

Town of Fairfield  
Office of Community & Economic Development  
Affordable Housing Committee  
May 18, 2022

The Affordable Housing Committee of the Town of Fairfield held a Special Meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

PRESENT: Steve Grathwohl; Joanne Csonka; Heather Dubrosky; Janice Bouloubasis; Nina Velez; Gwynne Alperovich; Urb Leimkuhler

ALSO: Mark Barnhart, Director of Community and Economic Development

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Grathwohl called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

#### AGENDA

##### To Consider and Act Upon the Proposed Affordable Housing Plan

Mr. Barnhart recognized the work of Glenn Chalder of Planimetrics in assisting the Committee in developing the proposed affordable housing plan. He acknowledged those that had attended the May 11<sup>th</sup> public hearing and that had submitted written comments, many of whom had expressed concerns about set aside developments, traffic and congestion, and other impacts to local infrastructure. Nevertheless, he didn't hear many objections to the proposed course of action, and noted support for a more pro-active, planned approach to addressing our community's housing needs.

Mr. Grathwohl discussed possible procedures for implementing the plan. He suggested that the real work would be in putting the plan into motion.

Mr. Barnhart acknowledged comments regarding the Town's parking regulations particularly for 3- and 4-family units. Mr. Barnhart agreed that the TPZ should re-examine its minimum parking requirements as part of the POCD update.

Mr. Leimkuhler asked if the AHC should be involved in the formulation of the POCD. Mr. Barnhart responded affirmatively and stated that he would keep the AHC apprised of future meetings.

Ms. Csonka made a motion, which was duly seconded by Ms. Velez, to adopt the Affordable Housing Plan as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Barnhart thanked the members for their hard work and stated that the Plan would be presented to the Board of Selectmen on Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, following which it would be sent to the State Office of Policy & Management by the June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Mr. Leimkuhler asked if there as anything that the Committee could do in advance of the June meeting. He offered to continue work on evaluating town parcels for their potential to support affordable housing, which all agreed would be helpful. Ms. Csonka inquired about the Exide property and Turner Reserve Center as potential sites for housing. Mr. Barnhart noted that the Turner Reserve Center was approved under a no-cost conveyance application submitted by the Town for a recreational use which would preclude housing. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Goethner