

**BUILDING & BUILDING CODES COMMITTEE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 15, 2008**

The Building & Building Codes Committee meeting was held on September 15, 2008, at North Royalton City Hall, 13834 Ridge Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

PRESENT: Committee Members: Chair Don Willey, Larry Antoskiewicz, Kurt McKee; Council: Dan Kasaris, John Nickell; Other Attendees: Nick Cinquepalmi.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Kurt McKee, seconded by Larry Antoskiewicz **to approve the July 14, 2008 Minutes.** Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Abandoned houses update report

Mr. Alvarez was not in attendance to give a report.

Mr. Kasaris asked how many abandoned houses there are in North Royalton. Mr. Willey said he believes there are approximately 50. Mr. McKee suggested reporting abandoned houses as you come across them.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposal to amend grass/weed ordinance

Mr. Kasaris sent out an email in July regarding tall grass and weeds on vacant property. This email was generated due to vacant lots in Pinestream and Devonshire subdivisions that are not being maintained either by the property owner or the builder.

Mr. Kasaris said that the current ordinance states that tall grass/weeds must be cut 50 feet from the structure or 50 feet from the street. Mr. Kasaris said this takes care of a lot that is developed, however, when you have a lot that is not developed, it only takes care of 50 feet from the street and beyond that the lot is all weeds. Mr. Kasaris feels that in a subdivision, as much of the grass/weeds that is practical to be cut, should be cut.

Mr. McKee asked how you define a subdivision. Mr. Kasaris said it is a residential subdivision approved by the municipality. This is not necessarily a development.

Mr. Antoskiewicz said that he thought the proposed revised language which states that this ordinance will apply to subdivisions where fifty percent or more of the lots or parcels of record are improved with a dwelling constructed upon it, is a low percentage. Mr. McKee suggested talking to Mr. Alvarez regarding enforcement levels.

Mr. Antoskiewicz suggested asking Mr. Alvarez what percentage of residents actually cut their weeds/grass when they are cited vs. those residents who ignore the violation and the city ends up cutting it.

Mr. Antoskiewicz suggested each committee member drive around their Ward to see how many subdivisions have violations. He does not want to legislate something that only affects one or two subdivisions.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. McKee, seconded by Mr. Antoskiewicz to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.