

ESCAMBIA-PENSACOLA AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING

November 16, 2021

The Escambia-Pensacola Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) held a Public Hearing in the Hagler-Mason Conference Room, 2nd Floor of Pensacola City Hall, 222 West Main Street, Pensacola, Florida on November 16, 2021 at 9:00 AM.

Committee members present: Ed Brown, Council Vice President Ann Hill, Crystal Scott, Paul Ritz, Renee Wilhoit, and Justin Williams

Committee members absent: Cecily Chundriek, Laura Gilmore, Escambia County Commissioner Lumon May, Heidi Palmquist, and John Ralls

Staff members present: Timothy Evans, Neighborhood Enterprise Division (NED), Escambia County; Melissa Crews, NED Escambia County; Marcie Whitaker, City of Pensacola Housing Director; Tracy Pickens, City of Pensacola Housing

Call to Order and Welcome and Roll Call:

Chair Crystal Scott called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. She proceeded with the introductory roll call of members present, after which she acknowledged that there was a quorum established.

Proof of Publication:

Notice of the meeting was published in the *Pensacola News Journal*. Notice of the meeting was also published on the City & County respective websites.

Order of the Day

The Public Hearing was for the purpose of reviewing the proposed Affordable Housing Incentive Plans for Escambia County and the City of Pensacola.

County Affordable Housing Incentive Plan presentation

Crystal Scott asked Timothy Evans to present the proposed County Incentive Plan point by point, stating the specific item followed by the AHAC's recommendation. After Mr. Evans read the Plan aloud for the audience Ms. Scott asked whether there were any questions. None were forthcoming.

Ms. Scott then asked for a motion for the committee to approve the County Incentive Plan in its final form, with a recommendation to forward to the Board of County Commissioners for their review. The motion was made by Justin Williams, and seconded by Ann Hill.

Paul Ritz requested time for discussion, and stated his appreciation for the committee's diligence in reviewing the previous Incentive Plans and the thought put into this year's recommendations. He also expressed gratitude to the staff supporting the work of the AHAC for their efforts in capturing the material discussions of the committee.

Following these comments Ms. Scott called for the vote on the motion on the table, and the motion passed unanimously.

City Affordable Housing Incentive Plan Report

Crystal Scott then asked Marcie Whitaker to present the proposed City Incentive Plan point by point, stating the specific item followed by the AHAC's recommendation. After Ms. Whitaker read the Plan aloud for the audience Ms. Scott asked whether there were any questions. None were forthcoming.

Paul Ritz again stated his appreciation to the committee and to the staff. He further mentioned that he was hopeful that the governing bodies would take the AHAC's recommendations into serious consideration.

Ms. Scott then asked for a motion for the committee to approve the City Incentive Plan in its final form, with a recommendation to forward to the Pensacola City Council for their review. The motion was made by Justin Williams, seconded by Paul Ritz and passed by unanimous vote.

Public Comment:

Chair Scott asked the members of the public present if they would like to make any comments for the Committee's consideration to please step to the podium and state their name and home address. There was no comment.

Announcements/written communications:

Marcie Whitaker announced that the application period for membership in the AHAC for the next term as an appointee of the City of Pensacola remains open until November 22, 2021.

Ms. Whitaker stated that the City Incentive Plan approved at this meeting is scheduled to be presented to the City Council for consideration at their meeting on December 16th at 5:30 pm in Council Chambers on the first floor of City Hall.

Mr. Evans likewise stated that the County Incentive Plan approved at this meeting has been recommended for the agenda of the Board of County Commissioners' meeting on December 2nd at 5:30 pm in the Commission Chambers, 221 Palafox Place, Pensacola, Florida 32502. He mentioned that the County administration has reached out to staff to consider what procedures may be required to support the recommendations, should they be implemented.

Chair Scott reminded the committee members that the next meeting, the last for the year and this term, is scheduled for December 7, 2021 at 9:00 am in the Hagler-Mason Conference Room in City Hall.

Adjournment:

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 am.

Respectfully submitted by: Timothy Evans

Pending Approval