



Briefing Memo

TO: City Council
FROM: Joseph "Jay" Melder, City Manager
RE: 925 East President Street – Emergency Demolition
DATE: October 6, 2025

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information regarding the incident that occurred on April 15, 2025, at 925 E. President Street. On this date, a significant fire broke out at the location, which necessitated the emergency demolition of the structure. The demolition was contracted to Masterfull Enterprises.

The fire required the deployment of heavy equipment and resources to contain and extinguish the blaze. The extensive damage caused by the fire, including roof and wall collapse, rendered the building unsafe and posed a danger to public safety. Following an assessment by Savannah Fire and Development Services, it was determined that immediate demolition was essential to mitigate further risk to the community.

During the incident, efforts were made to contact the property owner to facilitate and coordinate the demolition process. However, despite multiple attempts, we were unable to reach the property owner. Due to the imminent danger to public safety and the inability to secure property, the structure was demolished without delay.

The property owner has been billed for the costs associated with the demolition, and collection efforts are currently underway.

In response, Masterfull Enterprises was contracted to carry out the emergency demolition in accordance with established safety protocols. The process was complex, involving a large square footage of a vacant warehouse, concealed structural issues, and substantial debris removal. These unforeseen factors contributed to costs.





