

IN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
FEBRUARY 4, 1974

Present: Chairman William F. Toomey, John C. Powers and John E. Taft

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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.

Jurors

Present: Betsey M. Powers, Town Clerk.

The Board drew the names of Stanley C. Olsen, 173 Morse Road, and Barbara K. Sheehan, 56 Landham Road, to serve as jurors at Cambridge Court, commencing March 4, 1974, and Frederick G. Dymont, 4 Lake Shore Drive, and Rebecca Fairbank, 136 Old Sudbury Road, to serve as jurors at Lowell Court, commencing March 4, 1974.

Rail Service

The Board received a communication, dated January 25, 1974, from the Wayland Board of Selectmen relative to the resumption of rail service on the Sudbury line, asking that their representative on this issue, Polly Russell, attend a meeting of the Sudbury Board of Selectmen at the earliest possible date for discussion of the matter.

The Board directed the Executive Secretary to schedule a meeting in this regard and to invite the Wayland representative, the Regional Concerns Committee, and other interested persons or groups.

Revaluation Suit

The Board noted receipt of a communication, dated January 24, 1974, from James A. Newslow of the Needham Board of Assessors, which enclosed a copy of his book on assessing and taxes and commended the Sudbury Board of Selectmen on their action relative to the revaluation suit.

Selectmen's Annual Report

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Selectmen's annual report as submitted by the Executive Secretary, with only minor corrections.

Custodial Coverage

The Executive Secretary reported that he had received a communication, dated January 31, 1974, from Francis E. White, Building Inspector, which requested that the hours of the two custodians be staggered to provide evening custodial coverage. Mr. Thompson reported that he had concurred with the request and the change had been implemented.

Car Pool Parking

The Executive Secretary reported that communications had been sent to churches and shopping centers requesting space for car pool parking, but as yet the replies are incomplete.

Gasoline Station Lines

Chairman Toomey announced that the Executive Secretary had arranged a meeting, through the Business Advisory Committee, for Thursday, February 7th, at the White Building, with the gas station owners for the purpose of exchanging information and alleviating the serious problem caused by lines formed by customers waiting to purchase gasoline.

Revolutionary War Bicentennial Committee

Selectman Powers reported that he had appeared before the Joint Ways and Means Committee relative to Senate Bill 1436, a bill relating to additional revenue for bicentennial towns by route of the lottery. Selectman Powers stated that the hearing had been continued for a period of thirty days to allow for contact with the Massachusetts Lottery Commission and the affected parties.

Washington's Birthday

Due to the observance of Washington's Birthday on Monday, February 18th, it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To reschedule the February 18th meeting for Tuesday, February 19, 1974.

Town Hall Renovations

Present: Craig Parkhill, James Rubin, Robert Hotch, and Norman Gillespie of the Permanent Building Committee; Andrea and Hugh Browning, Architects, Bertram Weinstein, Meyer Davis and Christopher Morely of the Sudbury Players.

Members of the Permanent Building Committee and Andrea and Hugh Browning, architects, met with the Board to discuss the proposed preliminary plans and cost estimates for renovations and/or additions to the Town Hall.

Mr. Rubin briefly reviewed the progress to date, stating that the final stage was to request the 1974 Annual Town Meeting for monies for final plans and bid documents.

Mrs. Browning displayed slides showing present and proposed plans for the renovations based on further development of Scheme C-2, and described the proposed changes.

Mr. Browning stated that the 10.66% increase during 1973 had been included in most figures as previously discussed, and in a memorandum earlier distributed to the Board quoted a figure for revised Scheme C-2 (now called C-3) construction and site cost of approximately \$455,000.00, to which would be added 10% for contingencies and 10-18% for escalation for an estimate at time of construction, January 1975, of approximately \$580,000.00. Partial breakdown of this figure included \$192,000.00 for total mechanical work (plumbing, electrical work, and heating) and \$50,000.00 for total site work. The architects' fee, \$79,000.00, and furnishings and equipment allowance, \$35,000.00, would be in addition to the \$580,000.00 figure for a total project cost of \$694,000.00.

