

# Vacant Property Registration

On May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2016-37 establishing section 1360.33, "Vacant Property Registration":

## **1360.33 VACANT PROPERTY REGISTRATION.**

Structures which are left vacant for extended period of time have been shown to breed crime, pose public safety risks, and reduce property values and the economic viability of the community in which they are found. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish a program for identifying and registering vacant residential and commercial buildings. To determine the responsibilities of owners of vacant buildings and structures and to provide incentives for the rehabilitation and productive use of vacant buildings. Shifting the cost or burden of the existence of vacant residential and commercial structures from the general citizenry to the owners of the buildings is an intended result of this ordinance.

- An owner of a vacant building shall register such structure with the Building Commissioner not later than 90 days after it becomes a vacant building, or not later than 30 days of being notified by the Building Commissioner of the requirement to register based on evidence of vacancy, whichever event first occurs.
- The registration and all associated processes must be completed in its entirety annually for as long the property remains vacant.

### **FEES:**

- The owner of a vacant residential building shall pay an annual fee of \$200.00 for the first year the building remains vacant. For every consecutive year that the building remains vacant, the annual fee will be assessed at double the previous year's fee amount for a maximum annual fee equaling the \$3,200.
- The owner of a vacant commercial building shall pay an annual fee of \$400.00 for the first year the building remain vacant. For every consecutive year that the building remains vacant, the annual fee will be assessed at double the previous year's fee amount for a maximum annual fee equaling \$6,400.

Applications can be found on the Building Department page. Feel free to contact the Building Department with any questions at 216 635-4203.