

TRANSCRIPT
TOWN FATHERS' FORUM
FEBRUARY 25, 1974

Chairman William F. Toomey called the 90th session of the Town Fathers' Forum to order at 8:00 p.m.

Chairman Toomey introduced June Allen, Chairman of the Town Report Preparation Committee, and winners of the 1973 Town Report Art Contest were announced and congratulated. The awards were made as follows:

Cover Winner - \$25 Savings Bond Award: Brett Ashley Leav
21 Codjer Lane
Age 8, 3rd grade

Principal Drawing Award Certificates:

Kimberly F. Sewall, 20 Silver Hill Road
Age 5 3/4, Kindergarten

Christie Anne Sears, 36 Hickory Road
Age 6, 1st grade

Jennifer Ann Gottberg, 89 Mossman Road
Age 7, 2nd grade

Katherine Edith Stratemeyer, 72 Maynard Road
Age 10, 4th grade

Scott Paul Murray, 34 Mill Pond Road
Age 11, 6th grade

Jennifer Graf, 23 Minuteman Lane
Age 12, 7th grade

Alan S. Goodrich, 45 Clark Lane
Age 13, 8th grade

Andrea Jean Roessler, 559 Peakham Road
Age 14½, 9th grade

Mark Eliason, 41 Stubtoe Lane
Age 15, 10th grade

David Wells Roth, 53 Clifford Road
Age 16, 11th grade

Linda Wheeler, 15 Powers Road
Age 17, 12th grade

Special Illustration Award Certificates:

David Timothy Sayles, 78 Pine Street
Age 5, Kindergarten

Perry Susann Kellstedt, 22 Mill Pond Road
Age 5, Kindergarten

Laura J. Hornik, 249 Goodman's Hill Road
Age 7½, 2nd grade

Alex Palmer, 27 Blackmer Road
Age 8, 2nd grade

Terrence Patrick McKelvey, 353 Old Lancaster Road
Age 8, 3rd grade

Brian Brightly, 55 Hobart Road
Age 8, 3rd grade

Anne Stuart Harding, 109 Water Row
Age 8, 3rd grade

Mark James Hendershot, 4 Pennymeadow Road
Age 8, 3rd grade

Claudia B. Grossman, 141 Goodman's Hill Road
Age 9, 4th grade

Heidi Munro, 191 Moore Road
Age 10, 5th grade

Barbara Jeanne Bitter, 14 Ridge Hill Road
Age 10, 5th grade

Thomas H. Hillery, 66 Willow Road
Age 11, 5th grade

Carl Schulz, 64 French Road
Age 11, 6th grade

Martin Olsen, 12 Hickory Road
Age 12, 7th grade

Jeanne Elisabeth Dudley, 30 Wagonwheel Road
Age 16, 11th grade

Howard Chorney, 28 Normandy Drive
Age 16, 11th grade

At 8:30 p.m. Chairman Toomey requested that the Town Fathers' Forum be continued following a brief recess to enable the Selectmen and others to complement a quorum at the Water District's Annual Meeting being held in the upper Town Hall. At 8:40 p.m. the Town Fathers' Forum resumed.

DR. WILLIAM COOPER - WAYLAND/SUDBURY SEPTAGE DISPOSAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Dr. Cooper reported that the Planning Committee has drafted a working agreement between Wayland and Sudbury and guidelines relative to the septage disposal facility. Planning money is to be requested at the 1974 Annual Town Meeting in the amount of \$30,000 for each Town. Dr. Cooper reported that the Sudbury Finance Committee has indicated support for this request contingent upon action by the Wayland Town Meeting, but that the Wayland Finance Committee has not yet indicated its approval. Dr. Cooper also stated that the Planning Committee has also received indication of full support from all involved Town boards and committees.

JOHN V. SULLIVAN - BOARD OF HEALTH DIRECTOR

Mr. Sullivan reported he had helped organize a local Board of Health Association composed of Sudbury and the adjacent towns of Stow, Hudson, Concord, and Maynard, which will meet once every two months.

Mr. Sullivan reported that soil tests made on the Oliver land had indicated that the area could substantiate 66 units of Housing for the Elderly.

Mr. Sullivan also reported that some improvement of the chemical analysis of Hop Brook has been noted.

