

**Town of Sudbury ~ Finance Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Monday – April 9, 2007**  
**LSRHS Conference Room A302 – 7:00pm**

**Present:** Chair Bob Jacobson, Bill Kneeland, Marty Ragonas, Larry Rowe, Sheila Stewart, Chuck Woodard, Ralph Verni, and Debbie Zurka

Bob Jacobson opened the meeting at 7:07pm. He apologized to everyone for the delay in informing the respective people regarding the topic of tonight's meeting. The topic was discussed late at the last meeting held on Wednesday night and he was quite ill at that meeting and forgot to notify the parties. The topic involves re-voting on articles 22 thru 24.

Sheila Stewart started the meeting by asking if she could poll the committee as to why they voted the way they original had.

Bob Jacobson started by stating he had voted as being opposed to the 3 articles. Because of the state of the budget he feels he would probably vote against any Recreation article that would be brought forward. The town is already raising the taxes enough, and he does realize that 90% of the funds would come from other sources. He would like to see the money spent on projects that could help alleviate the tax burden on the residents.

Larry Rowe stated that he voted in opposition of article 23, because there are still unanswered questions. The actual cost has yet to be provided. If he had the actual cost of the project, he would consider changing his opinion.

Debbie Zurka stated that she vote yes, for the reason that article 23 allows that Town Manager to spend what is approved. The other articles have restricted spending. If the title search does not pass, then they have other options.

Chuck Woodard stated that it makes sense to continue to move forward with these articles. This is a modest amount to spend in order to find out what the town has available to them.

Ralph Verni stated that he voted in support of these articles. He believes the allocation of the funds should continue, and that the project needs to be brought to closure. He believes this could enhance life within the town. The Selectmen are supporting these articles as well, and he believes they have studied this project enough to approve it.

Marty Ragonas stated that she has originally voted for article 22 and against articles 23 & 24. She will be voting against all of the articles tonight, because she believes there are too many unknowns.

Bob Jacobson asked if Sheila got the information she was looking for, and if the committee would be willing to revote. The committee agreed to revote on the three articles.

**VOTED:** On motion, to support Article 22. Motion made by Ralph Verni and seconded by Debbie Zurka. On vote, motion fails 3 in support (Verni, Woodard, Zurka), 4 opposed (Jacobson, Ragonos, Rowe, Stewart), and 1 abstain (Kneeland).

**VOTED:** On motion, to support Article 23. Motion made by Ralph Verni and seconded by Debbie Zurka. On vote, motion fails 3 in support (Verni, Woodard, Zurka), 4 opposed (Jacobson, Ragonos, Rowe, Stewart), and 1 abstain (Kneeland).

**VOTED:** On motion, to support Article 24. Motion made by Ralph Verni and seconded by Debbie Zurka. On vote, motion fails 3 in support (Verni, Woodard, Zurka), 4 opposed (Jacobson, Ragonos, Rowe, Stewart), and 1 abstain (Kneeland).

Mark Kablack stated he would like to clear a couple of things up. He stated that the funds for the 3 proposed articles should not be considered part of the core budget. By doing so, it makes the committee look as if they are against the CPC.

Sheila Stewart stated she agrees with the comments made by Bob Jacobson, Larry Rowe, and Marty Ragonos. She wonders what the cost would be to the town for the maintenance. She stated that she believes the finance Committee has a very good understanding of how the CPA works, and that they are not against the CPA. She does not believe there is enough info out there to approve these articles. She does not want to approve these, and then have the town end up with extra operating costs. The Town needs to get a true picture of what these articles will actually cost, if they are passed.

Tara Reid (CPC) stated that these articles are to obtain the required information. She feels strongly that the town needs to continue with this study.

Selectmen Larry O'Brien apologized to the committee for coming in late and wondered if the members who changed their votes, would explain why. It was explained that Sheila Stewart had abstained from voting on these articles in the past, and Marty Ragonos was the only one to change her vote. Marty Ragonos explained that she had thought more about these articles after the past vote, and felt there are too many unknowns to keep supporting it. She feels she needs more information than what is provided in the article.

Larry O'Brien asked if these articles were presented again next year, what change would the committee like to see. Larry O'Brien stated that it seems as if the committee is split on these articles. Larry Rowe stated he would like to know if the study was going to show that costs the town would be responsible for. He would like to see the uncertainties resolved. He can not tell how he would vote in the future.

**There being no further business, the committee adjourned**

