lot 17, to the City of Lawton, Comanche County, Oklahoma, according to the recorded plat thereof, 1303 NW Laird Avenue**

to be dilapidated, detrimental to the health, safety or welfare of the City of Lawton and its inhabitants, a blighting influence, and a public nuisance; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma, further found that the dilapidated structure(s) must, at the expense of the property owner, either be repaired and brought up to the standards of Chapter 6 of the City's Municipal Code and any other applicable code provisions or be torn down and removed by the property owner.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Lawton, State of Oklahoma, that:

SECTION 1: The Council of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma, after a public hearing held and evidence being heard, finding that the condition of the property constitutes a detriment or a hazard and that the property would be benefited by the removal of such conditions, determines the structure(s) located upon the real property hereinbefore described is/are dilapidated, detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of the community, a blighting influence, and a public nuisance.

SECTION 2: The property owner of said dilapidated structure(s) shall have thirty (30) days from the date of the adoption of this resolution, at said owner's expense, to obtain a permit either (1) to remodel and bring the dilapidated structure(s) within the standards of Chapter 6 of the City's Municipal Code and any other applicable code provisions or (2) to tear down and remove such dilapidated structure(s). No such work shall begin or be done by the owner or said owner's agents without a permit therefor. Any work authorized under a permit to remodel and bring the dilapidated structure(s) within the standards of the City's building code must be completed as outlined in Paragraph D, Section 6-1-1-108, Article One, Chapter 6, of the Lawton City Code. Should the property owner fail to remodel and bring the dilapidated structure(s) within the applicable code standards within the time prescribed in Section 6-1-1-108, said property owner

shall then obtain a demolition permit within seven (7) days of the expiration of the time period outlined in Section 6-1-1-108 and demolish and remove the dilapidated structure(s) within four (4) weeks of the issuance of the demolition permit. Further, until all such work is completed and for so long as the structure(s) remain deemed dilapidated and the real property deemed a public nuisance, the owner or said owner's agents shall not allow the premises to be occupied.

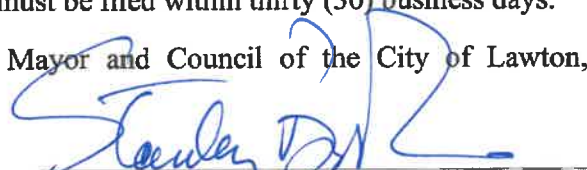
SECTION 3: In the event the property owner either (1) fails to obtain a permit as directed in Section 2 of this Resolution or (2) fails to perform in accordance with the conditions of the permit issued, then the City's agents are authorized to enter upon the property, to abate the nuisance thereon, and to otherwise demolish, dismantle and remove the dilapidated structure(s). Further, Neighborhood Services is authorized to solicit bids to raze and remove the dilapidated structure(s).

SECTION 4: In conjunction with or in lieu of any such abatement, as provided in Section 3 of this Resolution, the City Attorney is hereby authorized, should the same be deemed necessary, to abate the nuisance by the initiation, prosecution, and/or settlement of litigation in Comanche County District Court, pursuant to the provisions of Title 11 O.S. §22-112, Title 50 O.S. §17, and/or any other applicable law. In addition to the property owner, the City Attorney shall be authorized to name as a party to such litigation any individual or entity having an interest in the property, to include mortgage and lien holders. In lieu of or in conjunction with any such litigation, the City Attorney is authorized to allow a demolition permit to be issued to any individual with legally valid ownership claim to the property.

SECTION 5: All of the costs borne by the City in abating the nuisance shall be charged to the owner of the property as a personal obligation and to the real property itself as provided by law. These costs will include the following: (1) the cost of litigation to include attorney fees, (2) the cost of any notice, mailing, filing, and all administrative and professional expenses incurred, (3) the actual cost of the labor, maintenance and equipment required for the dismantling and removal of the dilapidated structure(s), and (4) any other expenses that may be necessary in conjunction with the demolition, dismantling and removal of the structure(s) and otherwise abating the public nuisance on the property.

SECTION 6: All persons having an interest in property are notified that, pursuant to Title 11 O.S. §22-112, any action to challenge this Resolution must be filed within thirty (30) business days.

**ADOPTED and APPROVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.

  
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Stanley Booker, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donalynn Blazek-Scherler, City Clerk

APPROVED as to form and legality this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.

  
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Timothy Wilson, Acting City Attorney