

**Sudbury Finance Committee
Virtual Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2025
7:00PM**

ATTENDANCE

Members of the Finance Committee present: Co-Chair Michael Joachim, Andrew Bettinelli, John Baranowsky, Ryan Lynch, Andrew Sousa, Karl Fries and Co-Chair Michael Ferrari
Absent: Eric Poch and Henry Sorett
Also in attendance: Assistant Town Manager/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 and reviewed the agenda.

ITEM 2: Public Comment

There was none.

ITEM 3: FinCom Reorganization

Election of Chair and Vice Chair or Co-Chairs

Co-Chair Joachim began the discussion on the election of Co-Chairs for the new fiscal year. Following discussion, it was agreed that the present Co-Chairs would continue to serve but would get together to have a further discussion about plans going forward. This agenda item will be tabled to the next meeting for further discussion.

Review, update as needed, and approve FinCom Rules and Operating Procedures for FY26

Co-Chair Joachim reviewed the current FinCom Rules and Operating Procedures with suggested changes. Following other changes suggested by members, it was agreed to finalize the FinCom Rules and Operating Procedures for FY26.

MOTION: Upon motion duly made by Co-Chair Ferrari and seconded by Mr. Barnowsky, it was unanimously voted to approve the FinCom Rules and Operating Procedures for FY26 as edited. Roll call vote: Co-Chair Joachim-Y, Co-Chair Ferrari-Y, Mr. Bettinelli-Y, Mr. Lynch-Y, Mr. Sousa-Y, Mr. Fries-Y and Mr. Baranowsky-Y. Motion carries 7-0, unanimous.

Discuss CPC/CIAC Appointment and Liaison Assignments

Co-Chair Joachim reviewed the CPC/CIAC appointment and liaison assignments for the current fiscal year and asked members to consider assignments for FY26. Following discussion, Co-Chair Joachim will finalize the list of appointments/assignments.

ITEM 4: FY26 Planning

Discuss FY26 goals and priorities

Co-Chair Joachim began the discussion on goals and priorities for FY26. Discussion ensued including the following highlights:

Mr. Garofalo reported that in order to synchronize with the MSBA mandatory timeline for funding the school roof projects, a special town meeting needs to be scheduled either the first or second week of December in order to approve funding for the project followed by a local town-wide ballot the week following.

Mr. Garofalo also gave a status update on identification of issues including the following: a) schedule a joint meeting with the Chair of the Middlesex Retirement Board to discuss retirement challenges and swings on municipal assessment, etc.; b) planned phases of the renovation of the Atkinson pool and cost projections; c) development of a fifteen-year capital plan and information gathering from facilities; d) continued assessment of the imposition of various fees; e) streamlining of revolving funds; and e) reassessment of financial policies with the Select Board based on information from the Division of Local Services report due in mid-August.

Topics of discussion also included:

- Ongoing dialogue with departments to better understand needs, wants, and budget constraints.
- Ongoing dialogue with the school committee to apprise budget gaps as a result of continued funding cuts at the federal level.
- Identify avenues where the FinCom can play a role and have the greatest impact on making a difference on effective management of the operating budget.
- Continued updates from the Finance Director on priorities identified above as well as upcoming budgetary/capital issues and track progress of issues on a regular basis.
- Develop effective communication methods.
- Review SPS FY25 budget in the fall and track use of circuit breaker funds.

ITEM 5: General Business

- **Transfers and other business**

Mr. Garofalo reported that because of an increase in state aid of \$199,564 over the amount budgeted for FY26, there will be unused levy capacity at the end of the fiscal year. Discussion ensued on the impact to the overall budget.

- **Liaison reports**

There were none.

- **Calendar**

Next meetings: September 15 and 29

- **Approval of Minutes – June 16, 2025**

MOTION: Upon motion duly made by Mr. Baranowsky and seconded by Mr. Poch, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes of June 16 as amended. Roll call vote: Co-Chair Joachim-Y, Co-Chair Ferrari-Y, Mr. Bettinelli-Y, Mr. Lynch-Y, Mr. Fries-Y, Mr. Sousa-Y and Mr. Baranowsky-Y. Motion carries 7-0, unanimous.

ITEM 7: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

ITEM 8: Adjournment

MOTION: Upon motion duly made by Mr. Baranowsky and seconded by Co-Chair Ferrari, it was unanimously voted to adjourn. Roll call vote: Roll call vote: Co-Chair Joachim-Y, Co-Chair Ferrari-Y, Mr. Bettinelli-Y, Mr. Lynch-Y, Mr. Fries-Y, Mr. Sousa-Y and Mr. Baranowsky-Y. Motion carries 7-0, unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 7:36PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Martin Barraford
Recording Secretary