



A property at the corner of State and Taft streets in Paxton has broken windows and a porch awning falling down, and the Paxton City Council has filed a complaint for the property's repair. Mayor James

Kingston called the property, which is owned by Warren Pacey, "an eyesore" at Monday's council meeting. Warren Pacey's son, Chip Pacey, told the Record that he hopes his father makes the repairs.

City files complaint for Pacey pr

By Will Brumleve

The Pacey family may take steps to repair a deteriorated brick house at the corner of State and Taft streets in Paxton, one that Mayor James Kingston called "an eyesore" Monday night.

The property, which is owned by Warren Pacey and has been in the Pacey family for more than a decade, has broken windows and a porch awning falling down, among other concerns.

The city has targeted the property for repair a number of times. A notice was sent out last June, and an identical complaint was filed last week that called for the property's repair by Feb. 10.

Kingston's comment came after Police Committee Chairman Bill Ingold told the council that Chip Pacey, son of Warren Pacey, had called him to ask what, specifically, is needed to fulfill the city's latest request.

In a statement directed to the press, Kingston said, "The house is an eyesore. The family has stalled, drug their feet, and they haven't done ... one thing, substantially, to make this look better. It looks like hell, H-E-L-L."

"It's pitiful that we allow this to go on. We fight 'em, fight 'em and fight

'em, and they don't do anything. They should take pride in this community like we do."

Chip Pacey, attorney for Pacey & Pacey Lawyers, Paxton, told the Record on Tuesday that he called Ingold because the complaint is vague and does not list exactly what needs to be repaired, not because his father does not intend to repair the property as asked.

Chip Pacey said, "It's a statutory provision which I don't think has enough time to allow people to respond and doesn't require a governmental unit to specify exactly what needs to be done. You're sort of left to guess.

"One of my other concerns, in addition to what is required in order to satisfy the city, is whether or not in a relatively short period of time we'll be back in the same kind of boat," Pacey said. "(This is) because there aren't very many people in the vicinity (of the house) at night. Part of the reason for the broken windows is vandalism. Simply repairing the windows doesn't necessarily resolve the problem. I had expressed that concern to Bill Ingold also."

Chip Pacey added, "There are a number of other 'eyesores' in the community."

Ingold told the council the house

does not need to look "fancy" necessarily, but he said it should at least look "normal."

Chip Pacey said he hopes his father makes the repairs. Jerry Niemann, filling in for City Attorney Bob Martensen on Monday, said Warren Pacey has to either admit or deny the city's allegations by the Feb. 10 deadline. If Warren Pacey doesn't do so by that time, he could face either fines, a court order or the demolition of his property.

Chip Pacey said he has never owned the property. He said he was speaking on his behalf, not his father's. Warren Pacey, 88, could not be reached for comment. "I'm without any authority, without any ownership interest," Chip Pacey said. "I'm just trying to help resolve this

Council app purchase o

By Will Brumleve

Paxton's main water treatment plant west of town will have a generator to rely on in emergency situa-

roperty

issue."

Chip Pacey said his family acquired the house before he moved back to town in 1988. Since then, it has been used mainly for storage.

The property is apparently for sale. An advertisement regarding the property's sale was in a recent edition of the Paxton Record.

Niemann said the number of complaints made against the Pacey property was unavailable Tuesday because the city's attorney does not keep complaint records on file by name, but rather by chronological order.

Niemann said most complaints are resolved without filing.

"Filing is a last resort," he said. "It's only when working with the people does not resolve the issue that filing is necessary."