

DRAFT
TOWN OF WESTPORT
AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
November 4,2024

The November 4, 2024 meeting of the Affordable Housing Committee was called to order at 3:10 p.m. in room 309 of the Westport Town Hall.

ATTENDED: Jim Foster, Gail Kelly, Kate Weber, Ralph Yearwood

ABSENT: Jon Olefson

A. Eileen Flug, Assistant Town Attorney, presented to the Committee an overview of:

(i) the Freedom of Information Act as it relates to the conduct of public meetings by a public agency, e.g. notice requirements, the taking of minutes, public participation, special vs. regular meetings, executive sessions.

(ii) the Charter provision relating to conflicts of interest and under what circumstances a Committee member would need to recuse themselves.

(ii) the ordinance establishing the Westport Housing Trust Fund; the Committee's powers and duties as set forth in the ordinance; and the use of the funds.

There followed a discussion of these topics.

B. Michelle Perillie, Director of Planning & Zoning, presented to the Committee a Summary of Affordable Housing in Westport. Michelle discussed the Town's Affordable Housing Plan; the trust fund; the town's goals regarding affordable housing; and what is currently taking place in the town regarding affordable housing.

There are sites listed in the Affordable Housing Plan, and it was suggested that this list was a good starting point for the Committee to become familiar with current affordable housing in Westport.

There followed a discussion on this topic.

C. The Committee continued to discuss the provisions of the ordinance and the subject of affordable housing with members of the public in attendance. It was suggested that the Committee become familiar with how other towns which have housing trust funds have used such funds to address affordable housing.

D. Election of Chair. Upon motion by Gail Kelly and seconded by Kate Weber, Jim Foster was elected Chair of the Affordable Housing Committee. The vote was unanimous.

There was no other business. Upon motion by Ralph Yearwood and seconded by Jim Foster, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Kelly