

Town of Fairfield
Office of Community & Economic Development
Affordable Housing Committee
March 30, 2022

The Affordable Housing Committee of the Town of Fairfield held a Special Meeting on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, at 6:00PM via Zoom.

PRESENT: Steve Grathwohl; Urb Leimkuhler; Joanne Csonka; Heather Dubrosky; Gwynne Alperovic; and Janice Bouloubasis.

ALSO: Mark Barnhart, Director of Community & Economic Development; Glenn Chalder, Planimetrics; and members of the public.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Grathwohl called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN:

Mr. Barnhart outlined the purpose of tonight's meeting which is to review, revise and refer to a public hearing a proposed Affordable Housing Plan. Mr. Barnhart noted that there appeared to be general support for the strategies outlined in the Plan at the joint workshop with TPZ. Committee members discussed whether or not to include a strategy to investigate the creation of a redevelopment agency as part of the Plan, but opted not to include.

Mr. Chalder reviewed aspects of the draft Plan, specifically the numerical goals. Committee members discussed the proposed affordable housing goals. Mr. Chalder will update the Plan accordingly. Mr. Leimkuhler suggested that the Committee be prepared to discuss the progress that has been made and where we have fallen short, noting that we have more deed restricted units than many of our peers. Mr. Leimkuhler also stated that people may not fully understand how the Trust Fund is being used and that the Committee should be prepared to answer questions as to how the Fund is being used to further affordable housing. Mr. Barnhart assured members that he is prepared to respond to these questions.

Joanne Csonka made a motion to refer the Proposed Affordable Housing Plan with the updates discussed this evening to a public hearing to be held on May 11th. Mr. Grathwohl seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Barnhart thanked the members of the Committee for their work. He advised that he will work with Glenn to make the necessary changes and then post notice of the public hearing as required. Mr. Grathwohl asked Mr. Barnhart how notice will be provided and whether he intended to email interested parties. Mr. Barnhart indicated that he will post

notice to the website and with the Town Clerk as required and that he would also prepare and issue a press release and notify stakeholder groups via e-mail.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58PM.

Mark Barnhart,
Recording Secretary