

LYNNFIELD FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024

VIA ZOOM

Present: Chris Mattia, Tom Kayola, Gene Covino, Sarah Kelley,
Brian Moreira, Alexis Leahy, Nick Connors,
Joe Gallagher

Not Present: Steve Riley, Chris Caprio, Julie Mitchell

Notification of Upcoming Meetings

Monday, January 29, 2024, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom

Chairman Mattia called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Subcommittee Review and Assignments/FY '25 Budget Meeting Calendar

Chairman Mattia reviewed FinCom's assignment protocol and time commitment for each subcommittee to new members.

FinCom discussed potential changes to the Recreation subcommittee position as a result of future new leadership due to Recreation Director Julie Mallett's retirement.

FinCom addressed the need for more financial transparency and data concerning the schools. FinCom discussed its ongoing requests for timely budget information from all departments in an attempt to digest and evaluate budget requests; both operating and capital.

FinCom reviewed the temporary status of the School Committee and what the protocol will be going forward in terms of submitting their budget.

Library subcommittee members provided a summary of the recent meeting on the library building project. A schedule for forums and feedback of the new proposed design elements was discussed and what potential options are available. (Option 1; updating the existing building, Option 2; everything in Option 1 plus optimize the space for improved programming, Option 3; everything in Options 1 and 2 plus potentially looking for room to expand the existing building in some form).

FinCom commented any library proposal is still in its earliest stages making it premature to address what will be presented in any article at a future town meeting.

FinCom discussed reviewing the current debt schedule and related borrowing thresholds.

FinCom addressed the need to review deferred maintenance priorities.

Chairman Mattia informed FinCom TA Dolan intends to give a full presentation on the ARPA expenditures to date and what the Town will spend the remaining funds on prior to the mandated deadline.

FinCom will be setting its spring meeting schedule with an eye toward meeting room availability in the near future to enable department heads to appear live to present their budget requests.

FinCom questioned the status of the King Rail clubhouse project.

FinCom discussed potentially authoring a letter to the citizens, as in previous years, to inform the public of FinCom's view of the Town's current and future financial situation.

Adjournment

Gene made a motion to adjourn. Joe seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Chris Mattia, Tom Kayola, Gene Covino, Sarah Kelley, Brian Moreira, Alexis Leahy, Nick Connors, Joe Gallagher all voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Debbi Mallett, FinCom secretary