

Town files suit against property owner

Written by Mark Jaeger

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After months of threats, court asked to order Skoczek to clean up Cigrand Dr. lot

Town of Fredonia officials have followed through on a threat to take a negligent property owner to court, filing suit last week against Danti Skoczek.

For more than a year, town officials have struggled to find a way to get Skoczek to clean up her property at N5426 Cigrand Dr.

The two-story frame building is in disrepair, but officials are more concerned with the neglected condition of the property.

Noxious weeds, debris and wood scraps have accumulated in the yard, and at least one unlicensed truck has sat untended on a driveway for months.

Neighbors have repeatedly complained about the property, to the point where town officials have offered to find volunteers willing to pitch in on the clean-up effort.

Town Chairman Richard Mueller said Skoczek has refused to grant access to her property during a brief, emotional conversation.

“She said she absolutely would not sign anything that would allow people on her property,” Mueller told the board last month.

Skoczek also reportedly told Mueller she didn’t want to discard any of the accumulated refuse, because she might have use for it in the future.

Skoczek has a Port Washington address listed as her residence, but town officials have said they have had little luck tracking her down.

The Cigrand Drive building, which is purported to be more than 100 years old, is not currently connected to utilities.

In the claim filed in Ozaukee County circuit court Dec. 15, the town is asking that the property be declared a public nuisance.

The court is also asked to rule against Skoczek for having unlicensed vehicles on her property outside of a garage.

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The town is asking the court to order that the property be cleaned up, and that Skoczek be prevented “from recommitting the nuisance” once the site is cleared.

A civil forfeiture and court costs are being sought by the town.

This summer, Skoczek received an eviction notice ordering her to vacate the resale business she had been running in the Lueptow’s building in downtown Port Washington. That business has now closed.