



Agenda

Planning, Finance, Enterprise, and Economic Development Committee

Oelwein City Hall, 20 Second Avenue SW, Oelwein, Iowa

5:15 PM

August 25, 2025

Oelwein, Iowa

Mayor: Brett DeVore

Committee Members: Matt Weber, Karen Seeders, Lynda Payne

Pledge of Allegiance

Discussions

1. Consideration of a motion providing direction to Council on the property forfeiture for 314 1st Avenue NE from Teresa Haas.

Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for Council meetings should notify the City Clerk's Office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 319-283-5440

Forfeiting Properties to City

The City is willing to work with property owners when the situation is advantageous to the city and community members. Anyone who owns a property, residential or commercial, that they can no longer manage may submit a request to sign the property over to the city.



314 1st ave NE
Property Address

1821213010
Property Parcel Number

511 5th st SE Delwein, IA 50662
Owner's or Owners' Name(s)

Teresa Haas
Owner's or Owners' Address, City, State, ZIP

Owner's or Owners' Email Address
Teresahaas987@aol.com

319 283-8244
Owner's or Owners' Phone

Are you being represented by a real estate agent or lawyer?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Owner's or Owners' Representative Name and Contact Information

Initials

If you do not have a Representative: I/we understand that I/we are entering into a legal contract and choose to represent my/ourselves, with all the due diligence required being done on my/our part.

At my age it would be too hard to keep up with it since I bought another house after the arson

Please describe why you are requesting to forfeit this property to the City.

Teresa Haas
Printed Name

Printed Name

Teresa Haas
Signature

8-18-25
Date

Buyer Signature

Date

Legal Relationship to Each Other if more than 1 party:

Items of Note*

Item 1: Shared garage, split by parcel line. This shared garage has an easement written in the deed.



Item 2: Remaining storage shed

Item 3: Home that has already been demolished. City already owns parcel directly to the North.





Policy: Oelwein Property Forfeiture Policy

Adopted by Resolution: 5297-2021

Date: September 13, 2021

The City is willing to work with property owners when the situation is advantageous to the city and community members. Anyone who owns a property, residential or commercial, that they can no longer manage may submit a request to sign the property over to the city. The process below outlines how a property owner can quitclaim deed their property over to the city:

- The property owner works with Community Development on an inspection of the property
- Community Development inspects the property and produces a report
- The property owner writes a letter to the city making a request for the property to be quitclaim deeded to the city
- The report and letter from the owner is presented to the Planning, Finance, Enterprise and Economic Development Committee with a recommendation from the City Administrator
- The Committee will make a recommendation to council
- Council will vote the same night through a motion to accept or deny the property transfer
- At the following meeting, the council will accept the property through a resolution
 - City council must accept all property through a resolution

Conditions do apply when requesting to surrender a property to the city through a quitclaim deed:

- The property owner must provide to the city evidence of a significant hardship to be eligible to quitclaim deed the property
- The property must be current on all taxes and utility bills
- The property must be clean inside and out
- All immediate nuisances on the property should be cleaned or eradicated before presenting to council

While the city strives to follow the above guidelines, exceptions can be made in dire circumstances. The city accepts dilapidated properties because going through the court system would prove costly for the city. While the city can assess demolitions or clean-ups to the taxes, these circumstances have not paid off for the city. The most cost-effective option for the city is to take a property and demolish it rather than going after an individual who does not and will not have the resources to demolish a property. All enforcement roads lead to demolition for the city. With the city taking possession of the property, the city avoids court costs and attorney fees.