

CITY OF LACONIA - CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Government Operations and Ordinances Committee
7:00 P.M.

4/8/2019 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman David Bownes called the meeting to order at the above date and time.

2. RECORDING SECRETARY

City Clerk Cheryl Hebert

3. ROLL CALL

Chairman Bownes noted that Councilor Cheney and Andrew Hosmer are both present and a quorum has been established.

4. STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Scott Myers, City Manager

5. GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & ORDINANCES (Bownes, Hosmer, Cheney)

5.A. Regulation of Short Term Residential Rental Businesses

Councilor Bownes asked Planning Director Dean Trefethen for an update. A handout was submitted into the record which showed the proposed changes.

Councilor Bownes expressed his concerns with not having a local contact person in case of any issues or emergencies. He would like a specific amount for the application fee and how many complaints will be allowed before the owners short term residential rental business application be revoked.

Councilor Hosmer expressed his concern with the words "direct abutters." He stated entire neighborhoods, not just the direct abutters, could be affected. Councilor Hosmer would also like to see online options for where the short term rentals are located within the City so residents or potential residents may know what is taking place within their neighborhoods. Councilor Hosmer also thinks there should be a place online for people to register a complaint or concern.

Councilor Cheney recognizes that some of the information the City is requesting the Air BnB Websites do not require. Councilor Cheney would like a requirement that rules and regulations be posted within the residence.

Councilor Bownes would like to see some waivers put in process for City of Laconia homeowners that reside in the residence permanently that are choosing to rent a room or multiple rooms out.

Planning Director Trefethen will be meeting with Legal tomorrow to make any necessary changes or corrections.

Councilor Bownes opened the meeting for public input:

Marc Burrell, 68 Warren Street - Mr. Burrell read a prepared statement but did not submit it into the record. In brief he does not agree having to have abutters permission in order to have a short term rental business, inspections, fees involved and limiting the number of days within a year a room could be rented.

Councilor Bownes requests that any correspondence that has been received regarding this topic be submitted into the record.

Tom Seigle, 44 Village Court - Mr. Seigle expressed his concern with people purchasing residential homes for the sole purpose of a short term rental business.

John Krafts, 5 High Point Road (Bay Reach Condo Association) - Mr. Krafts stated that if too many short term rental units are available in Condo Associations, Fanny Mae and Freddie Mac Mortgage Companies will no longer be financing the Association therefore destroying the values of the condo's.

Director Trefethen clarified that under current zoning you are allowed up to three roomers and that is separate from the ordinance that is being worked on regarding short term rentals.

Councilor Hosmer moved to recommend that the City Council refer this topic to the Planning Department for further development before returning to this committee, seconded by Councilor Cheney, the ***motion passed with all in favor.***

6. **Any other business that may come before the Council**

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the committee and hearing no objection, Chairman Bownes adjourned the meeting at 6:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted

David Bownes, Chairman