

Minutes

Housing Committee
August 21, 2023
6:30 p.m.
Police Training Room
Municipal Building, Jamestown, New York

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilwoman Carrubba, Councilman Sheldon, Regina Brackman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk/Treasurer Jennifer Williams, Director of Development Crystal Surdyk, Councilman William Reynolds

Councilwoman Carrubba called the meeting to order.

Opportunities for Public Comment

Todd Cordosi of 68 Chambers Street appeared to address the committee regarding issues with high grass and weeds at 60 Chambers Street. He informed that the neighbors have offered to assist the homeowner with mowing and he refuses. Mr. Cordosi also asked the committee for an update on the upcoming nuisance ordinance. The Director of Development gave Mr. Cordosi a copy of the draft ordinance to review and noted that she would be reviewing the ordinance after the public comment period.

Melissa Paterniti of 346 Falconer Street appeared to discuss the residence at 5 Hammond Street and its court adjournment. She was asking when the next date would be and Ms. Surdyk responded that she would follow up on the property in question. Ms. Paterniti also inquired to the status of the community housing committee that had been previously discussed in 2021. Ms. Surdyk responded that there are talks in the works, but that time to assist with the committee is an issue for her department at present.

Discussion on Quality of Life Ordinance

Ms. Surdyk reviewed the draft of the ordinance and highlighted the items that the officers would ticket for as well as the fee schedule. All items but high grass and weeds will carry a fine of \$100.00 with high grass and weeds carrying a fine amount of \$50.00. The fines will double after 15 days with the final penalty going to collections or being levied on the property taxes. The hope is that this will change behaviors and free up housing court for more severe offenses.

Councilwoman Carrubba asked what was meant by animal maintenance and Ms. Surdyk responded that she would add language to clarify and define the term as it pertains to more than animal waste. Councilwoman Brackman asked if there is a limit to the number of animals

that can be housed. While there is no language in the city code regarding cats, only three dogs can be housed in a dwelling. Councilman Sheldon requested that private trees that are impeding traffic by blocking street signs, stop signs, red lights, etc. be added under the section on dangerous trees.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jennifer R. Williams
City Clerk/Treasurer