

TRANSCRIPT
TOWN FATHERS' FORUM
SEPTEMBER 24, 1973

Chairman William F. Toomey called the 86th session of the Town Fathers' Forum to order at 8:00 p.m.

Chairman Toomey welcomed Mrs. Virginia Kirshner, and Mr. Richard Murphy and his Town Government Class from the Regional High School, who were in attendance.

He reported that several new department heads had been appointed since the last Forum in June and requested that the following introductions be made:

Roger Flather, chairman of the Regional High School Committee introduced David Levington, the School's new superintendent, whose appointment became effective on August 1, 1973.

Dr. William Cooper, of the Board of Health, introduced John Sullivan who had been appointed as Director of Public Health on August 1, 1973.

Richard E. Thompson, Executive Secretary, introduced John Wilson, whose appointment as Town Accountant became effective on August 6, 1973.

Chairman Toomey made the following announcements:

During the summer the Board has been actively pursuing the acquisition of the Sudbury portion of the Military Reservation and has been in close contact with the State and Federal congressmen.

Sudbury has again won first prize in the Town Report Contest for its 1972 Town Report.

Sudbury has signed an agreement for mutual firefighting aid with Concord.

The Town has acquired the Haskell and Oliver lands and the Old Training Field.

Sudbury will initiate a suit against the 13 towns in South Middlesex County which are not presently assessed at full and fair value, relative to the State equalized valuation formula.

The underground wiring in the Centre is presently underway and the Concord Road walkway is approximately 90% completed.

Selectman Powers reported on the activities of the Bicentennial Committee during the summer, stating that the Committee had applied for federal funding for Heritage Park, Sudbury's Bicentennial project, in the amount of \$5,000.

Selectman Powers also reported that his Committee hopes to publish a photographic history of the Town and would welcome photographs of this nature from the Townspeople.

Selectman Powers requested that anyone wishing to help the Bice tennial Committee in any way, to please contact them.

The Executive Secretary read a letter of commendation from the Board to Police Chief Nicholas Lombardi, which acknowledged and com mended the prompt and efficient action of the Sudbury Police Department, on September 13, 1973, involved with an armed robbery of a local drug store, and in particular, the following officers: Sergeant Wesley Woodward, Sergeant Peter Sullivan, Patrolman Jeffrey Gogan, Patrolman George Burney, Patrolman Richard Hession, and Patrolman Bruce Noah.

Selectman Taft announced that during the summer there has been much activity concerning the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association. Selectman Taft stated that the Association is still controlled by former Selectmen and that there has been recent discussion in regard to revision of the Association's bylaws which would give control of the organization to active Selectmen, and that this proposal would be voted upon at the Association's annual meeting in October.

SENATOR CHESTER ATKINS

Senator Atkins reported on the passage of several pieces of significant legislation, a proposed constitutional amendment which would require a 2/3 vote rather than a simple majority vote for pas sage of laws requiring cities and towns to fund them, and on propos e laws on land use planning and transportation.

Senatør Atkins stated that he would like a community consensus on use of government land(military reservation) and requested that the Board inform him of priority issues for the remainder of this year's session and for next year.

REPRESENTATIVE ANN GANNETT

Mrs. Gannett reported that Senator Atkins had very actively participated in the defeat of House Bill 387, an act to establish the use of equalized valuations in the apportionment of County assessments. Mrs. Gannett also reported on bills H.6108 and H.6109, which are concerned with assistance to highway, transit and airport development and the organization of the MBTA, commenting that they had been changed in committee, but the latter, if passed, might reduce Sudbury's as sessment for the MBTA.

RUSSELL P. KIRBY - ANCIENT DOCUMENTS COMMITTEE

Mr. Kirby stated that the microfilming project is completed for both the ancient and the curvent documents and that meetings had been held in regard to the records management program, which will soon begin in participation with the Town Clerk, the Town Accountant, and the Earth Removal Board.

WILLIAM T. MALONEY - REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Maloney reported that the Regional Committee has been informed that the renovation of the athletic fields will not be reimbursed at 65% because it does not qualify as a structure and that, therefore, they will not spend the money to have the field drained.

RONALD G. ADOLPH - BOARD OF APPEALS

Mr. Adolph requested that the Selectmen consider appointments for alternates to the Board of Appeals.

FRANCIS E. WHITE - BUILDING INSPECTOR

Mr. White reported that, on this date in 1972, permits for new housing numbered 108, as opposed to 49 permits in the same time period for this year, although permits for additions, pools, and nonresidences have remained approximately the same.

FRANCIS E. WHITE - SIGN BYLAW REVISION STUDY COMMITTEE

Mr. White reported that the Sign Bylaw Revision Study Committee had reorganized and that he had been appointed its chairman.

FRANCIS E. WHITE - DOG OFFICER

Mr. White reported that court action would begin next month in connection with unlicensed dogs.

WILLIAM E. DOWNING - TOWN TREASURER

Mr. Downing reported that he had, to date this year, borrowed \$4,500,000, which was currently almost depleted, but would receive money from the State House until receipt of real estate tax money.

Mr. Downing reported on a tax title foreclosure sale on September 20 in which they received \$4,900.

Mr. Downing reported that Federal Revenue sharing money had been invested in cash deposits, in June at 9% interest and on the 14th of this month at 10 5/8% interest.

ALFRED C. CRON - SUDBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mr. Cron reported that enrollment in the Sudbury schools had decreased by approximately 70 children from last year.

Mr. Cron reported that work on the field at Curtis Junior High had been completed and that work on the parking area at Noyes School had begun and that the baseball fields at this location will be cut in next spring.

