

IN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, JUNE 23, 1975

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

The statutory requirements as to notice having been fulfilled, the meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Acting Chairman William F. Toomey.

100th Town Fathers' Forum

Acting Chairman Toomey convened the 100th session of the Town Fathers' Forum, a summary of which is attached hereto and is a part of these minutes.

Jurors

Present: Town Clerk Betsey M. Powers

The Board drew the names of William J. Buckley, Jr., 18 Wagonwheel Road, and John G. Gregory, 58 Ruddock Road, to serve as jurors in criminal court in Cambridge, commencing July 14, 1975.

Licensing of Emergency Vehicle

Present: Fire Chief Josiah Frost and Police Chief Nicholas Lombardi

Chairman Taft reported that on June 16 the Board had received several proposals from the Fire Chief on the subject of the licensing of an emergency vehicle in compliance with G. L. c111C, §12 and had requested that the subject be rescheduled for tonight's meeting to allow receipt of a report from the Executive Secretary on the financial impact of said licensing and his recommendations for funding of the same.

Chairman Taft reported that the Board had received the Executive Secretary's report, dated June 20, 1975, and requested Mr. Thompson to summarize his report.

Mr. Thompson's report stated, in part, "...that the Board, at this time, prior to July 14, should first agree or disagree that major injury runs for local town ambulance service will be provided by the Fire Department. Second, the Board has the following alternatives, of which one should be selected prior to July 14, as to the manner in which local ambulance service will be provided until July 1, 1977:

1. Make application to use present police cruisers temporarily until July 1, 1977. There is approximately \$800 in the Police Budget (1975-1976) for maintaining medical equipment and supplies. There is some question as to whether or not the present police cruisers would be licensed by the State.
2. Make application to license fire department station wagon temporarily until July 1, 1977. No funds are available in the Fire Budget for medical equipment and supplies. It is likely the fire station wagon would be licensed by the State.
3. Make application for a temporary license with the understanding that the Town would enter into an agreement, after public bid, to lease an approved ambulance until July 1, 1977."

Mr. Thompson reported that it was his recommendation that alternative #2 be followed until the next special or annual town meeting, at which time he would recommend that the Selectmen support an article to purchase a Class I ambulance.

Discussion followed concerning Fire Chief Frost's recommendation to enter into a lease/purchase agreement for an ambulance vehicle which would respond from fire headquarters with one man driving and backed up by two men responding from the nearest engine company and, if emergency transportation is required, the EMT trainee would attend the patient and one of the engine company personnel would drive to the nearest hospital. Chief Frost recommended that two off-duty fire fighters be called in to cover for a minimum time while the two other men were out of fire fighting service.

Selectman Toomey recommended that application be made to temporarily license the police cruisers until the matter can be brought before a town meeting, that funds already exist in the Police Budget for medical equipment and supplies, and that leasing a vehicle and call-back coverage would be a major expenditure.

In response to Selectman Toomey's question, Police Chief Lombardi stated that he would continue the transportation of sick and injured patients to the hospital until he was notified that to continue would be in violation of the ambulance law.

Chairman Taft stated that, in his opinion, the function should be handled by the Fire Department and that the volume of calls is detracting from the Police Department's prime function. Chairman Taft expressed his disagreement that men should be called in every time an emergency vehicle is used, but only in a major emergency situation.

Selectman Powers stated that, in his opinion, he agreed that the function should be handled by the Fire Department, but suggested that alternate applications for both police and fire vehicles be made.

The Executive Secretary stated that it would cost approximately \$800 to equip a vehicle for use as an ambulance, that there would be a yearly consumable equipment cost of \$700 - \$1,000, and that additional cost for call back on major emergencies could not be predicted on a yearly basis.

Fire Chief Frost stated that call back expense would amount to \$29.48 per call.

It was stated that data from surrounding towns had shown a one-third reduction in the use of a town's ambulance once a charge for the service had been established.

The Executive Secretary stated that it was his recommendation that the ambulance be used only in cases of a major emergency and to otherwise continue to use the police cruisers.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To submit alternate applications on the basis of the above-referenced alternates #1 and #2 in the Executive Secretary's June 20 report to the Board;

and it was further

VOTED: To request the appropriate members of the Town staff to review the costs of implementation of an ambulance service for the Townspeople and to devise a written operational procedure and a labor cost estimate for such a program.

SudBus

Present: Paul Buxbaum and Robert Coe of the Sudbury Bus Transportation Committee

Messrs. Buxbaum and Coe met with the Board to discuss the present status of the SudBus operation.

In response to questions from Selectman Powers, Mr. Buxbaum stated that the present SudBus contract had been extended to September 30, 1975, and that it does contain a thirty-day cancellation clause. Selectman Powers suggested that the contract be canceled and the remaining funds applied to a renewed operation on an adjusted schedule in the Fall.

The Board received a copy of correspondence dated June 13, 1975 from Robert Winterhalter to Mr. Buxbaum, and Town Counsel received a related communication dated June 18, 1975, from attorney Joseph P.J. Vrabel, on behalf of Robert P. Winterhalter, on the matter of the unilateral revised scheduling of routes and times by the Sudbury Transportation Committee. Mr. Vrabel's communication referenced Chapter 161A §5(F) which provides that thirty days' notice of schedule change be given to the MBTA Advisory Board.

