

Officials: Fire that destroyed sanitation building under investigation

January 12, 2017 By Gary Dymski and Joan Gralla gary.dymski@newsday.com, joan.gralla@newsday.com



The Jet Sanitation building, used to store paper and cardboard, ablaze on Blydenburgh Road in Islandia early Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017. (Credit: Bryan Lopez)

The village fire marshal and the Suffolk County police arson squad were investigating an early morning blaze Wednesday that destroyed a large sanitation building in Islandia.

Demolition of the building began Wednesday evening to enable firefighters to reach debris that was still smoldering, Village Fire Marshal

Mike Zaleski said in a telephone interview.

Completely extinguishing the fire in the building, approximately 70 feet by 350 feet, was expected to take hours, he said.

Islandia Mayor Allan Dorman said the village was condemning the building at 228 Blydenburgh Rd., owned by Jet Sanitation Service Corp.

The stand-alone building is the largest on the property and was used to store paper and cardboard. Dorman said it will be torn down as soon as possible.

The fire initially closed Veterans Memorial Highway in both directions for a stretch just south of the Long Island Expressway during the morning commute.

Suffolk police said they received a 911 call for a fire near Sycamore Lane and the LIE's south service drive about 2:30 a.m.

There were no reported injuries, Zaleski said. Dorman also said that the village fire marshal is working to determine the cause of the fire.

In a statement, Dorman also said, "The village is working with local residents and businesses to minimize the fire's impact."

A police spokeswoman also said the department's arson squad will investigate.

An official with Jet Sanitation Service Corp. declined to comment on both the fire and on how its operations might be affected.

CORRECTION: An earlier version of this story misspelled the last name of Islandia Village Fire Marshal Mike Zaleski.

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