

Minutes from the 04/25/2024 Rutland City Charter and Ordinance Committee Meeting

Committee Members in Attendance:

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| ☒ Board Member Barbagallo | ☒ Board Member McCann | ☐ Board Member Tadio |
| ☒ Board Member Gillam | ☒ Board Member Savage | ☒ Board President Talbott |

Others in Attendance: Board Member Davis, Board Member McClure, Board Member Whitcomb, Chief Kilcullen, Attorney Lachance, Zoning Administrator Strniste, Barbara Spaulding and Ed Bove from the RRA, and Stephen Box.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting was to briefly discuss all referrals that are currently active in the Charter and Ordinance Committee. Each item was introduced to remind committee members of the context and origin of the referral and those present were given an opportunity to discuss facets of the items that would help determine their relative priority for subsequent meetings.

The referral items considered, from earliest referral date to latest, were:

- Vacant commercial properties.
- Green belt parking.
- Ward boundaries.
- Listing of agenda items for board of aldermen meetings.
- Rental Property Registration
- Road and driveway ordinance.
- Review of Title 9 buildings of the Rutland City ordinance.
- Short Term Rental Ordinance
- Vacant and blighted buildings ordinance.
- Potential ordinance for the Rutland City hotels.
- Burn Ordinance and Smokeless Cookers.
- Charter change that would allow one seat on the RRA board to be designated for a property owner within the special benefits district.
- Location for elections.
- Charter change to make city clerk an elected position.
- Need for a physical for hired drivers.
- Home occupations.
- Parking rates and fees.
- Rutland City ordinances related to the use of bicycles.

It was noted that several items, although referred individually, are closely related and are likely to be addressed concurrently. These included:

- Vacant commercial buildings, vacant and blighted buildings, rental registration, a short-term rental ordinance, and a broader review of Title IX as it relates to these items.
- Green belt parking and a road and driveway ordinance.

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Discussion of the home occupation item identified that the issue is expected to be addressed by the zoning bylaws update currently being completed by the Rutland City Planning Commission. While the item will remain in committee, it will not be individually addressed until the zoning bylaws are considered and updated.

Discussion of the need for physical exams for hired drivers identified that the requirements in question are identified in a city policy that is under the purview of the Licensing Board, not an element of either the City Charter or its Ordinances. Board Member Gillam made a motion to refer consideration of the need for a physical for hired drivers to the Licensing Board. The motion passed 4-0.

It was noted that the vacant commercial buildings referral item was set to potentially expire as of 05/02/2024 and that re-referral may be needed to ensure that it remains in committee.

All other items will remain in committee for further consideration at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.