

CHRIS MILLER
POST OFFICE BOX 1265
LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66044
TELEPHONE: 785-841-6245

RECEIVED

JUL 14 2009

CITY MANAGERS OFFICE
LAWRENCE, KS

July 14, 2009

The Lawrence City Commission
% The Honorable Frank Reeb
City Clerk
City Of Lawrence
6 East 6th Street
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Re: 1207 E. 13th Street

Gentlepersons:

I am writing with respect to a report from City staff, scheduled before the City Commission, on July 14, 2009, as indicated in Ms. Wyatt's letter of July 8. Please accept this letter as my response to the issues raised in that letter. Please include this correspondence as part of the official record and evidence of that proceeding.

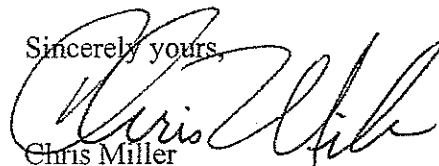
As I indicate in my letter, I am prepared to remove the former attached garage structure, since being required to demonstrate its structural integrity is not economically feasible. I would have begun that process, but given past difficulties with conflicting direction from staff, I would like to ensure that I have written approval before proceeding as outlined in my letter to Ms. Wyatt, a copy of which I have attached.

If my proposal with regard to removal of the attached garage structure is acceptable, I trust that I will receive appropriate written notification. Unfortunately, given the short notice, I do not anticipate being able to attend the July 14 meeting.

With respect to Ms. Mitchell's letter, as you can see from Ms. Wyatt's letter of July 8, a copy of which I have attached, I have complied with City staff's requirements regarding removal of the "unsafe structure including the subfloor of the structure and the backfilling of the foundation", as directed in Resolution No. 6834.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter

Sincerely yours,


Chris Miller

CM/kan

cc: Mr. David Corless
Mr. Brian Jimenez



City of Lawrence

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

1 Riverfront Plaza, Suite 110
P.O. Box 708
Lawrence, KS 66044

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Phone 785-832-7700
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July 8, 2009

Chris Miller
PO Box 1265
Lawrence KS 66044

RE: 1207 E 13th Street

Dear Mr. Miller:

On 4/28/09 the City Commission adopted Resolution No. 6834 (copy enclosed). This resolution declared the structure at 1207 E. 13th unsafe and dangerous and required the following be completed:

1. Removal of the unsafe structure including the subfloor of the structure and the backfilling of the foundation to be completed before 5/29/09;
2. Provide inspection of the structural integrity of the garage previously attached to the house to determine if the garage is unsafe or dangerous before 6/30/09;
3. the owner shall provide plans to the City regarding the rebuilding of a house on the site and the use of the garage by 6/30/09 in order for the City to determine how to proceed with the accessory garage structure.

Requirement number 1 has been completed, while 2 and 3 have not.

Staff will be providing a status report for this property to the City Commission meeting at their regularly scheduled meeting on 7/14/09. Should you have questions concerning this, you may contact me at 785-832-3112.

Sincerely,

Julie Wyatt
Code Enforcement Officer

Cc: Brian Jimenez, Code Enforcement Manager
Scott McCullough, Planning & Development Services Director

CHRIS MILLER

POST OFFICE BOX 1265
LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66044
TELEPHONE: 785-841-6245

July 13, 2009

Ms. Julie Wyatt
Code Enforcement Officer
City Of Lawrence
Department of Neighborhood Resources
6 East 6th Street
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

Re: Letter of July 8, 2009
1207 E. 13th Street

Dear Ms. Wyatt:

Thank you for your letter of July 8. You are correct that the portion of the structure deemed to be unsafe by the City Commission has been removed, and the foundation area has been filled.

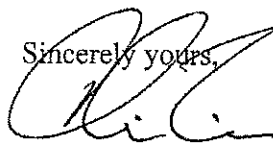
I am prepared to remove the formerly attached garage, since an engineering inspection of the structural integrity of that structure is not available at a reasonable cost. I would suggest that can be accomplished within thirty (30) days' time, if the Commission approves.

With respect to the detached garage, I have determined that it is not economically feasible for me to rebuild on that site. I have, however, begun efforts to market the property for sale. I have been advised that structure does have potential value to a new owner or builder. In addition, that structure was undamaged by the fire, and not listed in the request for demolition, or contemplated by the Demolition Permit.

As I understand it, your agency contends that structure is an "illegal, non-conforming use" although no formal effort has been initiated to have it declared as such a use. I suggest that it is a legal structure, and certainly has value to an owner or potential buyer. Regardless, until the appropriate procedure is followed and a legal determination is made of those issues, I do not intend to take other action with respect to that structure, other than to use it in an effort to successfully market the property to a potential buyer.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,



Chris Miller

CM/kan
Cc: Lawrence City Commission
Robert Chestnut, Mayor