

Brattleboro Representative Town Meeting Finance Committee
Minutes of February 14, 2019

Members present: Franz Reichsman (chair), Elizabeth McLoughlin, Michael Hoffman
Members not present: Abbe Sweeney, Avery Schwenk
Others in attendance: Kate O'Connor, Richard DeGray, Greg Worden

The meeting was called to order at 5:58 p.m. The chair moved that the time to adjourn be fixed at 6:45 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

The next meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 21, 2019 in the Cusick Conference Room of the Windham Regional Career Center.

The budget line item of \$42,119 requested by the Downtown Brattleboro Alliance and the Chamber of Commerce was discussed at some length, with contributions from each of the guests as well as the committee members. The guests presented viewpoints favor of this expenditure and reasons for their support. The committee continues to think that additional information on the proposal is required, and also discussion of the more general question of whether funding from taxes should be used for marketing purposes, and if so, how it should be made available. The draft of the committee's municipal budget report, being prepared by Liz, will contain a section on this article and will be made available for review by the rest of the committee. It will be discussed further at the next meeting.

There was brief discussion of the proposed 1% local option sales tax. The committee's action will also be part of the draft report on the municipal budget, and will be discussed in that context at the next meeting. No other specific action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Franz Reichsman.