

**Sudbury Finance Committee
Virtual Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2025
7:00PM**

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Finance Committee present: Co-Chair Michael Joachim, Co-Chair Michael Ferrari, Andrew Bettinelli, John Baranowsky, Andrew Sousa, Ryan Lynch, Karl Fries, Eric Poch, and Henry Sorett (arrived late.)

Also in attendance: Finance Director Victor Garofalo

ITEM 1: Opening Remarks and Member Roll Call

Co-Chair Joachim called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00PM, roll-called the members, and declared a quorum present. He read the Municipal Remote Meeting Disclaimer.

ITEM 2: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

ITEM 3: Budget Discussion

FY26 operating and capital budgets

Co-Chair Joachim stated that requests for information from the cost centers are expected to be returned by January 31st. Members will review submissions and let the Chairs know if additional info is sought from SPS in anticipation of the SPS FY26 budget hearing on February 3rd.

ITEM 4: General Topics

Consider ambulance privatization study

Mr. Sorett reported that he had not obtained further information from the Mayor of Gardner about that city's experience with privatizing ambulance services. Members agreed to table the matter pending further information from Mr. Sorett.

Review draft of annual report submission

Co-Chair Joachim reviewed the draft of the FinCom annual report, and the Committee addressed suggested edits.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Poch and seconded by Co-Chair Ferrari, it was unanimously voted to approve the 2024 FinCom annual report. Roll call vote: Co-Chair Joachim-Y, Co-Chair Ferrari-Y, Mr. Lynch-Y, Mr. Sousa-Y, Mr. Bettinelli-Y, Mr. Sorett-Y, Mr. Fries-Y, Mr. Poch-Y, Mr. Baranowsky-Y. Motion passed 9-0, unanimous.

ITEM 5: General Business

- **Transfers and other business**

Mr. Garofalo provided projections from the Mass Municipal Association: Sudbury FY26 Chapter 70 funding projected to be \$6,005,344; FY26 Unrestricted aid increase projected to be 2.2%; modest increase in Chapter 90 funds expected.

- **Liaison reports**

Mr. Baranowsky – CIAC.

- **Calendar**

Dates for FY26 budget hearings:

- January 31 - Annual report submission due
- February 3 – SPS
- February 10 – LS
- February 24 - Feb 24
- March 3 – Town Departments

- **Approval of Minutes**

December 9 and December 16, 2024, and January 13, 2025.

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Baranowsky and seconded by Mr. Poch, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes of December 9, 2024, December 16, 2024, and January 13, 2025. Roll call vote: Co-Chair Joachim-Y, Co-Chair Ferrari-Y, Mr. Lynch-Y, Mr. Sousa-Y, Mr. Bettinelli-Y, Mr. Sorett-Y, Mr. Fries-Y, Mr. Poch-Y, and Mr. Baranowsky-Y. Motion passed 9-0, unanimous.

ITEM 6: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Other:

Mr. Garafolo confirmed that the updated guidance from DLS for free cash is 5-7% of retained earnings.

ITEM 8: Adjournment

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:41PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Martin Barraford
Recording Secretary