

**Sudbury Finance Committee
Virtual Meeting Minutes
April 29, 2024
7:00PM**

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Finance Committee present: Co-Chair Mike Joachim, Co-Chair Eric Poch, Maura Carty, Susan Berry, Ryan Lynch, and Colin Wang. Andrew Bettinelli, Mike Ferrari, and Henry Sorett arrived late.

Absent: None.

Also in attendance: Finance Director Dennis Keohane

ITEM 1: Open the Meeting

Co-Chair Joachim called the meeting to order at approximately 7:03PM, roll-called the members, and declared a quorum present. He read the Municipal Remote Meeting Disclaimer. Co-Chair Joachim stated that the meeting would focus on voting on one remaining warrant article and preparing for Town Meeting.

ITEM 2: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

ITEM 3: FY25 Budget Discussion

Article 28: Electric Car Charging Station at Goodnow Library

Discussion proceeded on Article 28 and including the following points:

- Charging stations are valuable assets to residents and align with the Town's master plan on sustainability and climate change and with the Commonwealth's goal to get 900K electric vehicles on the road by 2030.
- Members expressed concern about overriding the Town Manager's decision to deny the project's inclusion in the FY25 capital budget by submitting the article and undermining the Town Manager's ability to manage departmental budgets.
- Shared view that the Town's capital improvement program (CIP) policies and prioritization process needs to be followed to ensure consistency.
- Some raised concerns that the library trustees repeatedly tried to get the project approved and have had requests for additional staff denied.
- Support for the project but shared view that funding should come from Solar Revolving Fund—not free cash as proposed by the article. Using free cash is not fiscally prudent, and monies currently available in the solar revolving fund.
- FinCom members expressed interest in undertaking a detailed review of the solar revolving fund revenues and expenditures.

Upon motion duly made by Co-Chair Poch and seconded by Ms. Berry, it was voted **not** to recommend approval of Article 28. Roll call vote: Ms. Berry-Y, Mr. Lynch-Y, Mr. Ferrari-N, Ms. Carty-N, Mr. Wang-Y, Mr. Sorett-Y, Mr. Bettinelli-Y, Co-Chair Joachim-Y and Co-Chair Poch-Y. Motion carries 7-2.

Prepare FinCom Reports on Individual Warrant Articles at Town Meeting

Co-Chair Joachim presented the draft explanations of FinCom votes submitted by members and edits were made.

Discuss Other Items Relevant to FinCom Review on Budgets and Warrant Articles

There was no further discussion.

ITEM 4: General Business

- **Transfers and other business**

There were none.

- **Liaison reports**

There were none.

- **Calendar**

Next meeting: May 6, prior to Annual Town Meeting.

- **Approval of Minutes of February 26 and March 4, 2024**

Upon motion duly made by Co-Chair Poch and seconded by Ms. Berry, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes of February 26 and March 4, as amended. Roll call vote: Ms. Berry-Y, Mr. Lynch-Y, Mr. Ferrari-Y, Ms. Carty-Y, Mr. Wang-Y, Mr. Sorett-Y, Mr. Bettinelli-Y, Co-Chair Joachim-Y, Co-Chair Poch-Y.

Motion carries 9-0, unanimous.

ITEM 5: Public Comment

In response to Select Board Liaison Jen Roberts' question, Co-Chair Joachim recapped the FinCom's vote on Article 28.

On behalf of the FinCom, Co-Chair Joachim thanked the three departing members for their service: Mr. Wang, Ms. Carty and Ms. Berry, and they in turn expressed their gratitude for having the opportunity to serve.

ITEM 8: Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Sorett and seconded by Ms. Berry, it was unanimously voted to adjourn. Roll call vote: Ms. Berry-Y, Mr. Lynch-Y, Mr. Ferrari-Y, Ms. Carty-Y, Mr. Wang-Y, Mr. Sorett-Y, Mr. Bettinelli-Y, Co-Chair Joachim-Y, and Co-Chair Poch-Y. Motion carries 9-0, unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Martin Barraford
Recording Secretary