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Cottage Grove mayor: 'Our house is not going to be foreclosed on'

By Scott Wente on Sep 23, 2015 at 12:31 p.m.

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ome Bulletin readers were surprised this week to see a foreclosure notice for the home of Cottage Grove Mayor Myron Bailey.

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Count Bailey among them.



A legal notice of mortgage foreclosure sale posted to the Bulletin website Monday and in this week's print edition says the home at 7788 Jasmine Ave. owned by Bailey and his wife, Cindy, is in default and is set for a sheriff's sale Nov. 5.



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So are Baileys getting the boot?

"The answer is no," the mayor said Wednesday. "Our house is not going to be foreclosed on."

Bailey said the foreclosure notice was the result of a paperwork problem involving a former mortgage holder and the company that bought the mortgage. Bailey said he and his wife signed documents early this year when the mortgage was being sold. After that, he said, they didn't hear anything about the status of the transaction until the foreclosure notice was posted this week.

"It's very convoluted," said Bailey, confused he wasn't contacted by the company prior to the foreclosure action. "It's very screwed up."

A representative from the law firm that placed the notice said she could not discuss the filing without the client's permission.

The original principal amount of the Baileys' mortgage was \$248,000 in 2007, and the notice indicated the amount due was \$267,361. The Baileys are current on their property tax filings, according to Washington County records.

Bailey said since the foreclosure notice was posted he has encountered people in Cottage Grove who

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obviously knew of the notice but did not know how to discuss it with him.

"It's like the elephant in the room; no one wants to ask you about it," he said. "They feel sorry for you."

Bailey said he hopes the issue is resolved within a week or two, and there will be a follow-up legal notice posted that will confirm it is not in foreclosure.

"Obviously it's embarrassing it even went this far," he said.

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Scott Wente

Scott Wente has been editor at the South Washington County Bulletin since 2011. He worked as a reporter at other Forum Communications newspapers from 2003 to 2011. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

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