

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

3.7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING – Demolition Request for Heritage Listed Property – 126 Price Street

- Councillor Squire: Alright. Thank you. Thank you very much and just to point out this relates to Item 4.2 on the LACH Report which is the concurrence with this recommendation. We'll also be moving it and seconding it and approving it or not approving it with the staff recommendation. Is the applicant present?
- Catharine Saunders, City Clerk: Yes, Mr. Chair. Levy Leverton is in attendance.
- Councillor Squire: Good evening. Did you want to speak tonight or not? You don't have to.
- Levy Leverton: No. I don't have anything to say. I just appreciate your time.
- Councillor Squire: Thank you very much. You'll want to stay tuned and see what we say. Any other members of the public?
- Catharine Saunders, City Clerk: Christine Fletcher or Scott is on the line.
- Councillor Squire: Alright. Go ahead.
- Christine Scott: Hello.
- Councillor Squire: Hi.
- Christine Scott: Can you hear me?
- Councillor Squire: Yes, I can.
- Christine Scott: My name is Christine.
- Councillor Squire: Alright. You have five minutes. It's Christine. I'm sorry, you're last name?
- Christine Scott: Scott.
- Councillor Squire: Alright. Thank you very much.
- Christine Scott: Okay. I own a home at 97 Smith Street which is a listed heritage property. My other half of coming up to twenty-two years is at 145 Price Street which used to be an old funeral home. We had seen, we were very interested in 126 Price Street and buying it. It was where Bill and Cathy that were in there before, they sold it privately, everything went privately, there was never a sign on the property. Levy ended up purchasing it from a woman, a realtor and we did talk to him at that time to see about purchasing it because we wanted to keep it it's original way and it was where the amount of money that was asked of us to pay within two weeks of him owning the property and nothing really done. The house was gutted when he had purchased the house so when my other half at 145 Price Street, Bill, he had said about he received a letter and we feel that it should not be done. I did go around down Price Street to Holman Street. I did get twenty-seven signatures for a no on demolition. I believe the property like, the bricks being taken off, it was a beautiful cottage home and yes, I understand structure problems, but structure problems can be fixed. I feel, we feel, there was an out if it was going to be too much problem because we were interested with it as a heritage property. The tree also in front of 126 Price Street is also a heritage tree. It's original there, there's a, it used to be a

post office on Price Street, there was a doctor on Price Street. 145 Price Street was a funeral home so it's where it just a shame to take a cottage home, beautiful cottage home that was there and demolish it and change the landscape of that area. As I said, we also own a home on 97 Smith Street, it's a Queen Anne cottage home, it's beautiful and it's just a no vote for us and twenty-seven other people from Hamilton Road to Holman Street and if you could the amount of people I pretty well got everybody's signature except for two people that rented, one couldn't speak English and the other one worked for the City and he didn't want to respond. I had talked to the guy at 128 Price Street and he was the one who, because we were interested in what was going on, and he was the one who let me know about a woman realtor and everything just went very private so we were interested in purchasing that property to keep it as the heritage home that it is and the characteristics and we had even commented that we would go to ACE Wrecking, all the different places and try to get it back to its original state. We have to stick up for these heritage homes so I guess thank you for hearing me and I hope you do a "no" vote.

- Councillor Squire: Thank you very much for your time to speak to us. We appreciate it.
- Christine Scott: Thank you.
- Councillor Squire: Any other members of the public that wish to speak?
- Catharine Saunders, City Clerk: Yes. Ms. Valastro.
- Councillor Squire: Ms. Valastro? Ms. Valastro?
- Catharine Saunders, City Clerk: Ms. Valastro you are on mute. We have asked you to unmute.
- AnnaMaria Valastro: I'm just here to speak on this demolition request because I'm always very disappointed when small cottages that are representative of people that came to Canada, that lived along the river. The river was the life of a lot of these small working class people that came to Canada. It 's a wood structure, it's just a perfect representation of working class, new Canadians set up along the river and because they're not glamorous, they're tiny, it's wood, it's old growth forest, these should be considered valuable cultural structures because they say so much about who lived there and what these communities were like and a lot about the river and I'm really disappointed that they are not recommended for preservation just based on our history and, again, the same thing happened at Blackfriars, at 82 Blackfriars. That was the last standing house in that neighbourhood, it saw the flood, it survived the flood and it got demolished because there is nothing overwhelmingly special about that, that house except that it was rich with history, the same with this cottage and I wish Council would protect more of those intrinsic historical, cultural values and not just on the fact that it's wood, it's small. Those are worthy of protection so I hope you vote no as well.
- Councillor Squire: Thank you very much. Any other members of the public? Okay. There being none I will just need a motion to close the public participation meeting.