Town of Sudbury Finance Committee Minutes of Meeting Monday, May 5, 2014

The Town of Sudbury's Finance Committee (FinCom) Meeting was held in Conference Room B at the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, and was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Doug Kohen. FinCom members present for this meeting were: Doug Kohen, Susan Berry, Joan Carlton, Tammie DuFault, Robert Jacobson, William Kneeland, Mark Minassian, Robert Stein, and Andrew Sullivan.

Item 1: Discussion of Police Station Costs exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to construct a new Police Department Headquarters

The Permanent Building Committee advised the Fin Com that they would be recommending that Town Meeting approve the original \$7.2M which was the estimated cost that needed to be raised for the project (the project cost was estimated at approximately \$7.8M and \$627,000 remaining from design costs would be applied to reduce the cost of borrowing) when the town voted on the project at the ballot, and that their presentation would make clear that they would be back for an additional request at a Special Town Meeting and additional ballot vote if the bids came in at the more recent, higher estimate.

The Fin Com had already voted in favor of this article and did not need to revote this.

Item 2: Limiting Motion for Article 4

Mark moved that the Limiting Motion for Article 4 read as follows:

That the amount appropriated under the FY15 budget not exceed the sum of \$85,083,102.

Move that the Town appropriate the sums of money set forth in the column "FY15 Warrant" for FY15 as shown on the screen:

said sums to raised by transfer of \$1,237,688 from Free Cash and the remainder to be raised by taxation except that the following items to be raised and designated, by transfer from available fund balances and interfund transfers:

from Ambulance Reserve for Appropriation Acct. to (200) Public Safety, \$830,072; the sum of \$5,704,418 set forth as Sudbury Public Schools Employee Benefits to be immediately transferred and added to item 900: Town Employee Benefits, so that the Employee Benefits total will be \$10,083,029, to be expended under the Town Manager; and to authorize the Town Manager to transfer \$1,069,290 of the funds from Item 900 to the OPEB Trust established to meet expenses for post employment health and life insurance benefits for eligible retirees and to expend such funds for that purpose; and to authorize the purchase of equipment funded under this budget by entering into lease purchase agreements; and to authorize multi-year contracts in excess of three years either by renewal, extension, or purchase options in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c.30B

The motion was seconded. The motion was defeated by a vote of 4-5 with Mark, Tammie, Bob Stein, and Andrew voting in favor and Doug, Susan, Joan, Bob Jacobson, and Bill Kneeland voting against.

Susan then moved that the Limiting Motion for Article 4 read as follows:

That the amount appropriated under the FY15 budget not exceed the sum of \$85,083,102.

Move that the Town appropriate the sums of money set forth in the column "FY15 Warrant" for FY15 as shown on the screen:

said sums to raised by taxation except that the following items to be raised and designated, by transfer from available fund balances and interfund transfers:

from Ambulance Reserve for Appropriation Acct. to (200) Public Safety, \$830,072; the sum of \$5,704,418 set forth as Sudbury Public Schools Employee Benefits to be immediately transferred and added to item 900: Town Employee Benefits, so that the Employee Benefits total will be \$10,083,029, to be expended under the Town Manager; and to authorize the Town Manager to transfer \$1,069,290 of the funds from Item 900 to the OPEB Trust established to meet expenses for post employment health and life insurance benefits for eligible retirees and to expend such funds for that purpose; and to authorize the purchase of equipment funded under this budget by entering into lease purchase agreements; and to authorize multi-year contracts in excess of three years either by renewal, extension, or purchase options in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c.30B

The motion passed 5-4 with Doug, Susan, Joan, Bob Jacobson, and Bill Kneeland voting in favor of the motion and Mark, Tammie, Bob Stein, and Andrew voting against.

Item 3: Discussion of Article 16 and Article 19

The Chair asked for a return to the two articles that had not received a total of 5 votes either in favor of recommending approval or in favor of recommending disapproval when discussed and voted at the Finance Committee's March 17th meeting:

- Article 16: Motion to approve \$558,300 for DPW rolling stock replacement
- Article 19: Motion to approve \$330,000 for school driveways, parking lots, and sidewalks improvements.

Since the March 17th meeting, members of the Fin Com had attended a CIAC meeting to ask the CIAC if they were able to prioritize their capital funding recommendations.

With the full committee present, the Fin Com voted first to rescind March 17 votes on these two articles and then voted to recommend approval of Article 16 by a 5-4 vote (Doug Kohen, Susan Berry, Joan Carlton, Robert Jacobson, and William Kneeland in favor; Tammie DuFault, Mark Minassian, Robert Stein, and Andrew Sullivan opposed).

The Finance Committee then voted to recommend approval of Article 19, also by a 5-4 vote (Doug Kohen, Susan Berry, Joan Carlton, Robert Jacobson, and William Kneeland in favor; Tammie DuFault, Mark Minassian, Robert Stein, and Andrew Sullivan opposed).

Item 4: Vote on Article 2

The Finance Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of Article 2 FY14 Budget Adjustments.

The meeting was adjourned to the LSRHS auditorium. The Finance Committee continued its meeting in attendance at, and for the duration of, Sudbury's Annual Town Meeting.