

February 22, 2021 Housing Committee Meeting.

Present- Kris McNeill- CEO, Joel Alexander, Jaclyn O'Donnell, Jonathan O'Donnell, Logan McNeill, Christine Landes- City Manager, Tracey Desjardins- Economic and Development Director

Kris McNeill welcomed those present. He stated that this committee has not been active for quite some time and we are meeting today to work towards a regular meeting schedule.

Kris explained that the committee will need to nominate a secretary. A chair will also need to be established, which needs to be appointed by the Mayor. If any member is interested in these positions, please let us know. This committee will also need more members. Kris reviewed the guidelines for being on the committee and informed those present today, to let him know if they have anyone in mind for the committee.

Kris discussed what the purpose of the committee is and what member's duties are as written in the City Code:

Section 332. Powers and Duties.

The Committee shall be authorized to:

- (A) Advise Economic and Community Development staff and/or consultant(s) on the preparation of a housing assessment plan and other projects intended to increase the availability in Gardiner of safe, accessible, and affordable housing units for a diverse population of individuals.*
 - (B) Recommend methods and procedures to the City Council necessary to preserve, restore, maintain and operate properties under the ownership or control of the City in the furtherance of meeting goals of providing expanded housing opportunities in the City.*
 - (C) Recommend ordinances, policies or actions to the City Council and otherwise provide information for the purposes of housing development in the City.*
 - (D) Act in an advisory role to other officials and departments of local government regarding the preservation and expansion of Gardiner's housing stock.*
 - (E) Act as a liaison on behalf of the local government to individuals and organizations concerned with housing rehabilitation, housing development, and community development.*
 - (F) Cooperate with federal, state and local governments in the pursuance of the objectives of housing rehabilitation, housing development, and community development.*
 - (G) Participate in the conduct of land use and other planning processes undertaken by the City, the State, or the Federal government and the agencies of these entities.*
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Kris is hoping that the committee will work together to identify issues with housing in the City of Gardiner. He tells those in attendance that he has a listing of the current empty buildings in Gardiner, and is now working on property clean up since Council had adopted the Property Maintenance Code. He explained that there are a couple of projects in the works to bring quality housing to Gardiner. Gardiner

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Green is a project for the former hospital site and there is another proposal for housing units on a parcel on Spring Street. He explained that the City is working to give the public more information on new housing opportunities by planning neighborhood meetings to make sure the public has necessary information prior to the project going before the Planning Board.

Kris asks those present if they would like to explore options for a different, more convenient meeting date. Those present stated that this is a good time for them to meet. Present Committee members agreed to meet one month from now, at the same time.

City Staff will set up a meeting for 3/22/2021 at 8:30am.

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