

**Sudbury Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2017**

ATTENDANCE

Finance Committee Members Present: Susan Berry, Chair, Joan Carlton, Vice Chair, Jeff Barker, Adrian Davies, Tammie Dufault, Fred Floru, Jose Garcia-Meitin, Bryan Semple

Absent: Jeff Atwater

Also Present: Dennis Keohane, Finance Director/Treasurer Collector; Susan Iuliano, Chairman, and Pat Brown, Sudbury Board of Selectmen; Lucie St. George, Chairman, SPS School Committee; William Miles, Sudbury Fire Chief, Chris Morely, Chairman, Community Preservation Committee

CONVENE:

Chairman Berry called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. The meeting convened at the Flynn Building, 278 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury, MA 01776. Chairman Berry noted that Vice Chairman, Joan Carlton is participating remotely, and all votes will be taken on a roll call.

ITEM 1: Public Comment

There were no comments.

ITEM 2: General Business

● **Approve Meeting Minutes**

There were no meeting minutes to approve.

● **Transfers**

There were no Transfers to approve.

● **Other Business**

No other business.

ITEM 3: Discussion and Vote - Limiting Motion Amount, Override Budget

Chairman Berry opened this item for discussion. She reviewed the FY18 Operating Budget Warrant Article and noted that the non-override recommended amount is \$94,397,705. She stated that this amount does not include the Town Manager's Capital Budget, which is a separate Warrant Article. Chairman Berry also noted that the proposed override budget \$95,474,975. A brief discussion followed.

Motion and Vote

Bryan Semple moved, and Tammie Dufault seconded the motion to recommend that the amount appropriated in the FY18 non-override budget not exceed \$94,397,705.00 as shown in the FY18 General Operating Budget Article dated 3/13/17.

The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was unanimous: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, in favor; Tammie Dufault, in favor; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, in favor.

Motion and vote

Bryan Semple moved, and Jose Garcia-Meitin seconded the motion to recommend that the amount appropriated in the FY18 override budget not exceed \$94,474,975.00 as shown in the FY18 General Operating Budget Article dated 3/13/17.

Discussion: The discussion included comments from Mr. Semple on the Finance Committee's recommendation for a menu override, suggestions on how Free Cash is allocated relative to the Town Manager's Capital Plan, and the impact of an override on the taxpayer. He concluded by noting that he believes that not enough is being done to avoid an override. A lengthy discussion followed.

The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was 5 in favor and 3 opposed: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, in favor; Tammie Dufault, opposed; Fred Floru, opposed; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, opposed.

ITEM 4: Deliberation and Possible Votes on ATM Articles

- **Purchase of Fire Department Ladder Truck**

Motion and Vote

Bryan Semple moved, and Tammie Dufault seconded the motion that the Finance Committee recommend approval of the Warrant Article to purchase a Fire Department Ladder Truck.

Discussion: The discussion included a conversation on the allocation of the expected National Development Mitigation Payments.

The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was 7 in favor, 1 opposed: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, opposed; Tammie Dufault, in favor; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, in favor.

- **Multisport Court Reconstruction at Featherland (CPC Fund Allocation)**

Motion and Vote

Bryan Semple moved, and Tammie Dufault seconded the motion that the Finance Committee recommend approval of \$220,000 for the Multisport Court Reconstruction at Featherland Warrant Article.

Discussion: A brief discussion followed.

The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was unanimous: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, in favor; Tammie Dufault, in favor; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, in favor.

- **Regional Housing Services Organization CPC Fund Allocation Motion and Vote**

Tammie Dufault moved, and Bryan Semple seconded the motion to recommend approval of the Regional Housing Services Organization CPC Fund Allocation Warrant Article.

Discussion: A brief discussion followed.

The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was unanimous: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, in favor; Tammie Dufault, in favor; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, in favor.

- **Sudbury Housing Authority CPC Fund Allocation Motion and Vote**

Jose Garcia-Meitin moved, and Tammie Dufault seconded the motion to recommend approval of the Sudbury Housing Authority CPC Warrant Article.

Discussion: A lengthy discussion followed on concerns over new construction and expansion of affordable housing in Sudbury.

The motion carried. On a roll call vote, the vote was 5 in favor, 3 opposed: Jeff Barker, opposed; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, in favor; Tammie Dufault, opposed; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, opposed.

- **DPW Rolling Stock Replacement Motion and Vote**

Tammie Dufault moved, and Fred Floru seconded the motion to approve DPW Rolling Stock Replacement Warrant Article.

Discussion: A brief discussion of the current condition of existing equipment.

The motion carried. On a roll call vote, the vote was 5 in favor, 3 opposed: Jeff Barker, opposed; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, opposed; Tammie Dufault, opposed; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, in favor.

- **Town and School Rooftop HVAC Unit Replacement
Motion and Vote**

Jeff Barker moved, and Adrian Davies seconded the motion to recommend approval of the Town and School Rooftop HVAC Unit Replacement Warrant Article.

Discussion: A brief discussion followed on condition of current equipment.

The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was unanimous: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, in favor; Tammie Dufault, in favor; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, in favor.

