

**Sudbury Finance Committee
Virtual Meeting Minutes
August 30, 2023
7:00PM**

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Finance Committee present were: Co-Chair Eric Poch, Susan Berry, Andrew Bettinelli, Ryan Lynch, Henry Sorett, Michael Ferrari, Maura Carty and Colin Wang

ABSENT

Co-Chair Michael Joachim

ALSO ATTENDING THE MEETING

Finance Director Dennis Keohane

Open the Meeting

ITEM 1: Welcome and Member Roll Call

Co-Chair Poch called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05PM, declared a quorum present and roll-called members present. He stated that the meeting is being broadcast live and recorded for viewing by the public. He read the Municipal Remote Meeting Disclaimer.

- **Opening Remarks**

Co-Chair Poch reported that he, Co-Chair Joachim, Select Board Member Roberts, and members of the CIAC had met with Town Manager Sheehan to continue the dialogue on ways to improve the capital planning process. Topics of discussion included lessons learned and observations with respect to the timing and availability of information throughout the budgeting process. At the conclusion of discussion, it was the consensus of opinion that information be made available to all stakeholders as early as possible in the process, and that we are all advisers to each other. Mr. Sheehan will take this under advisement with plans to continue an open environment for dialogue.

ITEM 2: Public Comment

Select Board Member Lisa Kouchakdjian reported that the Board is requesting that one member of Town boards/committees be present at the Resident Shaping Sudbury's Future Hybrid Forum at Town Hall on October 12th either in person or remotely for the meet and greet section of the forum beginning at 7:00PM.

ITEM 3: FinCom Organization

- **FinCom Rules and Operating Procedures**

Co-Chair Poch began the discussion on the draft of the rules and operating procedures. Discussion ensued on the text based on the MMA's handbook on Finance Committees. Access to the website will be provided to all members for reference of the roles and responsibilities as key priorities and best practices for committees. The Town is a member of the MMA and is entitled to the many trainings and seminars, and he encouraged new members to attend.

Suggestions for further edits to the rules and operating procedures will be emailed to Co-Chair Poch for final review and approval at the next meeting.

ITEM 4: Fall Town Meeting

Co-Chair Poch reported that the Select Board had voted to move forward with a Fall Town Meeting at a date to be determined. Topics for articles have been selected and a draft table of contents has been generated. Discussion ensued on the present topics involving a FinCom vote including Fairbank, Atkinson Pool, SPS articles including Nixon roof, traffic lights at Mossman Road and Route 117 and the Malone stabilization fund with the possibility of other articles to be added. The committee will have a full discussion on the impact of additional Chapter 70 funds.

ITEM 5: Current Year Issues and Goals

Co-Chair Poch stated that this agenda item will be deferred to the next meeting for a full discussion of issues and goals.

ITEM 6: General Business**• Transfers and other business**

There were none.

• Liaison reports

Ms. Carty provided the following update from the Permanent Building Committee as of August 17th:

- Fire station 63% completed with anticipated late September occupancy.
 - o Of total project budget cost of \$5.8M, \$3.6M has been expended to date.
- Update on Fairbank pool project contingency.
 - o Source of leak has not been determined.

No further update on Parks and Recreation.

Ms. Berry provided the following SPS update:

- FY23 capital projects voted at 2022 town meeting completed with exception of HVAC work to be combined with monies voted at recent town meeting to increase efficiency and lower cost.
- Closed FY23 budget with report to follow in September.
- SMILE program funded in the past by ARPA will need to be funded in budget; increased charge for SMILE Plus program.
- Emailed Chair with regard to scheduling meeting with school committee and FinCom to discuss improving relationships; FinCom will discuss agenda of goals, objectives and expectations when Co-Chair Joachim is present at next meeting.

Co-Chair Poch stated that more detail is needed on the overall Fairbank project to be used as a roadmap from inception of the project approved at town meeting and documenting the changes made because of value engineering, additional change orders, additional funding from ARPA and other sources, additional assets or items of functionality, etc. to end up with a budget reforecast and gaps that remain. Noting a potential \$6M overage on an original \$28M project, he stated that a formal request of information of the gaps that remain from the original article will be made before any new considerations on the project can be discussed.

• Calendar

Next meetings:

September 26th to finalize rules and operating procedures, goals and objectives as well as Fall town meeting warrant articles.

October 2nd and 6th to discuss/vote on warrant articles.

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes of July 24, 2023**

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Berry and seconded by Ms. Carty, it was voted to approve the minutes of July 24, 2023 as amended. Roll call vote: Co-Chair Poch-Y, Ms. Berry-Y, Mr. Bettinelli-Y, Ms. Carty-Y, Mr. Ferrari-Y, Mr. Sorett-A, Mr. Lynch-Y and Mr. Wang-Y. Motion carried 7-0-1.

Ms. Carty noted an additional change to be made to the minutes.

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Berry and seconded by Ms. Carty, it was re-voted to approve the minutes of July 24, 2023 as re-amended. Roll call vote: Co-Chair Poch-Y, Ms. Berry-Y, Mr. Bettinelli-Y, Ms. Carty-Y, Mr. Ferrari-Y, Mr. Sorett-A, Mr. Lynch-Y and Mr. Wang-Y. Motion carried 7-0-1.

ITEM 7: Public comment

There was none.

ITEM 8: Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Berry and seconded by Ms. Carty, it was voted to adjourn. Roll call vote: Co-Chair Poch-Y, Ms. Berry-Y, Mr. Bettinelli-Y, Mr. Ferrari-Y, Mr. Lynch-Y, Ms. Carty-Y, Mr. Sorett-Y, Mr. Wang-Y. Motion carried 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Martin Barraford
Recording Secretary