

**Town of Sudbury ~ Finance Committee  
Minutes of Meeting  
Wednesday – February 6, 2008  
Flynn Building – 6:30pm**

**Present:** Chuck Woodard, Jamie Gossels, Bob Jacobson (6:40pm), Jim Jacobson, Bill Kneeland, Marty Ragonas, Sheila Stewart, Ralph Verni, and Debbie Zurka

**The meeting was opened at 6:33pm.**

**Salary Contingency Transfer #08-05:**

The committee was asked to vote on Salary Contingency Transfer #08-05 in the amount of \$68,493.91. These funds will be used to cover the FY08 Fire Union contract settlement.

**Voted:** On motion, to approve Salary Contingency Transfer #08-05 in the amount of \$68,493.91. Motion made by Ralph Verni and seconded by Bill Kneeland. On vote, motion carries 8 in support, 0 opposed, and 1 absent (B. Jacobson).

**Override Discussion:**

Chuck Woodard informed the committee that there will be three budget choices presented on this year's ballot. One is a no override budget, the second is for a \$1.8 million override, and the third choice will be for a \$2.8 million override.

Ralph Verni asked that if a resident votes no for the \$1.8 million override, but a vote yes for the \$2.8 million override and it fails, than the resident's vote becomes a yes vote for \$1.8 million override. Chuck Woodard stated yes, based on the assumption that if you approve a \$2.8 million override than you would approve \$1.8 million.

Chuck Woodard stated that the results of the ballots will determine what is presented at Town Meeting. If the larger override fails, than they will present the smaller one at Town Meeting. The election is scheduled for March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Sheila Stewart stated that it does not sound right that the votes can be counted that way. She is wondering if anyone is looking into this.

Jim Jacobson asked if anything will be presented saying what the ballot questions are and how they will affect the cost centers. Ralph Verni stated the information will be in the warrant. Bob Jacobson added that a narrative is written for the ballot with arguments in favor and against each override.

Before heading over to the meeting with the Bd. of Selectmen, Chuck Woodard confirmed with the committee that they are still in favor of supporting the \$1.8 million override. He asked if the committee would be willing to vote on the overrides tonight.

**Voted:** On motion, to approve the override budget in the approximate amount of \$2,821,200 as presented. Motion made by Bob Jacobson and seconded by Marty Ragonese. On vote, motion carries 1 in support (Gossels) and 8 opposed.

**Voted:** On motion, to approve the override budget in the approximate amount of \$1,821,200 as presented. Motion made by Bob Jacobson and seconded by Marty Ragonese. On vote, motion carries 9 in support and 0 opposed.

Chuck Woodard stated that the next phase will be to put together a spending limit. The committee will need to determine the maximum rate of growth in operating expenses it can accept over the next three years. The committee would then support this growth limit by not recommending overrides that would fund spending in excess of the limit.

Bob Jacobson stated that we will have to provide a set of assumptions to the cost centers so that they can determine and report on the impact of such a spending limit. Chuck Woodard stated that the agreed limit would be announced at the Budget Forum.

**There being no further business, the committee adjourned at 7:14pm.**