In response to a question, Mr. Browning stated that the cost of the proposed movable partitions for the upper Town Hall hearing room was \$15-\$20,000.

Meyer Davis, speaking as a citizen rather than as a member of the Sudbury Players, objected to the renovation proposal, stating that it is entirely too big at this particular time.

Mr. Weinstein stated that, in his opinion, sufficient space would be available by complete utilization of the Loring Parsonage, the Hosmer House, and the Police Station, when available, to equal that recommended by the Municipal Facilities Study Committee report.

The Executive Secretary stated that the architects were originally directed to look at all Town buildings including the Hosmer House and the Police Station in an effort to utilize all available space.

Mr. Parkhill stated that the Permanent Building Committee has as yet reached no definite position relating to the architects' report, but that the Committee will meet on February 5th for further discussion of the same.

Selectman Taft stated that the premise of the April 24 session of the adjourned 1972 Annual Town Meeting be kept in mind, wherein the renovations as proposed by the Municipal Facilities Committee and the Selectmen were valued at \$256,000.00, exclusive of site work and architects' fees.

Christopher Morely requested, as a member of the Sudbury Players, that consideration be given to the Players for their productions.

Chairman Toomey stated that the Board would take the architects' plans under advisement, would request the Permanent Building Committee to advise the Board of their decision following their meeting on February 5th, and would direct the Executive Secretary to schedule a meeting with the Directors of the Sudbury Players in executive session.

Committee on Town Administration - Article 52 - Enlarge Board of  
Selectmen from Three to Five

Present: Anne Bigelow, Sally von Benken, and Leonard Sanders of  
the Committee on Town Administration

The Committee on Town Administration met with the Board for  
the purpose of discussing Article 52, a petition to enlarge the  
Board of Selectmen from three to five members.

Mrs. von Benken stated that it was Town Counsel's opinion that  
the article in its present form, as it refers to election by pre-  
cinct, is illegal and that he stated that under the home rule amend-  
ment (Chapter 43B, Section 13), membership of the Board cannot be  
increased without going through charter. Mrs. von Benken also  
stated that the petitioner now wishes to withdraw the election by  
precinct portion of the article and intends to offer, through  
amendment to the present article on the floor of Town Meeting, a  
substitute article asking that the Board be increased by a special  
act. Mrs. von Benken asked whether such a substitute article would  
be allowed, and it was suggested that the Committee discuss with  
the Moderator what would be allowable under the scope of the article.

Selectman Powers and Town Counsel stated that the original  
signatures for the petition were necessary for a withdrawal of the  
article or for a change or substitution.

Members of the Board were polled for their reaction to the  
proposal to increase the membership of the Board to five men.

Chairman Toomey stated that it would be well to learn the  
Town's reaction to a five-man Board, but that if it were being done  
for reasons of lack of attendance, that this had never been a pro-  
blem, as for some years only two meetings had been rescheduled for  
this reason.

Selectman Powers stated that while he was not in favor of the  
precinct concept of the article, as that was more in line with  
aldermen or city councils, he was in favor of increasing the member-  
ship to five persons to improve liaison with other boards, committees,  
and departments by lessening the workload for the present Board.

Selectman Taft stated that much had been said on the subject  
at the 1971 Annual Town Meeting, and that he is not in favor of  
increasing the membership of the Board, as it is not a representa-  
tive body but an executive body. Selectman Taft further stated that,  
in his opinion, the smaller the group the more responsibility each  
man assumes, and that we should ask what is best for Sudbury.  
Selectman Taft further commented, that if the present process is  
working satisfactorily for the Town, it should be continued, and  
if not working satisfactorily for the Town, the procedure should be  
examined and remedied.

Minutes

The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular and executive session of January 21, 1974, the former as amended, and the minutes of the regular and executive session of January 28, 1974, the former as amended.

Executive Session

At 9:45 p.m. the Board on motion unanimously

VOTED: To enter into executive session for the purpose of holding a general conference with Fire Chief Albert St. Germain in line with the Selectmen's policies and procedures and for the purpose of discussion of matters, which if made public, might adversely affect the financial interest of the Town.

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

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 11:05 p.m.

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