FIRE CHIEF ALBERT ST. GERMAIN

Fire Chief St. Germain reported that on January 16, two additional men had graduated from the emergency medical training course at Emerson Hospital in connection with compliance with the recently passed ambulance legislation, and that on February 16th, a third man will begin the same course at the Framingham Union Hospital. Chief St. Germain also reported that, on February 11th, nineteen men completed a Red Cross advanced first-aid course.

Chief St. Germain reported that the Fire Department had begun invalid and tot finder programs whereby citizens could obtain, from the Department, stickers to be applied to inside doors to enable firemen to quickly locate small children and invalids in case of fire.

Chief St. Germain also stated that a law had been passed to allow very restrictive burning between March 15 - April 15 in connection with garden preparation and trimming and pruning in forests and nurseries.

Chief St. Germain also urged those present to write to local representatives and to the Governor, urging against the plan to close fire towers.

FRANK LEBART - FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. LeBart submitted for the Sudbury Finance Committee a summary of 1974-75 financial data and recommendations. Mr. LeBart stated that if all warrant articles were passed by Town Meeting, the tax rate would be increased to \$65.55, and that the rate based on passage of bonding articles as recommended by the Finance Committee would be \$51.00.

Chairman Toomey stated that the Board wished to meet with the Finance Committee prior to Town Meeting to discuss line items. Mr. LeBart stated that he would schedule such a meeting for March 14th.

JOHN H. WILSON - TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Mr. Wilson reported that he had attended a conference relative to the Massachusetts cherry sheet, which was held in Framingham, with Carolyn Edwards and John Hennessy of the Finance Committee and Superintendent Levington of the Regional High School. Mr. Wilson stated that the conference was held to discuss monies to be expected in reimbursement to the towns and cities, but did not indicate encouragement to expect anything more than that money received last year. Mr. Wilson stated that the projected figures used in preparation of the estimated tax rate were based on 2/3 of the 18-month budget period.

ARTHUR E. HARDING - TOWN SURVEYOR

Mr. Harding reported that the Engineering Department had recently worked on preparation of plans for proposed walkway articles, street layouts and the new property maps.

SELECTMAN JOHN E. TAFT

Selectman Taft reported that the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association has been working with David Bartley, Speaker of the House, and the Massachusetts League of Cities and Towns to provide assistance in connection with tax reform. Selectmen Taft stated that nothing will be done before 1975, but that the House leadership is interested in hearing from the cities and towns in this regard.

Chairman Toomey commented that great inroads would be made in this direction by the Executive Board of the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association.

RONALD ESPINOLA - HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Mr. Espinola reported that the Sampson & Weston master drainage plan has been completed, that the Commission has had a presentation by Sampson & Weston, and that the plans are being distributed to Town boards and committees. The Commission is now in the process of reviewing the proposals.

In response to a question, Mr. Espinola stated that no recommendations had been made by the consultants in connection with Federal aid.

ANN D. BIGELOW - COMMITTEE ON TOWN ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Bigelow reported that Walter Allen had been appointed to head a subcommittee of the Committee on Town Administration to research data processing for the Town, and that Mr. Allen would be working with the Town Accountant in this regard. Mrs. Bigelow reported that the Committee would meet on March 6th and March 20th.

PAUL BUXBAUM - MBTA ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Buxbaum reported that of the 79 cities and towns which are assessed by the MBTA, 21 receive no service, including Sudbury, which pays a sizable share of the MBTA's total deficit.

Mr. Buxbaum reported that the Advisory Board has been very active with the legislature to have the State take over a portion of the deficit. Mr. Buxbaum stated that Sudbury's assessment in 1973 was \$120,000, in 1974, \$97,000, and in 1975, is estimated to be \$180,000. He also stated that the present deficit averages \$2.94 per mile.

Mr. Buxbaum stated that he had voted "no" to the annual budget, and that the answer to the problem is not State aid but a general revision of the MBTA itself.

JUNE MARGOLIN - TALENT SEARCH COMMITTEE

Mrs. Margolin reported that she had earlier this evening submitted to the Executive Secretary the latest revisions of their files.

