

TRANSCRIPT  
TOWN FATHERS' FORUM  
OCTOBER 24, 1973

At 8:00 p.m., Chairman Toomey called the 87th session of the Town Fathers' Forum to order.

Chairman Toomey announced the death of Harvey Fairbank, a former Selectman holding office from 1924-1940 and again from 1947-1962, and listed the various other capacities in which Mr. Fairbank had been of service to the Town.

Chairman Toomey also announced the death of Richard T. Cutler, presently serving the Town as Chairman of the Park and Recreation Commission.

Chairman Toomey made the following announcements concerning the Selectmen's activities over the last month:

The Massachusetts Selectmen's Association had held its annual meeting on October 5-8, during which a successful election and passage of a bylaw revision had returned control of the organization to active Selectmen.

The Board had requested the Governor to veto House Bill 7600, which would require compulsory binding arbitration of labor disputes in municipal fire and police departments, and could remove from Town Meeting the determination of appropriations for the police and fire department salaries.

The Board has met with the owners of the Ritchie Bus Lines, Inc., who had taken over the service formerly provided by The Gray Line, to review their local service schedule. Chairman Toomey urged Townspeople to utilize the bus service whenever possible in an effort to keep it in existence, as a company operating at a deficit may request that the franchise be dropped.

The Board had met with a citizens' group concerning the possibility of development on an intra-Town bus service.

Chairman Toomey read a portion of a communication, dated October 24, 1973, from the Moderator, Frank Sherman, which announced the re-election of David L. Turner, Sudbury's Town Counsel, as Secretary-Treasurer of the Massachusetts Moderators' Association and the election of Mr. Sherman to the Association's Board of Directors.

Selectman Powers reported that Sudbury has been awarded a State Bicentennial Commission grant of \$4,000 for the Heritage Park project and announced that the Sudbury Bicentennial Committee had received an anonymous donation in the amount of \$1,000.

EBEN B. STEVENS - PLANNING BOARD

Mr. Stevens reported that the revised Planning Board rules and regulations were completed and ready for distribution, that a draft questionnaire for their proposed transportation survey had been completed, and that they are currently working on an hydrologist study proposal and on articles for Town Meeting.

Mr. Stevens stated that he would like to congratulate the Town Clerk on the reprinting of the Town Bylaws.

JOHN J. HENNESSY - FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Hennessy announced the Finance Committee's upcoming budget-related meetings with the Sudbury and the Regional School Committees.

LAWRENCE A. OVIAN - SUDBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mr. Ovian reported that his committee had just begun salary negotiations and that they had met with the Commissioner of Education concerning Chapter 766 of the Acts of 1972, an act further regulating programs for children requiring special education.

Mr. Ovian also mentioned proposed legislation which would compel teachers to pay dues to the Massachusetts Teachers' Association rather than to pay on a voluntary basis and stated that his committee shared the teachers' concern with passage of this bill.

ANN D. BIGELOW - COMMITTEE ON TOWN ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Bigelow stated that her committee would soon be distributing a survey to all departments, boards and committees to obtain a profile of Town government for the purpose of increased cooperation and communication among Town officials and Boards, and requested their prompt return.

REPRESENTATIVE ANN GANNETT

Representative Gannett stated that Chapter 766 legislation concerning the regulation of programs for children requiring special education would be implemented by 1974 and will impose hardships on the budgets of many towns. Representative Gannett added that resolutions have been proposed to postpone the effective date of this legislation.

Representative Gannett stated that the Bicentennial bill, involving a \$15,000,000 bond issue for Boston Harbor and a \$5,000,000 bond issue for Holyoke Range, is having trouble in passage.

FIRE CHIEF ALBERT ST. GERMAIN

Chief St. Germain reported that in connection with proposed legislation to upgrade community ambulance service, two of his men will attend an 81-hour emergency medical technicians course at Emerson Hospital.

Chief St. Germain reported that during fire prevention week over 700 children visited the Fire Station.

Chief St. Germain stated that following telephone contact with Selectman Taft he had responded to the Chelsea fire which had involved response by 80 cities and towns, 160 pieces of apparatus, and 1,000 firefighters.

JOHN H. WILSON - TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Mr. Wilson reported that the Federal revenue sharing check had been received during the past week and that he and the Treasurer had invested it in a certificate of deposit.

Mr. Wilson also reported that his office was involved in budget submittal.

ISABELLE K. STONE - TAX COLLECTOR

Mrs. Stone reported that an increasing number of individual home owners were paying their real estate tax promptly.

MARTHA C. A. CLOUGH - REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Clough reported that the Regional School Committee was just beginning negotiations and still developing the budget, following which three public hearings would be held. Mrs. Clough requested that the Townspeople let their concerns in this regard be made known now.

Mrs. Clough also reported that students were volunteering for yard work on the grounds of the high school.

Mr. Donald Bishop commented briefly on legislation recently passed to permit regional districts to delay completion of their budgets until March 31, 1974.

JAMES W. DOYLE - TALENT SEARCH COMMITTEE

Mr. Doyle reported that the Talent Search Committee was presently reorganizing their files and had developed a better form of presenting names to the Selectmen.

RONALD P. ESPINOLA - HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Mr. Espinola reported that a leveling course of paving had been completed on Hudson Road, that patching had continued on other sections of Town roads, and that the Highway Department had assisted the Fairbank School with landscaping.

RONALD P. ESPINOLA - SLUDGE DISPOSAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Espinola stated that the Sludge Disposal Committee had met recently and would meet again in the middle of November and that site selection for the sludge disposal facility should be made at that time.

WINTHROP FAIRBANK - WATER COMMISSIONER

Mr. Fairbank reported that everything was running fairly well at the Sudbury Water District.

JUNE ATWOOD - GOODNOW LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Mrs. Atwood reported that the library trustees were working on the budget for Goodnow Library with the new director and expressed thanks to the Town Accountant for help in this regard.

PAST SELECTMEN

Chairman Toomey extended the Board's sympathies to Winthrop Fairbank on the death of his father, former Selectman Harvey Fairbank.

Chairman Toomey stated that the Board had invited past living Selectmen to tonight's Forum to be honored for their past service to the Town and named the following men to whom invitations had been sent:

Harvey N. Fairbank (served 31 years between 1924 and 1962)  
Allan G. Bowry (1954-1956)  
Francis W. Trussell (1948-1961)  
Edward F. Moynihan (1961-1964)  
Edward E. Kreitsek (1962-1965)  
Willard H. Foster (1965-1968)  
Richard C. Venne (1963-1966, 1966-1969)  
Martin E. Doyle (1968-1971)  
Howard W. Emmons (1969-1972)

Chairman Toomey introduced former Selectmen Kreitsek, Venne, and Doyle who were present.

Chairman Toomey expressed the Board's hope that former Selectmen would be more involved in Town affairs and commended them for their past services.