

CENTRE TOWNSHIP

Berks County, Pennsylvania

ORDINANCE NO. 23-1984

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CENTRE,
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA REQUIRING THE
REMOVAL OR REPAIR OF DANGEROUS STRUCTURES
BY THE OWNER THEREOF OR BY THE TOWNSHIP AT
THE EXPENSE OF SUCH OWNER FAILING OR
REFUSING TO DO SO AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES
FOR VIOLATION

BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Supervisors of Centre
Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, and it is as follows:

SECTION 1

Whenever it shall be reported to or come to the attention of
the Building Inspector and/or Secretary that any structure, completed or
in process of construction, or any portion thereof, is in a dangerous
condition, the Building Inspector shall immediately cause an
investigation and examination to be made of such structure. If such
investigation or examination indicates such structure to be dangerous in
any respect, the Building Inspector shall notify in writing the
Secretary, specifying the exact condition of such structure, setting
forth in such report whether and in what respect he considers such
structure to be dangerous and/or unsafe, and, if so, whether such
structure is capable of being properly repaired or whether it should be
removed as a dangerous structure.

Upon receiving the report from the Building Inspector, the Secretary may make a similar investigation and examination. The Building Inspector and Secretary may request the Fire Department and a consulting Engineer to also review the structure.

SECTION 2

After the investigation has been completed, the Secretary and Building Inspector shall report the findings of their investigation and examination to the next regular or special meeting of the Township Supervisors requesting a hearing upon ten (10) days' notice to the property owner, which notice shall set forth the results of the investigation by the Building Inspector and Secretary. Thereafter, a hearing shall be held by the Supervisors upon advertisement thereof and notice to the property owners. At the conclusion of the hearing before the Supervisors, the Supervisors shall determine by Resolution whether the structure is a dangerous one in accordance with the definition as set forth in this Ordinance and/or set forth in the Second Class Township Code, §1502, 53 P.S.A. 56526 thereof. If the Supervisors determine by Resolution that the structure is dangerous, the Secretary shall forthwith cause written notice to be served upon the owner of such structure. Such notice shall require the owner of such structure to commence the repair or the removal of such structure within ten (10) days of receipt of said notice and to complete such repair or removal within thirty (30) days; provided, however, that in any case where the notice prescribes the repair of any structure, the property owner thereof shall have the option

PROVIDED: each day's continuance of a violation shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 6

If the property owner of any dangerous structure, to whom or which a Resolution of the Supervisors to repair or removal such structure shall be sent under the provisions of this Ordinance, fails to commence or to complete such repair or removal within the time limit prescribed by such notice, the Building Inspector shall be empowered to cause such work of repair or removal to be commenced and/or completed by the Township, and the cost and expense thereof, with a penalty of ten percent (10%), shall be collected from the property owner of such structure in the manner provided by law. PROVIDED: the recovery of such cost and expenses, together with the penalty, may be in addition to the penalty imposed as provided in Section 5 of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7

All references in the within Ordinance in the singular and, in particular, all references to "owner of property", "property owner", "property owner's", "owner" and other similar terms shall also be deemed to refer to the plural, as may be applicable.

SECTION 8

In addition to any other remedy available to the Township, the Township, to enforce or seek a judicial determination, may seek relief by an action in equity, as provided in the Second Class Township Code.

SECTION 9

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable; and if any of its provisions shall be held to be unconstitutional or illegal, such decision shall not affect the validity of any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared as a legislative intent that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional or illegal provision had not been included.

SECTION 10

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 11

This Ordinance shall be effective immediately.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED as an Ordinance this 11th day of April ,
1984.

CENTRE TOWNSHIP

By: Wilmer H. Phillips
Chairman

By: Albert W. Burkholder Sr
Supervisor

By: Harvard W. Miller
Supervisor