DOUGLAS MIRANDA - SUDBURY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Mr. Miranda reported that a contract for financial assistance, in the amount of \$1,408,000, between the Commonwealth and the Sudbury Housing Authority has been approved and that around March 1st, the cash flow should begin.

Mr. Miranda also confirmed Mr. Sullivan's report that a location had been found for the leaching beds for the Housing for the Elderly site on the Oliver land.

Mr. Miranda reported that the Authority and the Planning Board have reviewed Article 30 (extend powers of Sudbury Housing Authority) with the Planning Board, but have not yet reached a decision.

RICHARD E. THOMPSON - EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mr. Thompson reviewed the recent joint meeting of Sudbury's boards and commissions who might have an interest in the U. S. Military Reservation land scheduled to be exccessed by the Federal Government. Mr. Thompson announced that input from this recent meeting will be communicated to a second meeting with Commissioner Arthur W. Brownell of the Department of Natural Resources, Joel Lerner of Conservation Services, Bruce S. Gullion of Forests and Parks, and Selectmen from the Towns of Stow, Maynard, and Hudson, which is scheduled for February 27th at the Wayside Inn.

BETSEY M. POWERS - TOWN CLERK

Mrs. Powers reported that the census as of January 1, 1974, has been completed and had determined the population figure to be 15,047. Mrs. Powers stated that the percentage increase (1.2%) is the smallest it has been in many years.

Mrs. Powers reported that there were in excess of 6,699 registered voters in the Town and that there were between 3600 - 3700 dwellings.

Mrs. Powers reported that there still remain the following registration sessions:

Thursday, February 28, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School

Thursday, February 28, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Town Hall

Saturday, March 2, Noon - 10:00 p.m., Town Hall

Tuesday, March 5, 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Town Hall

JANE GILLESPIE - PLANNING BOARD

Mrs. Gillespie reported that the Board had received 1300 questionnaire returns which are being precoded by volunteers prior to feeding to the computers and that the Planning Board hoped to have preliminary computer runs by mid-March.

Mrs. Gillespie stated that the Planning Board has held many

meetings with Town boards and committees in connection with warrant articles during the past month, that they had received no new subdivision plans, and had reviewed only two small site plans.

Mrs. Gillespie reported that on March 11th the Planning Board would hold hearings on all zoning articles in the upper Town Hall.

JOHN R. FLATHER - LINCOLN-SUDBURY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mr. Flather reported that it was the understanding of the Regional School Committee that Henry Morgan is, but that Frederick Walkey is not, seeking reelection to the Committee.

Mr. Flather reported that the Committee has met in Lincoln for discussion on basic communication skills, understanding the environment, and respect for the community of man.

Mr. Flather stated that the Committee on Standards and Expectations has issued guidelines for teachers, students, and hall directors, and that these guidelines will be communicated through meetings in the Halls.

ALFRED C. CRON - SUDBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Mr. Cron reported that the morning time delay at Peter Noyes and the Junior High Schools, due to reversion to Daylight Savings Time, would continue for the remainder of the year unless notice to the contrary were sent home by the students.

Mr. Cron stated that the Committee is still in collective bargaining negotiations with the teachers. Mr. Cron also stated that the curriculum will be reviewed within the next few weeks, as well as redistricting possibilities, and reported that there had been minor wind damage at some of the schools during the past weekend.

ALFRED C. CRON - MINUTEMAN REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Cron reported that applications to the Vocational High School close the first of March, that as of the second week in February four towns are oversubscribed, but that Sudbury was still below its quota of 46. Mr. Cron also reported that student selection will be made on March 19th, and that construction is proceeding with the opening still scheduled for the fall of 1974.

COLONEL PAUL LEAHY - COUNCIL ON AGING

Colonel Leahy reported that the Council on Aging is hoping to open its drop-in center at the old parsonage of the Memorial Congregational Church about April 1st.

Colonel Leahy reported that the Council has asked Father Gough to request each church to ask its parishioners to act as hosts and hostesses at the center between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to serve coffee and doughnuts and that they are hoping for guest lecturers. He also stated that the Council had contacted local merchants in regard to discounts for older citizens, and that they have been met with acceptance in quite a few instances.

JUNE ATWOOD - GOODNOW LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Mrs. Atwood stated that the library has been successful in finding a few volunteers to help with their back work load.

The Forum was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.