

IN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OCTOBER 24, 1973

Present: Chairman William F. Toomey and John C. Powers

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, the regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman William F. Toomey.

Minutes

The Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the regular meeting and the executive session of October 15, 1973, as submitted.

Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School - Senior Auction

The Board received a communication dated October 16, 1973, from James I. MacKim, Co-Chairman of the Senior Auction, Lincoln-Sudbury Regional, which requested that a one-day auctioneer's license be granted in connection with their annual Senior Auction.

In response to a question in the communication, Town Counsel stated that the license would be applicable only to the person designated on the license form.

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To grant a special one-day auctioneer's license to Axel Sorensen to operate a public auction at the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School on Saturday, October 27, 1973.

Concord Road Walkway

Present: Arthur E. Harding, Town Surveyor; Ronald Espinola, Frederick Welch, Edward Hughes of the Highway Commission; Edward Blaine, Highway Superintendent; Eben Stevens, Paul McNally, Robert Cooper of the Planning Board; Carolyn Edwards and John Hennessy of the Finance Committee.

Ronald Espinola, Chairman of the Highway Commission, stated that the Commission had requested the joint meeting to discuss safety and maintenance aspects of the Concord Road walkway. Mr. Espinola stated that he thought the walkway an asset to the Town and that improvements in certain areas would make it an even greater asset.

Highway Superintendent, Edward Blaine, stated that concern over the construction methods had previously been reported and discussions held with the Executive Secretary and the Town Surveyor in an effort to have them corrected.

Mr. Espinola showed slides which illustrated, in part, portions of the walkway which were too narrow to accommodate their present snow plowing equipment, collapse of portions of a retaining wall, bituminous concrete overlays onto Concord Road, trees and hydrants extending into the walkway, steep inclines, and insufficient guard rails.

Mr. Espinola stated that the Commission would welcome suggestions for remedying the problems and would urge the Board not to accept this walkway until they have been corrected.

Town Surveyor, Arthur E. Harding, stated that following the October 17th meeting of the Highway Commission, which was attended by Robert Noyes of the Engineering Department, he had reviewed the safety and maintenance concerns of the Commission. Mr. Harding then responded to the individual areas of concern raised by Mr. Espinola.

Mr. Harding also stated that during the design and construction phases of the walkway, every consideration was given to public safety and convenience of the pedestrian and the property owners. Mr. Harding further stated that several of the Highway Commission's concerns have also been of great concern to him, such as the difference in elevation of portions of the walkway and its proximity to the roadway in certain areas and that each area had extenuating circumstances which were considered at the time.

Eben Stevens, Chairman of the Planning Board, stated that these problems should have been solved at the time of construction and that he would look to the Selectmen for direction relating to increased cooperation between the Town Surveyor and the Highway Superintendent toward solutions for the benefit of the Townspeople.

The Selectmen stated their concern that the large trees that project into the walkway, decreasing its width, be saved as they are important to the property owners and for reasons of aesthetics. In this regard the Board suggested that specifications for these areas relating to snow plow maintenance not be keyed to those of a particular piece of equipment and indicated its support of the Highway Commission in any request for a new piece of snow removal equipment.

Chairman Toomey and Selectman Powers stated that they were very pleased to have the walkway in operation and expressed their confidence in the ability of the Town Surveyor and the Highway Superintendent to initiate cooperative corrective measures where necessary.

Town Fathers' Forum - 87th Session

The transcript of the Town Fathers' Forum attached hereto is a part of these minutes.

Appointments

On the recommendation of the Executive Secretary, it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To make the following appointments:

Donald B. Devoe and Robert L. Oram to the Historical Commission for terms to expire on April 30, 1976.

George D. Max as Town Historian for a term to expire on April 30, 1974.

Richard E. Thompson as Industrial Accident Board - Town Agent for a term to expire on April 30, 1974.

Arthur W. Grellier and Alfred J. Bown to the Regional Concerns Committee for terms to expire on April 30, 1974.

Heritage Park

On the recommendation of the Executive Secretary, it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To sign the contract with Sears Construction Corporation, Union Avenue, for clearing, earthwork, and drainage construction of Heritage Park.

Reserve Fund Transfer Requests

Following consideration, it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To approve a request for a transfer (#0535) from the Reserve Fund to Account 501-12, Selectmen - overtime, in the amount of \$600.00 to provide for overtime through June 30, 1973, to include coverage for vacations, sick leave, and heavy work load during budget and Town Meeting preparation;

and it was further

VOTED: To approve a request for a transfer (#0536) from the Reserve Fund to Account 501-13, Selectmen - Clerical Salaries, in the amount of \$1,500.00 to provide the balance of payment for full-time coverage of the reception desk during the period of November 1, 1973, through June 30, 1974.

The Executive Secretary stated that he would recommend that the Finance Committee liaison make periodic visits to Town Hall to observe and understand office operations, prior to making recommendations to the full Finance Committee on the above Reserve Fund transfer requests.

Town Counsel - Revaluation Suit

It was agreed by the Board to defer Town Counsel's report on the revaluation suit until October 29, 1973.

Police Vehicles

The Board received a communication dated October 15, 1973, from Police Chief Nicholas Lombardi, which requested the Board's support for an immediate bid on two additional police vehicles. Police Chief Lombardi suggested that bids be submitted on standard vehicles, which could then be adapted for patrol use.

On the recommendation of the Executive Secretary it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To accept the recommendation of the Police Chief to initiate requests for bid on two police vehicles as specified in his above-mentioned communication.

Executive Session

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To enter into executive session for the purpose of filling a vacancy presently existing on the Park and Recreation Commission and discussing, deliberating or voting on a matter which if made public might adversely affect the financial interest of the Town and the reputation of any person.

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 11:15 p.m.

Attest: Richard E. Thompson
Richard E. Thompson
Executive Secretary-Clerk