

MINUTES

SPECIAL FAIRFAX TOWN COUNCIL MEETING Town Council Strategic Planning Workshop

Fairfax Women's Club, 46 Park Road
Saturday, April 28, 2007, 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Bragman called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Roll Call

Town Council members present: Bragman, Brandborg, Maggiore, Tremaine, Weinsoff

Staff present: Town Manager Kelly, Finance Director Roth, Town Clerk Anderson

Approval of Agenda and Affidavit of Posting

M/S, Brandborg/Tremaine, Motion to approve the agenda and the affidavit of posting.

AYES: Bragman, Brandborg, Maggiore, Tremaine, Weinsoff
NOES: None

Open Time

Bill Madsen, 109 Porteous Ave., addressed the possible consolidation of police services with San Anselmo and stated that he moved from San Anselmo to Fairfax because of the differences between the two communities. He expressed opposition to the possible merger because he didn't want to have Fairfax become more like San Anselmo, politically or socially, and didn't want to be homogenized. He stated that Fairfax was unique and should be preserved.

Jo Carson, Registered Nurse and 21-year resident of Fairfax, stated that she was a mental health nurse who worked with adolescents; that Fairfax was a village where people knew each other; that adolescents had many sources of stress; that the police department in a small town knew the kids; and that she was opposed to any police consolidation.

John Reed, Volunteer Board Chair, stated that there were strong feelings in the community about possible consolidation of services and recommended that a public workshop be held on the topic.

M/S, Bragman/Tremaine, Motion to move the third item on the Agenda regarding the second draft of the Strategic Financial Plan to be heard first at the request of the audience.

AYES: Bragman, Brandborg, Maggiore, Tremaine, Weinsoff
NOES: None

Second draft of Strategic Financial Plan

The Town Council discussed the section of the Strategic Plan that covered consolidation/cost-sharing efforts, specifically as it related to the promises made as part of the Measure "F" campaign. It was explained that, as part of that campaign, the Town Council had agreed to explore every possible efficiency in the delivery of Town services in an effort to avoid a return to the voters with another measure in 2010 when Measure "F" was due to sunset.

Town Manager Kelly reported that a facilitated meeting was being scheduled with San Anselmo to explore options. She described efforts to secure the services of a facilitator who was familiar with Ross Valley issues.

George DeTuncq, stated that it was the beginning of the fire season and citizen evacuations in case of fire should be addressed by the Town; that parking on public streets in the hills was a hindrance to safe evacuations; that it had been helpful when the Town striped the available parking spaces in the hills; suggested that residents pay for parking stickers to park on the public streets; and that brush clearing needed to be done.

Mayor Bragman stated that the Town had activated a Disaster Council that had been meeting regularly to address preparedness issues; that a disaster warning siren had been installed; and that the Volunteer Board had begun a project to clear and maintain pathways and trails around Fairfax to facilitate access.

Councilmember Brandborg stated that there had been meetings about fire safety; that a revised disaster plan had been developed; and that a previous grant had enabled Ross Valley Fire to do lots of brush clearance in the past.

Fire Board Chair Maggiore stated that she pledged to have the Board address the parking issue.

Town Manager Kelly stated that two disaster preparedness meetings had been held and that a wild fire awareness day was being considered.

Mr. DeTuncq stated that he had received a brochure for residents from Ross Valley Fire about clearing brush.

Marcia Hagen, Forrest Avenue, stated that she was interested in evacuation routes and noted that the closure of Creek Road Bridge complicated things.

Town Manager Kelly suggested that Ms. Hagen arrange to have the Fire Marshall meet with her neighborhood about the evacuation issue and also stated that CERT emergency response training was available for citizens.

Mayor Bragman adjourned the meeting for a break from 10:20 to 10:30 a.m.

Town Manager Kelly led a discussion about retirement and benefit strategies as included in the Plan and the need for a GASB 45 actuarial study on future retiree health benefits liability that had been placed on the Council agenda for the May 2nd meeting. She noted that the GASB 45 issue had been added to the Plan. She suggested that the Economic

Development Advisory Committee's recommendations be added to the Plan at the discretion of the Council. There was a discussion of how to create a reserve policy.

Finance Director Roth reported that he had gathered information from other cities about their reserve policies and was preparing to address the issue on a future Council agenda.

Review of Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) recommendations – Council consideration and direction to staff

There was a discussion of the possibility of re-opening talks with the Sleepy Hollow Fire District regarding joining the Ross Valley Fire Service as recommended by EDAC.

There was a discussion of how to respond to the recommendation from EDAC regarding the development of Marin Town and Country Club as a revenue source for the Town.

It was agreed that the Town Council would continue the discussion of EDAC's recommendation's at a future meeting.

Councilmember Brandborg left the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Review of financial report of revenues and expenditures to date (continued from the regular meeting of April 4th)

Finance Director Roth presented a report that he described as a "snapshot" of the Town's finances through April of 2007. He noted that the Town was spending as anticipated after 75% of the fiscal year had elapsed.

The last two items on the agenda were not heard. "First draft of Town Goals and Objectives Plan document" and "Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis."

Mayor Bragman adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Anderson, Town Clerk