

Media Advisory

City Enacts First Shaming Order

An ordinance design to get non-compliant landlords to fix their property is issued against a Pewaukee man

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Date: Wednesday, November 13, 2002 12 Noon

LOCATION: 2522 N. 1st St.

Milwaukee, WI — After five years of complaints and non-compliance with code violations, a Pewaukee man is the first to have his property posted by the City of Milwaukee under the so-called “shaming” ordinance. Signed in to law in 1998, the ordinance allows the City to declare a building a nuisance and permit the posting of a sign containing information on how to contact the landlord. Neighborhood residents and City officials will be on hand to talk about the sign and what they hope to accomplish by it.

The owner, Warren S. Hornik, N27 W 30024 Maple Ave., Pewaukee, WI, 53072, has been cited by the Department of Neighborhood Services several times over the past five years for building code violations and nuisance violations such as litter and debris. In September of 2000, Hornik was fined \$620 for the violations, but continued to not make repairs. Using a special ordinance under Section 218-9 for the first time, the City is declaring the building a nuisance and condemning it. This allows the City to post the sign and hopefully get the building repaired. Hornik owns or controls five properties in the City of Milwaukee which have five open orders with 24 code violations. Hornik also owes the City of Milwaukee back taxes in the amount of \$11, 514.26. He owns a home overlooking Pewaukee Lake assessed at \$277,700.

The duplex on First Street was identified as one of the worst in the City of Milwaukee by the Milwaukee Housing Coalition. The coalition is a group of about 20 community groups working together to identify common problems in their neighborhoods. Together they are working with problem landlords to address their violations before a formal referral is made to the Department of Neighborhood Services. The City-wide Housing Coalition is meeting on Thursday, November 14, 2002 with a number of problem landlords to alert to them to the ordinance and to seek further compliance with their code issues.