ALFRED C. CRON - MINUTEMAN VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Cron reported that work in the vocational high school was still on schedule and that they still anticipate opening in the fall of 1974.

FRANK LEBART - FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. LeBart reported that his Committee had issued budget guidelines and procedures for all Boards, Committees and Commissions and that their fall schedule in this regard, included:

October 15 - Regional High School budget due

December 1 - All budgets due

December 10 - liaison review meetings begin

December 26 - hearings begin

POLICE CHIEF NICHOLAS LOMBARDI

Chief Lombardi reported that during the summer there had been 27 housebreaks, which would indicate the success of project identification, and five business breaks.

Chief Lombardi also reported on the installation of highway safety signs by the Highway Department. He announced the appointment of Patrolman Comrado.

RONALD P. ESPINOLA - HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Mr. Espinola reported on the road paving program that has been in progress this summer. Mr. Espinola also reported on the success of the sanitary landfill program, that the master drainage plan is well underway, and that the Highway Commission hopes to report on a section of it by Town Meeting.

ARTHUR HARDING - TOWN SURVEYOR

Mr. Harding reported on the engineering functions his department has provided in connection with the Concord Road and the Horse Pond Road walkways and on the field survey work it has done in regard to the Landham Road, Woodside Road, Union Avenue, Hudson Road, and Peakham Road walkways. Mr. Harding also reported that his department has worked on various proposals for Town Counsel, the Conservation Commission, the School Department and Heritage Park and on his department's work relative to inspections for the Planning Board. Mr. Harding estimated completion of the new property maps for January 1, 1974.

FIRE CHIEF ALBERT ST. GERMAIN

Chief St. Germain reported that the week before the opening of school his department had inspected all alarm systems and emergency lights and had supplied water for tests on the new leaching bed at the High School. Chief St. Germain also stated that his Fire Captains had continued their inspections of local business properties and that he felt that these inspections are worthwhile as the incidence of fires at these properties has been reduced.

FIRE CHIEF ALBERT ST. GERMAIN - CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR

Chief St. Germain stated that he had been able to procure all necessary cable for the Town Centre underground fire alarm system for \$65.00, from the State Civil Defense depot; which if purchased at retail would cost in excess of \$5,000.

PETER H. SCOTT - CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Mr. Scott reported on future activities scheduled by the Conservation Commission, which include a Wetlands Protection Hearing on September 26th on the Wyner property, a nature walk on October 5th, a work party for trail repairs along the Hop Brook marsh on October 20th, snowshoe and cross country ski hikes during the winter months, and a wild flower slide show of flowers growing within conservation land.

DR. WILLIAM COOPER - BOARD OF HEALTH

Dr. Cooper reported that Dr. Lynn Gelhar had been authorized by his Board to make a survey of the engineering literature with the object of establishing a technical base for revision of subsurface disposal regulations in Sudbury. Dr. Cooper stated that the contracts have been signed for the Wayland/Sudbury Septage Disposal Planning Committee with Roy F. Weston, Inc.

Dr. Cooper reported that Sudbury is a member of the East Middlesex Mosquito District and has been a part of the spraying program. Dr. Cooper reported that the Board had begun receiving calls about dead pheasants and sparrows at the beginning of September. Of these eight or nine birds, it had been determined that one pheasant and one sparrow had been infected with encephalitis. Dr. Cooper reported that the death of a pony had received one confirmation of encephalitis and that the Board would get a second confirmation. Dr. Cooper stated that while a negative report definitely indicated the absence of encephalitis, a positive report could not definitely indicate the presence of the disease.

EBEN STEVENS - PLANNING BOARD

Mr. Stevens stated that the Planning Board was very pleased with the activity of the Town Surveyor in connection with the Board. Mr. Stevens reported that an open space study and a new housing cost to the Town study are in progress and that they have recently revised their subdivision rules and regulations.

FRANK GRINNELL - VETERANS AGENT

Mr. Grinnell stated that he has been working with veterans' dependents and returning veterans, as well as working on forms to acquire gravestones.

JAMES H. MALONSON - EARTH REMOVAL BOARD

Mr. Malonson reported that the Earth Removal Board had recently granted a permit for earth removal at the Vasalotti pit, had denied a permit to remove earth at the junction of Lincoln Road and Lincoln Lane, and had made a small adjustment to Mr. Cavicchio.

LORRAINE BAUDER - SUDBURY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Mrs. Bauder reported that the Authority's architect had submitted preliminary plans for their review and that they were in the process of submitting a schematic design to the State for possible State funding.

VIRGINIA ALLEN - TALENT SEARCH COMMITTEE

Mrs. Allen reported that Priscilla Harding, James W. Doyle, and Cheryl Rogers had recently been appointed to the Talent Search Committee.

PAUL BUXBAUM - MBTA ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Buxbaum reported on the legislation mentioned by Representative Gannett, stating that the MBTA Advisory Board wish to push an amendment to H6109, which will allow a rebate to Towns who get no service from the MBTA, yet are assessed for it.

PAUL BUXBAUM - REGIONAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Mr. Buxbaum reported that the Regional Concerns Committee was presently studying a minibus schedule.

JUNE ALLEN - TOWN REPORT PREPARATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Allen reported that the bid for printing of the 1973 Town Report had been awarded to Lorell Press, from whom they had recently received 200 copies of the Proceeding which were ready for distribution.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY BYLAW COMMITTEE

The Executive Secretary reported that the Equal Employment Opportunity Bylaw Committee has compiled a questionnaire which will be sent, by next week, to all boards and committees having budgets which deal with hiring or contracting, and that the purpose of the questionnaire is to aid the committee in pointing out areas which will be of concern to the committee.

Chairman Toomey adjourned the Forum at 9:50 p.m.