

**Sudbury Finance Committee  
Virtual Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2023**

**ATTENDANCE**

Members of the Finance Committee (FinCom) present for the Virtual Meeting were Co-Chair Michael Joachim, Co-Chair Eric Poch, Susan Berry, Andrew Bettinelli, Michael Ferrari, Hank Sorett, Sonny Parente, and Colin Wang (arrived at 7:18).

**ALSO ATTENDING the MEETING**

Dennis Keohane, Finance Director/Treasurer

**ITEM 1: Open the Meeting**

- **Welcome and member roll call**

Co-Chair Joachim called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and roll-called members of the FinCom present for the March 6, 2023, Virtual Meeting. He stated that the FinCom meeting of March 6 is being broadcast live and recorded. He read the Municipal Remote Meeting Disclaimer.

- **Opening remarks (Co-Chairs)**

Co-Chair Joachim reviewed the agenda.

**ITEM 2: Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**ITEM 3: Budget Discussion**

- **Discuss & collect follow-up questions and Initial votes on Warrant Articles**

Co-Chair Joachim introduced this item and took the committee through the articles on which FinCom will need to take a vote, asking if there were questions on any of these. Finance Director Keohane reviewed the Enterprise Funds articles; the Snow & Ice article; the Unpaid Bills article; Chapter 90 Highway Fund article; and the Revolving Funds Spending Limits article. There were follow up questions on Article 14 Funding of GO Sudbury!; Article 15 Fairbank Community Center A-V Equipment and Associated Funding; Article 17 Medicaid Reimbursement...to Fund ELA Curriculum Update; Article 51: CPA - Indigenous Cultural Landscape Fund. The Co-Chairs will get answers to the questions on articles 14 and 15; Susan Berry, on Article 17; and Colin Wang on Article 51.

Co-Chair Joachim proposed taking votes on Articles 5-13 at the next meeting.

- **Discuss Article 3**

Co-Chair Joachim led this discussion, beginning with a slide deck he had put together to give an overview of the cost centers' budgets and indicate the questions he had about the override at this point. Members of the committee

discussed information, questions, and concerns they were weighing as they considered their final position on Article 3, including a discussion of the possible use of circuit breaker funds to cover the gap that would be covered by the override and why that likely is not a long-term solution. Members of the committee discussed whether guidance to the cost centers should take into account varying needs based on year-to-year changes. Also discussed were the pros and cons of using one-time funds to cover the SPS gap for FY24. There were no further questions on the LS FY24 budget. Within the discussion of the Town FY24 budget, Co-Chair Joachim covered the increase in the debt in FY24. 90% of the debt is funded through debt exclusion; 10% of the debt is funded within the levy. There was some discussion about the new positions in the Town budget.

- Discuss other items relevant to FinCom review of Budgets and Warrant Articles

There was no further discussion on this item.

#### **ITEM 4: General Business**

- **Liaison reports**

There were no liaison reports.

- **Calendar**

Co-Chair Joachim mentioned the need to schedule a joint meeting with the Select Board. He also reviewed what will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

- **Approve Meeting Minutes**

##### **Motion and Vote:**

Susan Berry moved, and Mike Ferrari seconded the motion that the January 23 meeting minutes be approved as amended.

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

Eric Poch, yes; Susan Berry, yes; Andrew Bettinelli, yes; Sonny Parente, abstain; Hank Sorett, yes; Mike Ferrari, yes; and Mike Joachim, yes.

The motion carried. The vote 6 in favor and 1 abstention.

- **Transfers and other business**

There were no transfers or other business.

#### **ITEM 5: Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **ITEM 6: Adjourn**

##### **Motion and Vote:**

Hank Sorett moved, and Eric Poch seconded the motion that the March 6, 2023, Finance Committee meeting be adjourned at approximately 9:39 p.m.

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

**Eric Poch, yes; Susan Berry, yes; Andrew Bettinelli, yes; Sonny Parente, yes; Hank Sorett, yes; Mike Ferrari, yes; and Mike Joachim, yes.**

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

*The next scheduled virtual meeting of the Finance Committee is Monday, March 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.*