



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &
NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
c/o Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401
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Councilor Brian Pine, Chair, Ward 3
Councilor Sarah Carpenter, Ward 4
Councilor Zoraya Hightower, Ward 1

Committee members: Chair Brian Pine (BP), Sarah Carpenter (SC), Zoraya Hightower (ZH)

City staff: Christine Curtis, CEDO

Other Attendees: Courtney Lamdin, Larry Miller, Leslyn Hall, Theresa, Julianne Heisler, David Edwards, Rich Ketcham, Donald Weikert

Monday, October 19th, 2020

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Draft Minutes

Meeting Started at 10:05 AM

1. Review Agenda

MOTION by Councilor Carpenter, SECOND by Councilor Hightower, to adopt the agenda as presented

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

2. Public Forum

Leslyn Hall spoke on the scope of work she saw presented by the Committee and had concerns about the Just Cause policy as it is being worked on currently. She believes we need to help people to stay in their homes especially during this tough time.

David Edwards commented how did the committee determine the amount of funds allocated to complete the study? Why is it limited to 45 hours at \$15 per hour or a total of \$675.00? This is fairly complex issue with 10 sub-issues as part of the study. Therefore, the amount of funds and time allocated to support the study appears inadequate.

3. Remediation of 9/16/20 CDNR meeting re: “Discuss Hiring a Research Assistant to gather information on Just Cause Eviction”

SC commented that they went into this process with a narrow target and knew they needed a charter change but also knew that this provision would not be the answer to all of Burlington’s housing problems. She stated that the committee wishes to gather more information on what is happening nationally with just cause eviction.

ZH noted that there were two open meeting violations that happened and have since been working on remediating the situations. ZH stated that she is confident in the charter change language but more work needs to be done for the ordinance.

BP commented on rentals and vacancy rates and the housing market where new units have been added over the last 5 years. With the addition of new units, rental inflation occurs and there is an imbalance in the housing market. BP stated they are attempting to provide some level of protection for vulnerable populations. The Committee is not ignoring the other issues, but they are acknowledging that the market has limitations and there is a segment of the population that is at risk for not having their lease renewed for many different reasons.

BP went through the [scope of work document](#).

MOTION by Councilor Hightower, SECOND by Councilor Carpenter, to authorize up to 45 hours of LOE by Audrey Oliver for completion of Just Cause Eviction research as laid out in the presented document.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

4. Adjournment

MOTION by Councilor Pine SECOND by Councilor Hightower to adjourn the meeting at 10:59 AM

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.