

**Sudbury Finance Committee
Virtual Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2023**

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Finance Committee (FinCom) present for the Virtual Meeting were Co-Chair Michael Joachim, Co-Chair Eric Poch (arrived at 7:17), Susan Berry, Andrew Bettinelli, Michael Ferrari, Sonny Parente, Hank Sorett, and Colin Wang

ALSO ATTENDING the MEETING

Dennis Keohane, Finance Director/Treasurer; Rami Alwan, Chair, Energy and Sustainability Committee; Sandra Doran, Combined Facilities Director

ITEM 1: Open the Meeting

- **Welcome and member roll call**

Co-Chair Joachim called the meeting to order at approximately 7:03 p.m. and roll-called members of the FinCom present for the April 24, 2023, Virtual Meeting. He stated that the FinCom meeting of April 24 is being broadcast live and recorded for viewing by the public. He read the Municipal Remote Meeting Disclaimer.

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

There were no opening remarks.

ITEM 2: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

ITEM 3: Budget Discussion

- Consider Articles 30 and 31

Co-Chair Joachim welcomed Rami Alwan to answer questions about Articles 30 and 31. Chair Alwan gave an overview of Article 30 Amend Solar Energy Revolving Fund and Article 31 Authorization to Proceed with the Fairbank Community Center Solar Project. Rami Alwan and Sandra Doran also answered questions from the committee.

Motion and Vote:

Hank Sorett moved, and Mike Ferrari seconded the motion that the FinCom recommend approval of Article 30 and Article 31.

Roll call vote:

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

The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

- Consider SPS Bus Revolving Fund

Susan Berry reported that SPS will not increase the spending limit of the Bus Revolving Fund and would not want

to do that without further study. SPS Committee reiterated that there are no good options for cuts, and that they support the Superintendent's decisions on cuts should the override not pass. In terms of the surplus in the Bus Revolving Fund, SPS would want to keep about a year's worth in surplus, and they plan to spend about up to the limit in FY24 and over the next 3 years spend down the surplus. Susan Berry also encouraged FinCom members to listen to the SPS discussion that included some strong objections to the FinCom deliberations on the SPS override. Members of FinCom also still had some questions about how the revolving fund works and what goes into it and what can be paid out of it, as well as what is a reasonable amount to maintain.

The committee agreed at this point that FinCom should vote on Article 12 given that SPS has been clear that they are not going to spend more than the current Revolving Fund limit.

- Deliberate and Vote on Warrant Articles

- Motion and Vote:

- Susan Berry moved, and Sonny Parente seconded the motion that the FinCom recommend approval of Article 12.

- Roll call vote:

- Eric Poch, yes; Susan Berry, yes; Andrew Bettinelli, yes; Sonny Parente, yes; Mike Ferrari, yes; Hank Sorett, no; Colin Wang, yes; and Mike Joachim, yes.

- The motion carried. The vote was 7 in favor and 1 opposed.

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

- The committee discussed and decided not to take a position on Article 55 Control of Firearms Zoning.

- Finalize presentation to Town Meeting

- Co-Chair Joachim reviewed the latest draft of the presentation with the committee and confirmed additional edits. If committee members have any additional suggestions, Co-Chair Joachim asked that they be sent to him by Thursday.

ITEM 4: General Business

- **Liaison reports**

- Mike Ferrari reported that the LSRHS E&D has been certified at \$1,507,183. The Superintendent will be requesting the LS Committee to approve 500K of the E&D be added to the LS Stabilization Fund for large capital asset replacements and/or renovations and \$250K to the LS OPEB Trust Fund.

- **Calendar**

Co-Chair Joachim added that he will post a meeting for 6:30 before each night of Town Meeting in order to discuss and vote on items, as needed.

- **Approve Meeting Minutes**

Co-Chair Joachim reviewed the edits to the minutes of March 6 and March 13.

Motion and Vote:

Hank Sorett moved, and Eric Poch seconded the motion that FinCom approve the minutes as amended for March 6 and March 13.

Roll call vote:

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

The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

- **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:

Eric Poch moved, and Hank Sorett seconded the motion that the April 24, 2023, Finance Committee meeting be adjourned at approximately 9:33 p.m.

Roll call vote:

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

The motion carried. The vote was unanimous.

The next scheduled meeting of the Finance Committee is Monday, May 1, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.