

**Town of Ancram
Town Board
Public Hearing on Proposed Unsafe Building Law
March 19, 2015**

Present:	Supervisor Arthur Bassin	Councilman James Miller
	Councilman Chris Thomas	Councilman Hugh Clark
	Councilwoman Madeline Israel	Town Clerk Monica Cleveland

The public hearing on the proposed Unsafe Buildings Law was called to order at 6:30pm by Supervisor Bassin. Mr. Bassin stated that the meeting had been properly advertised in the official paper.

Mr. Bassin opened the meeting to the floor for comments.

Mrs. Donna Hoyt asked about the characteristics that were listed as deeming a building as unsafe and how many a property had to possess to be listed as such. Mr. Bassin stated that it could be as few as one characteristic if it is proven to be severe enough.

Mrs. Hoyt stated that the notification of inspection should be sent via certified mail. Mr. Bassin agreed that this was a good point.

Mrs. Hoyt asked if there was a list of possible properties which would fall under this law from the Building Inspector. Mr. Bassin stated that the Building Inspector is waiting until he has a final draft law, with its full criteria, before compiling a list.

Mrs. Hoyt asked if the vote at the proposed hearing by the town board with the property owner, would be by a majority vote? Mr. Bassin said it would be by a majority or a super majority vote.

Mrs. Hoyt asked who has drafted the law. Mr. Bassin said the law was based on similar laws drafted by other towns, consolidated by Jason Shaw, with edits made by members of the Town Board and Financial Advisory Council, an architect, and the Building Inspector.

Mr. Bassin stated that this law has evolved into legislation which targets buildings that are unsafe *and* dangerous to the public and adjacent properties, not just run down and unsightly.

Mrs. Hoyt asked if the time frame of 30 days was able to be changed if say a building collapsed because of a storm, and the owners are unable to get to it. Mr. Bassin said the law can be modified to allow more time for insurance and weather purposes.

There being no more comments, a motion was made by Councilwoman Israel and seconded by Councilman Miller to adjourn the Public Hearing. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Monica R. B. Cleveland, Ancram Town Clerk