

**MINUTES**

**DEMOLITION REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**1 JUNKINS AVENUE  
PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
CONFERENCE ROOM "A"**

**10:00 A.M.**

**November 28, 2018**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Beth Moreau, Planning Board representative, Nicholas Cracknell, Planning Director’s representative, Robert Marsilia, Inspection Department, Barbara Ward, Portsmouth Historical Society representative, John Wyckoff, HDC Member

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**ALSO PRESENT:** Robert Sullivan, City Attorney

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**I. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

General discussion of the need to formally appoint a chair and vice-chair of the committee.

It was moved by Robert Marsilia and seconded by John Wyckoff to appoint Beth Moreau as Chairman and Nicholas Cracknell as Vice-Chairman. The motion passed with a unanimous (5-0) vote.

**II. REVIEW DEMOLITION ORDINANCE (AS REVISED 11-13-2018)**

Chairman Moreau opened the discussion by asking Vice-Chairman Cracknell to report back and summarize the amendments to the Demolition Ordinance that were recently adopted by the City Council. Mr. Cracknell presented a variety of clerical, procedural and substantive changes that were made to the Ordinance. Significant discussion was held surrounding the effectiveness of exempting projects from the Ordinance that had previously received review and approval through a public hearing at either the Planning Board or Board of Adjustment. Members felt the amendment would undermine the effectiveness of the Demolition Ordinance and would potentially limit public comment and input on a demolition before either of these boards due to a general lack of jurisdiction. The City Attorney agreed and recommended the Committee make a recommendation, in the form of a motion, to strike the recently-approved amendment to Section 14.203 (1).

The amendment was moved by Mr. Wyckoff and seconded by Ms. Ward and passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

**III. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Cracknell provided the Committee an overview of the city's new web-page for the Demolition Committee. Included in the discussion was the links provided to the Ordinance, the Committee, applications, as well as a folder to material pertaining to pending applications.

**IV. SCHEDULING OF PUBLIC HEARING: 98 SUMMER STREET (A.K.A. 125 AUSTIN STREET)**

Mr. Cracknell reviewed the dates of posting, publication, the objection letter, notice of the objection letter and the timeframe for scheduling the public hearing. Mr. Cracknell suggested December 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. A brief discussion was held to request the representative for 98 Summer Street (Attorney Peter Loughlin) as to whether or not the applicant would consider holding the second meeting (if necessary) beyond the 15 day timeframe outlined in the Ordinance. Mr. Loughlin stated that he was aware of such a request from the objection and thought that would be fine with the applicant. Some public comment was taken and speakers were notified that any issues pertaining to 98 Summer Street should be provided at the 12-19-18 meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Cracknell and seconded by Ms. Moreau to hold the Public Hearing on Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Eileen Foley Council Chambers. It was passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:10 a.m., Mr. Cracknell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Marsilia. The motion passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Izak Gilbo  
Planning Department Administrative Clerk