

# Brattleboro Town Finance Committee

## Minutes

June 12, 2012

4:30 PM

Hanna Cosman Mtg Rm

Present: Committee members Michael Bosworth (Vice Chair, presiding in Chair Agave's absence, Tim Cuthbertson, Bob Rottenberg, Kathryn Turnas)

1. Call to order: Approximately 4:30.01 PM
2. Agenda Review – set agenda
  - a. Schools
  - b. Police/Fire station
  - c. Energy
  - d. Debt Limit
3. Approve minutes of May 22, 2012: **MOTION:** Rottenberg/Cuthbertson – to approve  
PASSED unanimously by those present
4. Schools: Instead of just analyzing what having 2 elementary schools instead of 3 would look like financially, it was suggested that we inquire of the Town School Board "Why 3?" and engage them in the conversation.

A site visit to the schools was deemed a good idea, as well as finding out the differences between the 3 schools, demographically and otherwise.

5. Police/Fire Station: The latest iteration of the plans estimates the Central Fire Station upgrade to cost \$6.9MM, the Police Station \$5.6MM and the West Brattleboro Fire Station \$2.1MM. With a total of \$14.6 for the project, committee members were skeptical it would get passed. Could the changes be phased in? What will be the bond rate?

Kathryn will arrange a tour of the current Police Station with Chief Wrinn.

6. Debt limit: Bosworth passed out his work in progress that intends to show all the long-term debt in one document. This will include Town debt as well as Utilities debt and Town and Union schools debt and any other miscellaneous debt, such as for the water/sewer lines in TriPark.

It was thought a good idea to ask John O'Connor to attend our July 10 meeting to discuss debt limit policy.

7. Energy: Bosworth passed out a list of Finance Committee related energy items, which incorporated many of John Wilmerding's ideas. The group did not have time to discuss these.
8. Other: Kathryn has not yet had success tracking down other towns that might have 5-year budgets. It was suggested that she contact the Vermont League of Cities and Towns.
9. Adjourn: Approximately 6:40:01 PM

Minutes taken by M. Bosworth