

**Town of Sudbury ~ finance Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Monday – December 17, 2007**  
**LRSHS – 7:30pm**

**Present:** Chuck Woodard, Jamie Gossels, Bob Jacobson (7:48pm), Jim Jacobson (7:44pm), Bill Kneeland, Marty Ragones, Sheial Stewart, Ralph Verni

**Absent:** Debbie Zurka

**Item 1: Approve Minutes**

There were corrections submitted to be made to the November 19<sup>th</sup> and December 3<sup>rd</sup> minutes.

**VOTED:** On motion, to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2007 meeting with the understanding that the submitted changes will be made. Motion made by Ralph Verni and seconded by Bill Kneeland. On vote, motion carries 6 in support, 0 opposed, and 3 absent (B. Jacobson, J. Jacobson, Zurka).

**VOTED:** On motion, to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2007 meeting with the understanding that the submitted changes will be made. Motion made by Ralph Verni and seconded by Bill Kneeland. On vote, motion carries 6 in support, 0 opposed, and 3 absent (B. Jacobson, J. Jacobson, Zurka).

**Item 2: Transfers and Other Business**

**TRANSFER #08-03:** The committee was asked to vote on a salary contingency transfer in the amount of \$104,652. This amount is less than the amount listed on the transfer paperwork that was originally provided to the committee. This transfer is being requested by the Finance Director to cover salary expenses due to union contract settlements. The committee was informed that the DPW and the Police are still in negotiations for FY07.

**VOTED:** To approve the Salary Contingency Transfer (#08-03) in the amount of \$104,652. Motion made by Ralph Verni and seconded by Marty Ragones. On vote, motion carries 8 in support, 0 opposed, and 1 absent (Zurka)

**OTHER BUISNESS:** Marty Ragones informed the committee of the school department spending approximately \$92,000 from the Special Education FY07 budget to cover the expenses relating to remodeling/repairs of the central office and school buildings.

The issue is that none of the work was submitted as a Capital Porject for the fiscal year. All of the work has already been completed. Andrea Terkelsen stated that the school department has submitted some projects for FY09.

Bob Jacobson stated that this could be an educational process, and that we need to make sure the school department understands the rules/laws that must be followed. He stated it would also be helpful to know what the school committee has the responsibility to spend funds on.

Bill Kneeland stated that the next liaison meeting is scheduled for Thursday at 7:45am at the Fairbank Building.

### **Item 3: FY09 Budget Process**

Chuck Woodard reminded the committee that the first hearing begins on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

The committee was informed that the working group met on Tuesday and discussed the revenue adjustments. They also discussed where the cost centers are in regards to their respective budgets. The group will be meeting again in early January to discuss what a non-override budget would look like.

Bob Jacobson stated he would like to create a set of conditions so that the cost centers will know the conditions under which the FinCom might consider an override. He also believes another discussion of what "level staff" represents would be helpful. Bob stated he does not expect the unions to agree with any FinCom conditions. The issue of health premiums has never been put on the table before, so he believes they will look for a higher COLA increase if they have to pay a higher percentage on their health premium. Andrea Terkelsen stated that it would be interesting to see what union might consider the changes first.

Chuck Woodard asked what the town's definition of an uncontrollable cost is. Andrea Terkelsen stated she would ask the town manager for a list in advance.

Sheila Stewart reminded the committee that the town has a smaller commercial base, so any tax increase is felt by the residents.

Ralph Verni asked if there is any chance of the revenue picture improving for the next fiscal year. Andrea Terkelsen stated she does not believe it will improve.

**There being no further business, the committee adjourned at 9:10pm.**