

**TOWN OF INTERLACHEN  
CODES ENFORCEMENT SPECIAL MAGISTRATE  
HEARING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 – 9:00 A.M.  
DICKERMAN BUILDING**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Magistrate, Ronald Brown called the hearing to order at 9:07 am.

**MAGISTRATE BRIEFING:**

Magistrate Brown introduced himself and stated that he is a state certified attorney appointed by the Town of Interlachen to preside over today's proceedings. Mr. Brown stated that this is not a formal court of law but is bound to follow principles of due process and fairness, These are standard proceedings, but the state law requires that all evidence be substantial and competent and that everyone who is testifying must be sworn in.

**SWEARING IN:**

Magistrate Brown swore in Codes Enforcement Officer, Mary Ratliff .

**CODES CASE #041323 – Judy Water: 187 Dickens Street**

The respondent was not present.

Magistrate Brown stated that the respondent is in violation of Ordinance 2021-2, Section 4.1; Care of Premises.

Codes Enforcement Officer, Mary Ratliff verified that due notice of the violation and the hearing were sent to the respondent by certified mail. Notices were posted on the property also. The Certified mail was returned to the Town.

Mrs. Ratliff showed the pictures of the property depicting pieces of a boat, a container, metal, mattresses, a Trailer frame, construction materials, tires, etc.

Magistrate Brown's ordered that the respondent remove all man-made debris and cut the vegetation to under 18" By the end of the day on October 15, 2023 25. If not in compliance a fee of \$25.00 will be assessed and will will continue until the property is brought into compliance.

**CODES CASE #12223 – Eric Diaz, Linda Diaz, Oziele Diaz, & Tony Diaz : 106 Tropic Avenue**

The respondents were not present.

Codes Enforcement Officer, Mary Ratliff stated that the respondent(s) are in violation of Ordinance 2021-2, Section 4.1; Care of Premises. Respondents were notified at the address listed on the Property Appraiser's website.

The green card was signed by the respondent signed on August 21, 2023. The property was posted on August 31, 2023.

Mrs. Ratliff stated that Linda Diaz called her and said that their truck broke down on their way to apply for a demolition permit, and that she was tired of dealing with this matter and would not do anything further.

Magistrate Brown swore in Town Clerk, Joni Payne, who testified that the house burned January 22, 2023 and that the zoning Ordinance states that owners of burned or razed out buildings have 180 days to come in compliance. The 180 days was up on July 24, 2023, and upon the advice of the Town Attorney it was turned over to Codes Enforcement.

Codes Enforcement Officer, Mary Ratliff showed the pictures of the property depicting overgrown weeds, downed fence.

Magistrate Brown stated that Ordinance 2021-2, Section 4.1 does not address burned or razed buildings and there is no evidence that the building has been condemned.

The definition of “unkempt” of the city code indicates that the property is a danger to the public health, safety, and welfare of citizens. The question becomes, if that is true, what needs to be done to secure the health, safety, and welfare of citizens.

Magistrate Brown entered an order as follows; the grass/vegetation must be mowed down to 18” , the man-made debris, including the missing fence section, tin and other man-made items in the yard must be removed. The order also includes requiring the owners to apply for a demolition permit or secure the property from entry. The owners must come into Compliance by the end of the business day on October 15, 2023, or fines of \$25.00 a day shall commence on October 16, 2023 until compliance is secured.

**CODES CASE #083122- Roger David Roth & the Pinder Trust: 201 Commonwealth Avenue**

The respondent(s) were not present.

The hearing was for a request from the Town to either abate or foreclose the claim of lien on the property that was previously ordered on June 6, 2023.

The notice of hearing was delivered by the certified mail on September 7, 2023, but was returned unsigned.

Magistrate Brown entered an order authorizing the Town of Interlachen to either abate or foreclose the claim of lien on the property. The fines accrued as of this date are \$5,475.00. Fines will continue to accrue until abatement or foreclosure.

**ADOURNMENT:**

The hearing adjourned at 10:30am.