

Town of Sudbury ~ Finance Committee
Minutes of Meeting
Monday – July 20, 2009
7:30pm – Flynn Building (Silva Room)

Present: Chair Chuck Woodard, Jamie Gossels, Bill Kneeland, Jim Rao, and Sheila Stewart
(arrived 7:37pm).

Absent: Bob Jacobson, Marty Ragonas

Opening Comments

The meeting was opened at 7:33pm.

Approve Meeting Minutes

The committee was asked to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2009 meeting. The committee was informed that Jim Rao and Chuck Woodard had previously emailed their suggested changes. The committee was asked if they had any other suggestions/corrections.

VOTED: On motion to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2009 meeting with the understanding that the suggested changes be made. Motion made by Jim Rao and seconded by Bill Kneeland. On vote, motion carries 4 in support, 0 opposed, and 3 absent (Jacobson, Ragonas, Stewart).

Other Business

The committee was informed that the LSRHS school committee and teachers' union have reached an agreement. Chuck Woodard stated that it is possible that the contract will be voted on at tonight's school committee meeting. The committee discussed the possibility of holding a meeting in August to review the signed Memorandum of understanding.

New Member Interviews

Since the meeting was being broadcast on the local cable channel, Chuck Woodard started the discussion by explaining the reason for the interviews and introduced the three potential candidates.

The applicants scheduled to be interviewed are Robert Stein, Joan Carlton, and Jodi Tucker.

Each applicant was given the opportunity to present a brief summary of their career history and reason for applying to be appointed to the FinCom. The three applicants were asked the same set of questions that the committee had used for previous interviews. Some of the questions included why they applied, to explain their background, their comfort level with public speaking, and if they would be willing to commit to serve 3-years on the committee.

Bryan Semple, a Sudbury resident, asked if the committee would be willing to hear from the public if they supported a certain candidate. Chuck Woodard and the committee agreed to do so. Bryan Semple recommended that the committee appoint Robert Stein.

Vote on 2 New Members

As to not persuade how other committee members would vote, it was agreed that the FinCom members would rank their preferences (1st, 2nd, and 3rd) on a sheet of paper and the chairman of the committee would tally the votes. The candidates with the two lowest point totals would be referred to the Town Moderator for an interview prior to final appointment (on an interim basis) by the committee. After the votes were tallied, the committee was informed that Joan Carlton and Robert Stein received the two lowest votes. The following chart shows how each committee member voted.

	Joan Carlton	Robert Stein	Jodi Tucker
Jamie Gossels	1	3	2
Bill Kneeland	2	1	3
Jim Rao	2	1	3
Sheila Stewart	1	2	3
Chuck Woodard	1	2	3
Total	7	9	14

Annual Letter to Cost Centers

Chuck Woodard had emailed an updated letter to the committee members. He stated that Bob Jacobson had suggested some changes, which Chuck agreed with.

Chuck Woodard explained some of the changes compared to last years letter. He stated a final draft of the letter will be provided to the committee to vote on at the next meeting.

Jamie Gossels expressed some concerns in regards to comparing to the LS & SPS head count figures. She believes the numbers can be misconstrued. Susan Iuliano, SPS school committee, stated that the number is not difficult to provide. She reminded the committee that there are always dips and rises in the number. She reminded the committee that full-day kindergarten will be added for the 2009/2010 school year.

There being no further business, the committee adjourned at 8:30pm.