

**Sudbury Finance Committee  
Virtual Meeting Minutes  
March 1, 2021**

**ATTENDANCE**

Members of the Finance Committee (FinCom) present for the Virtual Meeting were: Co-Chair, Eric Poch (left meeting after the vote in Item 4), Co-Chair Scott Smigler, Susan Berry, Ronald Brumback, Michael Joachim, Howard Feng, Jean Nam and Sonny Parente (arrived after the roll call)

**ALSO PRESENT**

Henry Hayes, Town Manager and Dennis Keohane, Finance Director/Treasurer-Collector

**ITEM 1: Open the Meeting**

- Welcome and Member Roll Call  
Co-Chair Eric Poch called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and roll called members of FinCom present.
- Opening Remarks (Co-Chairs)  
None

**ITEM 2: Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**ITEM 3: Updates from Town Manager and Finance Director**

Town Manager Hayes walked the Committee through responses to follow up questions from the Town Budget Hearing.

- Several items that are on the 5-year capital plan that are associated with Fairbank Community Center will be removed as these will be addressed in the new building.
- Town Manager Hayes confirmed that the funds for Various Building Projects voted for FY20 have been spent and a portion of FY21 funds have been spent.
- Finance Director Keohane explained the swing in allocation for maintenance in FY22.
- Henry Hayes addressed the question about deferred maintenance, explaining a complete list is not currently available. He mentioned that he plans to look at the capital plan and process over the summer.
- Questions about the Fire Station article and funding are still in discussion and requested information is still being assembled. There was discussion by members about the information that the Committee still needs in order to deliberate on this article.
- The Committee's request for the balance in a number of funds was received. At some point the committee would like a comprehensive list of funds and their balance.
- The answer to the Committee's question about Park & Rec allocation of user fees to the turf field is not yet available. Dennis Keohane stated that the short answer to whether money is set aside for maintenance of turf fields is "no."

Michael Joachim also asked for an updated version of the budget that reflects that the assessment for LS has gone down. The Town Manager mentioned that he and Dennis Keohane need to discuss how the budget will be revised to account for the assessment change. A discussion ensued on what FinCom needs to be able to take a vote on the budget.

#### **ITEM 4: Committee Organization**

Co-chair Smigler opened this agenda item to say that he has reached out unsuccessfully several times to candidate Duo Liu and that he is not on tonight's call. Therefore, Co-Chair Smigler announced that we will only be hearing from and voting on candidate Blair Caple. Blair Caple introduced himself and gave a summary of his background and had a few questions for the committee. The FinCom members responded with some answers and follow up questions.

#### **Motion and Vote**

Sonny Parente moved, and Susan Berry seconded the motion to approve the appointment of Blair Caple for a term to end at the close of the May 2021 Annual Town Meeting.

#### **Roll call vote:**

Scott Smigler, yes; Ronald Brumback, yes; Susan Berry, yes; Michael Joachim, yes; Jean Nam, yes; Howard Feng, yes; Sonny Parente, yes; and Eric Poch, yes.

**The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.**

#### **ITEM 5: Deliberate on and vote to take positions on Spring 2021 Annual Town Meeting articles**

Co-Chair Smigler opened this item for discussion with a look at articles still to be addressed. The members of FinCom agreed that they still need information before voting on the budget but are ready to begin the discussion of the budget. A discussion followed of the positives and concerns regarding the LS and the SPS budgets. Members agreed to wait for requested updated information before discussing the Town budget.

#### **ITEM 6: General Business**

This item was taken up as the last item of the meeting.

- **Approve Meeting Minutes** - Pushed to next meeting
- **Membership** - Covered in Item 4
- **Transfers and other business** - None
- **Calendar**  
FinCom is tentatively holding March 15 for an additional meeting.
- **Future agenda items**  
The members discussed what will be covered at the meeting on March 8 and potentially could be covered at a meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ITEM 7: FY22 Budget FinCom Report to Warrant**

Ron Brumback introduced this section by reviewing the Table of Contents of the Finance Committee section of the 2020 Warrant and the charts that he is recommending be added, recognizing the input from Jean Nam in this process. Members made suggestions for additions and edits. The committee agreed that Ron Brumback and Jean Nam would update the section with suggestions made, and Ron can then send it to

Dennis Keohane without another review by the FinCom, with the understanding that FinCom will see the final section before it goes to print in the Warrant.

**ITEM 8: Vote to update Finance Committee Roles and Operating Procedures**

Co-Chair Smigler opened this item with the suggestion that this get pushed to the next meeting. Jean Nam requested that members take one last read of this document before the next meeting to see if there are any final edits requested.

**ITEM 9: Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**ITEM 10: Adjournment**

**Motion and Vote:**

Ronald Brumback moved, and Susan Berry seconded the motion that the March 1, 2021, Finance Committee meeting be adjourned at approximately 10:30 p.m.

**Roll call vote:**

Susan Berry, yes; Ronald Brumback, yes; Jean Nam, yes; Sonny Paente, yes; Howard Feng, yes; Michael Joachim, yes; and Scott Smigler, yes. The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

*The next scheduled meeting of the Finance Committee is Monday, March 8, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.*