

**Town of Sudbury ~ Finance Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Monday – April 3, 2006**  
**LSRHS Conference Room A - 6:30pm**

**PRESENT:** Co-Chairs Bob Jacobson & Marty Ragonis, Tracy Billig, Bill Kneeland, Larry Rowe, Sheila Stewart, Ralph Verni, and Debbie Zurka. Also present: Suzanne Petersen, Finance Director, and Robin Porcella, Recording Secretary

**Opening Remarks:**

The meeting was opened at 6:38pm

**Item 1: Votes on Remaining Articles**

The following minutes are in numerical order by article, and not by order the votes were taken:

**Article 2: Senior Tax Relief** - No discussion, as this article was pulled.

**Article 4: FY06 Budget Adjustments** – Town Manager, Maureen Valente, provided the committee with copies of the slides she plans on showing at the Town Meeting. The purpose is to show why more money is needed for the FY06 budget.

**Slide 2**

\$27,675 from Insurance Recovery to 400 Public Works

\$81,646 from Abatement Surplus to 900 Town-wide operations and Transfers

Maureen Valente stated that when the amount is over \$20,000 Town Meeting approval is needed. There is currently an approximate balance of \$102,000 in the Reserve Fund. There is a shortfall close to \$8,000 due to the following reasons: \$28,000 Gasoline, \$10,000 for Trees on Town Property, \$248,000 Snow & Ice deficit, \$65,000 for the law account (Hop Brook matter & legal bills), and some Appellate Tax Board cases regarding Wingate & Raytheon. There will a \$74,000 to \$75,000 deficit being carried in 07 that will need to be raised on the recap. She reminded the committee that the Snow & Ice is high due to the roads icing over this winter. She stated if the money is not moved to the Reserve Fund now, than we will not be able to use the funds.

**Slide 3**

\$7,100 from Article 1 of 11/17/97 Special Town Meeting to 200 Public Safety Fire Capital Exp.

\$5,000 from Article 11 of 2001 Annual Town Meeting to 200 Public Safety Fire Capital Exp.

This was a Capital Article for debt to repair the fire station floors. Before the floors can be repaired, the drainage issues need to be taking care of. This is causing bids to come in higher than originally anticipated.

**Slide 4:**

Move to abandon the Feely Park Restrooms project of the 2001 Annual Town Meeting and to transfer the unexpended proceeds (\$42,000) to Article 5, FY06 Operating Budget (200 Public Safety, Fire Department Capital Expenditures.

The use of the language “Move to abandon”, is required by state law. The Town is planning on repairing the bathrooms located at the fields, but the Town is not planning on spending the rest of the money. Tracy Billig asked since the money was already borrowed; why not use these funds to pay it back. Maureen Valente stated that this can not be done. The funds can only be moved back to other capital projects. Bob Jacobson stated it would be good to explain why the fire floor project went from \$90,000 to \$133,000. He thought the residents of Sudbury should understand that the Town is not trying to do more than what they originally said. Maureen Valente stated she would have the Fire Chief explain the difference.

VOTED: On motion, to support all parts of Article 4 as presented. Motion made by Ralph Verni, and seconded by Bill Kneeland. On vote, motion carries 7 in support, 0 opposed, and 2 absent (Grosberg, Rowe)

**Article 9: Professional Services (New Police Station)** – No Discussion, as this article was indefinitely postponed

**Article 10: Unpaid Bills** – No discussion, as this article was indefinitely postponed

**Article 11: Stabilization Fund** - No discussion, as this article was indefinitely postponed

**Article 25: DPW Mining Revolving Fund** – This article authorizes funds to be spent on the mining program and also authorizes a transfer of \$100,000 in mining receipts to the General Fund. There was a short discussion on the history of the \$100,000 going to the general fund and the use of the revolving fund in the future to reclaim the land.

VOTED: On motion, to support Article 25. Motion made by Ralph Verni and seconded by Bill Kneeland. On vote, motion carries 7 in support, 0 opposed, and 2 absent (Grosberg, Rowe)

**Article 33: Sudbury Affordable Housing Trust** - Sue Petersen stated that as the Town Accountant she had some misgivings towards this article, but informed the committee that Town Counsel has no issues with it. Bob Jacobson stated that by setting up the trust, no Town Meeting approval will be needed at a later date if the CPA decides to give money to the trust.

VOTED: On motion, to support Article 33. On vote, motion carries 7 in support, 0 opposed, and 2 absent (Grosberg, Rowe)

**Article 35: Wayland-Sudbury Septage Facility Agreement** – No discussion, as this article was indefinitely postponed.

**Article 44: (CPC) L-S Community Athletic Fields** – Sheila Stewart handed out a sheet to the committee members listing the points she will make at Town Meeting regarding this article. Tracy Billig stated that the agreement goes to 2007, but would like to know who gets the field if the agreement does not work out between the school and the town. Bill Kneeland stated he wants to make sure the agreement protects Sudbury’s interest. Following further discussion, there was consensus that the committee felt that the agreement would be drafted in a way that would serve the town’s interests well.

VOTED: On motion, to support article 44. On vote, motions carries 7 in support, 0 opposed, 1 absent (Grosberg), and 1 abstain (Billig).

**Article 45: (CPC) General Budget & Appropriations** - for debt service, administrative fees and general operating expenses.

**VOTED:** On motion, to support article 45. Motion made by Ralph Verni and seconded by Bill Kneeland. On vote, motion carries 7 in support, 0 opposed, and 2 absent (Grosberg, Rowe)

**Item 2: Approve Minutes**

Ralph Verni stated he wanted a paragraph added to the January 6<sup>th</sup> minutes, and that he was present at the January 23<sup>rd</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> meeting. It was agreed that he would email his requested changes to Robin Porcella.

**VOTED:** To approve the minutes from the January 19,23,26,30, 31, and the March 20, 2006 meetings. Motion made by Tracy Billig, and seconded by Debbie Zurka. On vote, motion carries 7 in support, 0 opposed, and 2 absent (Grosberg, Stewart)

**The committee adjourned at 7:20pm to attend the Annual Town Meeting**