

**MINUTES  
TOWN FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Monday – April 14, 2025  
8:00 am to Noon**

**Item 1. Call to Order.** J. Anderson – Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**Item 2. Those Present.** Finance Committee members present: Councilors Jonathan Anderson – Chair, Donald Cushing and Karin Shupe. Others present: Thomas J. Hall, Town Manager, Liam Gallagher, Assistant Town Manager and Town Staff.

**Item 3. Department Budget Presentations started at 8:00 a.m.:**

**Fire Department:**

The Fire Department presented their budget for review and discussion. The following recommendation was made.

Motion by J. Anderson, seconded by K. Shupe, move approval to add in the eight FTEs requests that were proposed in the budget.

Vote: 3 Yeas. Motion Passes.

**Police Department:**

The Police Department presented their budget proposal for review and discussion. The following recommendation was made.

Motion by K. Shupe, seconded by J. Anderson, to move approval to add the additional of four patrol positions and two dispatch positions.

Vote: 3 Yeas. Motion Passes.

J. Anderson, Chair, called for a brief break at 9:27 a.m. The meeting was reconvened at 9:34 a.m.

**Community Services:**

Community Services presented their budget proposal for review and discussion. No changes were directed at this time.

**School Department:**

The School Department presented its budget proposal for review and discussion. No changes were directed at this time.

J. Anderson, Chair, called for a brief break at 11:26 a.m. The meeting was reconvened at 11:31 a.m.

**SEDCO (Scarborough Economic Development Corporation):**

Karen Martin, President of SEDCO, presented the budget proposal for review and discussion. No changes were directed at this time.

**Library:**

The Library presented its budget proposal for review and discussion. No changes were directed at this time.

**Committee Overview:**

1. Fire Department: Proceed with staffing and hiring 8 new full-time firefighter/EMT positions to staff the 3rd ambulance at Black Point Fire Station.
2. Police Department: Move forward with hiring 4 new police officers and 2 new dispatchers.
3. School Board: Create new reserve fund to address pre-K funding gap using unused FY25 funds and Evaluate impacts of federal funding changes on special education services and prepare contingency plans.
4. School Building Committee: Continue work on developing school building solution that meets district needs and community financial constraints.
5. School Board Finance Committee: Review budget adjustments including 10.7% Anthem rate increase and pre-K funding changes at evening meeting.
6. SEDCO: Evaluate community competitiveness and conduct holistic assessment of how Scarborough compares to other communities; Explore the possibility of establishing a loan fund for business expansion in collaboration with GP COG and Conduct a branding exercise to align historical Scarborough with future Scarborough.
7. Library Facilities Committee: Continue exploring options for future library expansion, including permanent, temporary, and semi-permanent solutions.
8. Library: Assess and determine budgetary impacts of IMLS funding cessation and Main State Library closure and research and evaluate the viability of solar panel buyout for FY2026.
9. School Board & Community Services: Improve communication and coordination regarding shared programs and initiatives.
10. Community Services: Hire new Recreation Coordinator position to expand programming capacity; Implement digital reader board project to improve community communications; Complete basketball court renovation at Mitchell Sports Complex due to safety concerns; Continue expanding active adult programming through partnerships with external agencies; Form committee to evaluate Little League's request for field lighting at Peterson Field; Assess potential conversion of skate park to pickleball courts through Community Services Board review and explore parking lot management system improvements at Hurd Park.
11. Finance Committee: Review capital improvement plans on Thursday from 5-7 PM at Public Safety Building.
12. School Board: Create a joint committee with Community Services and Library to explore collaboration opportunities and avoid service duplication.
13. Jen Day, Director of IT, to review concerns about technology availability and personal device usage in schools.

**Item 4. Public Comments.** None at this time.

**Item 5. Adjourn.** Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Yolande P. Justice

Clerk to the Council

[Not present at meeting, Transcribed by Video.]