Mr. Buxbaum stated that, in his opinion, the Sudbury Bus Transportation Committee had complied with all State requirements. Mr. Buxbaum stated that the Committee has announced to the local newspapers that SudBus will continue throughout the summer and that, in the Committee's opinion, increased ridership will be gained by running the busses more frequently on at least one route. Mr. Buxbaum reported that the present expenses run \$600 per week and that the 1974 Annual Town Meeting appropriation will carry the operation through the first few weeks of the 1975-76 fiscal year and then the 1975 Annual Town Meeting SudBus appropriation will be used.

Town Counsel, commenting on Attorney Vrabel's June 18 letter, stated that the SudBus Committee is operating under agreement with the MBTA and can modify the schedule.

Mr. Buxbaum stated that the Committee will soon put out a mailing including an explanatory letter, a new schedule, and free tickets and if improvements are not realized after the next month, will then consider calling for termination of the contract.

In response to a question from Mr. Ira Potell as to what constitutes success or failure, Mr. Buxbaum stated that the operation would be considered a success with a ridership of ten people per bus hour.

In response to the Board's question, Mr. Buxbaum reported that Route 7, which included the Regional High School, has been the most used route and, with the students' use, has averaged ten riders per vehicle hours.

Mr. Buxbaum stated that Route 4, which includes the high density area of Pine Lakes, was the second best route with an average of seven riders per vehicle hour.

Selectman Toomey stated that it was his opinion that the SudBus operation should be suspended for the summer months and renewed in the Fall when people are back from vacations and the students are back in school.

Chairman Taft stated that the Board wished to leave the Committee with the Selectmen's thoughts and concerns and would meet with them again at a later date concerning appointments to this Committee.

Mr. Buxbaum concluded by stating that the Committee is also considering a dial-a-bus system, although it would be a more costly operation to the Town.

Minutes

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting and the executive session of June 16, 1975, as amended.

Hearing - Application for Beer and Wine License, Antonio Giovane, Pizza alla Pietra, Inc., 447 Boston Post Road

Chairman Taft reported that the Board, at its June 16 meeting, voted to continue the hearing on the application of Antonio Giovane, Vice President/Manager, Pizza alla Pietra, Inc., 447 Boston Post Road, until receipt of a report from the Police Chief and a Certificate of Residence from the Town Clerk.

The Board had since received a Certificate of Residence dated June 16, 1975, from Town Clerk, which certified that Mr. Giovane is a Sudbury resident and a registered voter and a communication dated June 17, 1975, from the Chief of Police who found no objection to the granting of a beer and wine license to Mr. Giovane.

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To grant to Antonio Giovane, Vice President/Manager, Pizza alla Pietra, Inc. a license to sell wine and malt beverages as a common victualer on premises located at 447 Boston Post Road.

Resignation - Revolutionary War Bicentennial Committee

The Board received a communication dated June 11, 1975, from the Revolutionary War Bicentennial Committee relative to the resignation of Elinor L. Bentley from that Committee, effective June 30, 1975.

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To accept the resignation of Elinor L. Bentley, with regret, and to direct the Executive Secretary to acknowledge Miss Bentley's communication, expressing the Board's appreciation for her service on that Committee.

Appointment

In response to the request of Police Chief Nicholas Lombardi, in a communication dated June 18, 1975, it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Betsy Lawson, 56 Dakin Road, as a Crossing Guard, for a term to expire April 30, 1976.

Goodnow Library Trustees - Use of Funds

The Board received a communication dated June 14, 1975, from Robert Stocking, Chairman of the Goodnow Library Trustees, requesting permission from the Selectmen, as Co-Trustees of the Goodnow Fund, the use of \$80 of Goodnow Fund money to pay for one-year library memberships to the Boston Museum of Science and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, for use in circulating museum memberships to patrons. Mr. Stocking's letter stated that the request to add this service to those of the Goodnow Library had been initiated by the Library patrons.

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

VOTED: To approve the use of \$80 of the income from the Goodnow Trust Fund for memberships to the Boston Museum of Science and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, subject to determination by the Executive Secretary and Town Counsel that such use is permissible under the terms of the Trust and State Statute.

Appointment - Assistant Treasurer

Present: William E. Downing, Treasurer; Loretta A. Bigelow, Treasurer's Office

In response to the written request dated June 16, 1975 of William E. Downing, Town Treasurer, and upon the recommendation of the Executive Secretary, it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To approve the appointment of Loretta A. Bigelow as Assistant Treasurer with the stipulation that said appointment will neither affect her personnel classification nor her rate of pay.

Entertainment Weekday License for Public Entertainment - Sudbury Bowladrome, Inc.

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

VOTED: To approve the license for Sudbury Bowladrome, Inc., to operate automatic amusement devices on weekdays, with the commencement and expiration dates to be determined by the Executive Secretary.

Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission

The Board announced receipt of a notice from the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission of a hearing which will be held on Thursday, July 24, 1975, to determine whether a violation of Chapter 138, Section 34 of the liquor control act has occurred at J.T. Steak House.


Merit Reviews

It was agreed to defer further consideration of merit reviews until a future meeting of the Board.

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

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 11:35 p.m.

Attest:


Richard E. Thompson

Executive Secretary-Clerk