

Brattleboro Town Finance

Committee

Minutes

April 10, 2012
Hanna Cosman Mtg Rm

4:30 PM

Present: Committee Members Kathryn Turnas, Michael Bosworth, Tim Cuthbertson, John Wilmerding,

Bob Rottenberg, Spoon Agave (Chair)

Others: Liz McGloughlin (Planning Commissioner); John O'Connor (Town Finance Director), briefly

1. Call to Order: 4:35 PM
2. Agenda Review: Elect Officers; Mtg w/ Town Mgr and SB Chair; this year's topics
3. Welcome to new member Kathryn Turnas. Town experience includes DRB, BCTV,
Friends of Library, candidate for Selectboard
4. Election of Officers: For Chair - Bosworth nominated Agave. Turnas second. No other nominations. Elected 5-0. For Vice-Chair - Rottenberg nominated Bosworth, Turnas second. No other nominations. Elected 5-0.
5. Questions for Fin Dir O'Connor:
What accounts for Parking fund losses. Ans: Irene flooding. Damage \$83,000. Insurance
From VLCT will cover it all
How does budget look so far for this year? Ans: will probably come in on target. Slight chance
of small surplus
6. Review of April 9th mtg w/ Planning Commission: FC stressed importance of supporting 25 year
capital plan and 5 year budgeting. Agave recommended development of municipal
Genuine Progress Indicator. Also suggested creating position responsible for sustainable de-
velopment. PC mostly focused on asking questions about FC Town Report.
Wilmerding remained late and advocated for emphasis on renewable energy.
PC Commissioner Hund talked about lack of "efficiencies" throughout Town Plan
Cuthbertson said that Town Plan should be largely a management/financial plan

McGloughlin stated that Town Plans are usually regarded largely as land use plans.

7. Set agenda for meeting with Town Manager and Selectboard Chair

1. Use recommendations in Annual Finance Report as basic agenda.

See where Administ-

ration is on each of these items.

2. Get FC in reporting loop. Have TM office post on FC website.
3. Establish regular meetings with TM
4. Advocate for sustainability position
5. Discuss process for policy enactment
6. Advocate for clear, readable reports
7. Request suggestions from Town Admin and SB about what they

would like from FC

TASK: Agave - set up meeting

8. Work Plan

1. Schools - comparisons with other districts; debt service

windfall

2. Progress indicators
3. Seek recommendations for increased revenue base; PILOT policy
4. Examine Business Personal Property tax
5. Study Police and Fire facility projects. Report for Special

Town Meeting.

TASK: Agave - request documents

6. Examine "efficiencies."

9. Adjourn: 6:45 PM