

DRAFT MINUTES
Durham Housing Task Force
November 18, 2024
10:00 am – Council Chambers

Housing Task Force members present

Sally Tobias, chair
Heather Grant, Council rep.
Michael Mulhern
Eileen Murphy (left meeting around 10:45 am)
Paul Rasmussen, Planning Board Rep
Michael Saputo

Michael Behrendt, Town Planner
Taylor Cray, Workforce Housing Coalition, Advisor to Task Force
Rich Reine, Public Works Director
April Talon, Town Engineer

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 am. There was not a quorum at the start of the meeting but there was at 10:08.

Overview of Town Infrastructure. Discussion with Rich Reine, Public Works Director. Rich and April presented about the Town's Infrastructure. Rich was before the task force in 2022.

Stormwater. Durham's policies align with federal EPA policies and state requirements for stormwater. We do have limitations downtown on Pettee Brook Lane. Managing stormwater is a bigger challenge than Town water and Town sewer.

Town water. We have no issue with capacity. Applicants have to do a flow tests for volume and pressure.

Town sewer. We have plenty of capacity at the treatment plant and at the pump stations. We do have some old pipes. There is some clay pipe on Pettee Brook Lane. It will need to be lined I the future. One constraints that we have is at the west side of town, at the Edge.

Other topics. There was discussion about the current workforce housing ordinance, the proposed student rental ordinance, and downtown zoning. There was discussion about Mark Henderson and Tom Toye possibly joining the Downtown Zoning Subcommittee as members or advisors. The Housing Champions program could be a benchmark for the Town in looking at potential zoning changes.

The October minutes were approved 5-0 (motion by Michael S and seconded by Heather).

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Behrendt