

## Recommendation for Committees

**For discussion at:** February 6, 2025, workshop and rescheduled regular Town Council meeting.

**Recommendation:** The Town Council change our approach to committee work so that

1. There are two committees – HR and Budget and Finance.
2. There is an additional monthly workshop for Town Council, lasting no more than 3 hours, in which the Council members discuss: (a) items that may need to be voted on in the next meeting, including CUP applications or other zoning changes; (b) items that may have been addressed in a committee previously.
3. The official record of the workshop will be (a) the agenda, (b) materials shared at the table, and (c) the recording. No official written minutes will be recorded. (As this is a workshop, no motions may be voted on.)
4. The Council invite individuals with relevant expertise – regardless of voter registration or property ownership – to work with the Council to learn about an issue, identify potential solutions, and explain the issue and solutions to the public. This will require the individuals to actively participate in the workshops and potentially speak at Town Council meetings. Prior to identifying a person with relevant expertise to work with Council, the Council should make a motion to focus on an issue, request individuals to express their interest by submitting a letter and explaining their expertise, and discuss the possible individuals in a workshop – inviting individuals to participate in a discussion about the task and their skills.

**Advantages of approach:** All Council members, and the public, will have access to the same information. We may be better able to utilize the skills and expertise of individuals invested in the Town who are not on Council.

**Disadvantages of approach:** Additional time commitment from Town Council members and staff. By deciding at the outset that no written minutes will be generated, this will help decrease the burden on Town staff.