

**Sudbury Finance Committee
Virtual Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2026
7:00PM**

ATTENDANCE

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

Absent: Eric Poch

Also in attendance: Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director Victor Garofalo

ITEM 1: Opening Remarks and Member Roll Call

Co-Chair Ferrari 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 no public comment.

ITEM 3: Discuss and Finalize Annual Town Report

Co-Chair Ferrari reviewed the first draft of the annual town report initially prepared by Mr. Baranowsky and then edited by the Co-Chairs. Discussion followed and further edits were suggested for finalization and vote at the next meeting.

ITEM 4: Preparation for upcoming FY27 Budget Hearings

Co-Chair Ferrari noted the following schedule for upcoming budget hearings:

- February 2 – SPS.
 - Mr. Garofalo will follow up on submission of budget materials, including circuit breaker materials, in time for the hearing.
 - Mr. Garofalo will share information with the members on the rationale for the school committee's decision on the \$1.6M budget reduction.
 - Members will forward questions to Mr. Lynch to be shared with SPS ahead of the meeting.
- February 9 – Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School.
 - Mr. Garofalo will follow up on submission of budget materials, including circuit breaker materials, in time for the hearing.
- February 23 – Joint Capital meeting with Select Board and CIAC
- March 2 – Town Manager Budget
 - Mr. Sorett asked for clarification on the increase in health and human services personnel.

ITEM 5: Town Finance Discussion**Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director Updates and Discussion****Discuss revisions to the FY27 budget guidance and upcoming hearings**

Mr. Garofalo explained that the town's budget guidance was increased by \$325,000, with \$200,000 going to SPS, \$70,000 to LS, and \$55,000 to the town's operating budget. This increase was made possible by using free cash to offset OPEB funding, allowing for tax levy dollars to be redirected to the budget. The committee discussed the need for questions to be submitted to Ryan by tomorrow to facilitate the upcoming SPS budget hearing. Mr. Sorett raised concerns about a potential \$3 million override in fiscal year 28, which Mr. Garafalo attributed to high fixed costs, particularly in health insurance. The committee agreed to review Mr. Sheehan's previous presentation to the Select Board for more information on this issue. Discussion ensued on the impact on future budgets and anticipated guidelines based on the school's three-year forecast.

ITEM 6: General Business

- **Transfers and other business**
No transfers.
- **Liaison reports**
Capital Improvement Committee – Mr. Baranowsky.
Permanent Building Committee – Mr. Baranowsky.
CPC – Mr. Bettinelli.
- **Calendar**
Next regular meeting: February 2, 9, 23 and March 2
- **Approval of Minutes – December 1 and 15, 2025 and January 12, 2026**

MOTION: Upon motion duly made by Mr. Baranowsky and seconded by Mr. Sousa, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes of December 1, 2025, December 15, 2026 and January 12, 2026. Co-Chair Ferrari-Y, Co-Chair Joachim-Y, Mr. Sousa-Y, Mr. Fries-Y, Mr. Baranowsky-Y, Mr. Sorett-Y, Mr. Lynch-Y and Mr. Fries-Y. Motion carries 8-0, unanimous.

ITEM 7: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

ITEM 8: Adjournment

MOTION: Upon motion duly made by Co-Chair Joachim and seconded by Mr. Sorett, it was unanimously voted to adjourn. Co-Chair Ferrari-Y, Co-Chair Joachim-Y, Mr. Sousa-Y, Mr. Sorett-Y, Mr. Fries-Y, Mr. Baranowsky-Y, Mr. Lynch-Y and Mr. Fries-Y. Motion carries 8-0, unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Martin Barraford
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Victor Garofalo, Assistant Town Manager, Finance Director