- **Town Hall Renovation/Restoration
Motion and Vote**

Tammie Dufault moved, and Fred Floru seconded the motion to recommend approval of Town Hall Renovation/Restoration Warrant Article.

Discussion: The discussion included comments on the current condition of Town Hall and scope of construction.

The motion carried. On a roll call vote, the vote was 5 in favor, 3 opposed: Jeff Barker, opposed; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, in favor; Tammie Dufault, opposed; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, opposed.

- **Bruce Freeman Rail Trail**

The consensus of the Finance Committee was to wait on voting a recommendation on this Article.

- **Wireless Technology Infrastructure Improvements - SPS**

Bryan Semple moved, and Tammie Dufault seconded the motion to recommend approval of the Wireless Technology Infrastructure Improvements - SPS Warrant Article.

Discussion: The discussion that followed included a

conversation on the reimbursement portion of this Article. **The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was 6 in favor, 2 opposed: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, opposed; Tammie Dufault, in favor; Fred Floru, opposed; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, in favor.**

The following Articles are tabled pending receipt of additional information.

- **Lyons/SMILE Pour in Place Surfacing**
- **Town and Schools Parking Lots, and Sidewalks Improvements**
- **Sudbury Public Schools Playground Improvements**
- **Field Maintenance Enterprise Fund Budget**

ITEM 5: Discussion and Possible Votes on Additional ATM Articles

- **Town/School Revolving Fund Article**

Dennis Keohane, Finance Director/Treasurer Collector, presented information on this Article. Mr. Keohane referred to changes in Municipal Modernization legislation that affect the way Town and School Revolving funds are approved. He explained that this article seeks authorization for FY18 for previously established revolving funds.

Discussion: The discussion that followed included a conversation on the spending limit specific accounts for specific purposes.

Motion and Vote

Bryan Semple moved, and Tammie Dufault seconded the motion to recommend approval of the Town and School Revolving Funds Warrant Article.

The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was unanimous: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, in favor; Tammie Dufault, in favor; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, in favor.

- **Amendment to the Bylaws Adding Revolving Funds Section**

Mr. Keohane presented information on the amendment to the bylaws adding revolving fund section. He explained that due to changes in Mass General Law for Municipal Modernization, in the future, the vote on the revolving funds would be based on an annual vote on the Revolving Fund section of the bylaw which will include an annual spending limit.

Motion and Vote

Tammie Dufault moved and Jeff Barker seconded the motion to

approve the amendment of the General Bylaws by adding a new bylaw establishing various revolving fund section.

The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was unanimous: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, in favor; Tammie Dufault, in favor; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, in favor.

- **Fund Litigation Costs - Eversource**

Mr. Keohane presented information on this Article. He stated that the Article is requesting \$200,000 from the Stabilization Fund, to fund Eversource litigation and intervention at the Energy Facilities Siting Board. He added that the funds would be used for the purpose of legal fees, the hiring of experts, and all costs related to litigation of the Eversource reliability project. If the money is not appropriated, the town would not have adequate funding to continue the intervention process at the Energy Facilities Siting Board.

Discussion: The discussion included a conversation on the funding source.

Motion and Vote

Jeff Barker moved, and Bryan Semple seconded the motion to defer voting on this article pending response on a request to amend article or change funding source.

The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was 5 in favor, 3 opposed: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, opposed; Joan Carlton, opposed; Adrian Davies, in favor; Tammie Dufault, in favor; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, opposed; and Bryan Semple, in favor.

- **Fund Litigation Costs - Sudbury Station**

Mr. Keohane presented information on this Article to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$150,000 from the Stabilization Fund, to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager, for the purpose of legal fees, hiring of experts, and all related costs related to litigation of the Sudbury Station project.

Motion and Vote

Fred Floru moved, and Tammie Dufault seconded the motion to defer voting on this article until a response is received to change funding sources.

The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was 5 in favor, 3 opposed: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, opposed; Joan Carlton, opposed; Adrian Davies, in favor;

Tammie Dufault, in favor; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, opposed; and Bryan Semple, in favor.

ITEM 6: Public Comment

Susan Iuliano spoke briefly to the Finance Committee's support of the menu ballot override. She explained the Board of Selectmen's position and described other factors that the Selectmen considered while making their decision. Ms. Iuliano stated that the Selectmen are for a collaborative budget process and informed decision making. She added that Town Meeting members have more discretion regarding their vote on override dollars.

Pat Brown stated that she would like to meet with a member of the Finance Committee over the summer to work on policies.

Item 7: Adjournment

Motion and Vote:

Fred Floru moved, and Jose Garcia-Meitin seconded the motion that the March 13, 2017, Finance Committee meeting adjourn at 10:19 p.m.

The motion carried. On a roll call, the vote was unanimous: Jeff Barker, in favor; Susan Berry, in favor; Joan Carlton, in favor; Adrian Davies, in favor; Tammie Dufault, in favor; Fred Floru, in favor; Jose Garcia-Meitin, in favor; and Bryan Semple, in favor.

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Next scheduled meeting of the Finance Committee is Monday, April 10, 7:30 in the Flynn Building.

Respectfully Submitted: Cheryl Gosmon, Recording Secretary