



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; Brian Lowe, I/T; Audrey Oliver, CDNR Research Asst.

Other Attendees: Christie Delphia, Burlington Tenants Union; Jess Hyman, CVOEO; Brian Armstrong, Julie Marks, Mayumi Cornell, Kai Mikkel Forlie, Tom Proctor, Erhard Mahnke, Ricky Martin, Ann (unknown last name)

Thursday, October 8th, 2020

5:30 PM – TBD

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Draft Minutes

Meeting Started at 5:30 PM

1. Review Agenda

MOTION by Councilor Carpenter, SECOND by Councilor Hightower, to adopt the agenda as amended by adding an item 4.5 FAQ document discussion
VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

2. Public Forum

Public forum opened: Christie Delphia, Brian Armstrong, Julie Marks, Mayumi Cornell, Kai Mikkel Forlie, Tom Proctor, Erhard Mahnke, Ricky Martin, Ann (unknown last name) expressed their concerns as Burlington tenants and concerns as Burlington Landlords re: just cause eviction language, tenant rights and landlord rights.

Jessica Hyman advertised the new renter resource page available [here](#).

Philip Geraghty provided written statement as he could not attend public forum: “As a landlord I will not deny housing is a human right. The issue of contention I have with just cause eviction is clarity. The research presented in the past city council meetings has been about evictions as a whole and does not represent

clearly a picture of either no cause evictions being abused or just cause evictions being needed. As a whole landlords are not adversaries of our tenants but rather we prefer to be their advocates. Advocate for safety, advocate for their health, advocate for their right to live peacefully. Unfortunately there is a group of individuals that make this difficult. They exist as both landlords and tenants looking to "pull one over" on the other party. Those individuals should not be in this business as landlords. I welcome code enforcement inspections, heating inspections and alike. The negative to proposals like just cause are the same as the problems with restrictive zoning is it stifles change. I've linked in several articles that relate to just cause evictions and restrictive zoning and how it hurts everyone. If you are convinced just cause is a way to proceed the last link is a simple guide to the just cause ordinance in Oakland CA. This would be a version of just cause evictions that I feel most landlords would support."

Public Forum closed.

3. Language Access Plan

Brian Lowe presented on the City's Language Access Plan found [here](#).
MOTION by Councilor Carpenter, SECOND by Councilor Hightower, to recommend favorably towards the policy as been presented to City Council.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

4. Just Cause Eviction (continued)

Audrey Oliver presented on her research so far regarding Just Cause Eviction in other states/municipalities (can be found on [CDNR webpage](#)).

4.5 FAQ document discussion

**Agenda item tabled until next meeting

5. Approve Draft Minutes: 5/6, 5/20, 6/3, 7/15, 7/27, 8/5

**Agenda item tabled until next meeting

6. Next Steps

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 21st at 5:30 PM.

MOTION by Councilor Hightower SECOND by Councilor Carpenter to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.