

TOWN FATHERS FORUM
116th Session
Monday, June 27, 1977

At 8:15 p.m., Chairman Powers convened the 116th session of the Town Fathers Forum.

Emergency Special Town Meeting - June 29, 1977

Chairman Powers explained that the necessity for the calling of this Emergency Special Town Meeting was the need under collective bargaining to place the negotiated salary structure of the fire personnel before the governing body of the Town within 30 days and the further need to do so before the end of the fiscal year. Chairman Powers expressed the hope that the townspeople, and especially those serving on boards and committees, would make every effort to attend so that a quorum might be reached.

Chairman Powers noted that in the interest of the timing relative to the printing and distribution of the warrant, all articles had been submitted by the Board of Selectmen. The articles were then reviewed as follows:

- Article 1: Personnel Bylaw, Art. XI - Classification & Salary Plan, to be presented by the Personnel Board; Finance Committee to report.
- Article 2: Budget Adjustment for Collective Bargaining 1976-77, to be appropriated from free cash; Finance Committee to present.
- Article 3: Personnel Bylaw, Art XI - Classification & Salary Plan, to be presented by the Personnel Board.
- Article 4: Budget Adjustment for Collective Bargaining 1977-78, to be appropriated by taxation; Finance Committee to present.
- Article 5: Public Works Employment Act Funds, requesting Town Meeting approval to complete the application for and expend a \$190,000 Federal grant under Round II of the Public Works Employment Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-369), to be presented by the Board of Selectmen backed by the Town Engineer and Highway Surveyor. Two items approved for funding but needing authorization by the Town are to be presented: Road intersection at Lincoln and Concord Roads where there is a troublesome traffic problem; and certain road resurfacing projects on streets which will not require future drainage work.
- Article 6: Landham Road Land Damages, to be presented by the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Powers will make the presentation. The Town has entered into a binding contract under which Middlesex County acquired land by eminent domain for which the Town owes the money. The Town would be certain to lose in any court action and would incur a 10% penalty. The money cannot be assessed to the Town but must be appropriated. Chairman Powers stated that the integrity of the Town is on the line.

Board of Selectmen - Chairman Powers

Chairman Powers reported the following actions of the Board of Selectmen since the May Town Fathers Forum:

- Set cemetery fees for lot prices - \$150 for 1 lot; \$300 for 2 lots; \$500 for 4 lots.
- Extended trailer permit to the Ingersolls, 271 Boston Post Road.
- Approved Desjardin site plan for 758 Boston Post Road, retail and office space.
- Petitioned DPW for placement of stop sign on Fairbank Road at Maynard Road.
- Supported budget cuts recommended by the Middlesex County Advisory Board Budget Committee.
- Issued underground storage permit for 10,000 gal. diesel fuel to Douglas R. Lewis, Jr., for 9 Old County Road (renewal).
- Approved pledge of stock and alcoholic pouring license for loan purposes for Pizza Alla Pietra.
- Accepted \$100 gift from Bicentennial Committee members for Town's Tercentenary celebration.
- Accepted \$158.25 gift from William E. Downing for ambulance equipment.
- Approved 1977-78 juror list.
- Approved restricted license to Big W. Trans for operation of bus service to CETA employees and trainees.
- Approved utility petitions for poles on Hudson Road and Lincoln Road.
- Reached agreement with Firefighters Association and called Emergency Special Town Meeting accordingly.
- Signed deed to transfer Landham Road bridge to DPW.
- Submitted a full application for HUD rehabilitation funds for \$150,000.
- Selectmen's office/Town Planner is completing application for Public Works funding in the amount allocated to Sudbury of \$190,000 for Lincoln/Concord Road intersection and road resurfacing projects, for which Town Meeting approval is sought under Article 5.
- Completing a contract for CETA funds for \$156,334 for a Parks, Conservation and Public Ways Project.
- Working on completion of an Ambulance Operating Policy with the Fire Chief. The ambulance has been received.

- Met with the Personnel Board relative to implementing the clerical study.
- Met with Dog Officer regarding plans for dog control in 1977-78.
- Renewed taxi/limousine licenses: Lincoln Town Cab and Sudbury Gulf Corporation Livery and Limousine Service.
- Extended 1 a.m. closing hours for restaurant liquor pouring licensees, until December 31, 1977, on Friday and Saturday nights only.
- Reviewed plans with Town Engineer for furnishing water to Town Common and Heritage Park.
- Awarded bids on the following: Engineering Station Wagon; Fire Department Pickup Truck; Accounting Machine.
- Made the following appointments: J. Merloni to Operational Review Committee; Marian Zola, Vic Neumeier, Michelle Singer to the Town Report Preparation Committee; Lawrence Faye to the Personnel Board; David Grunebaum and John Murray to the Conservation Commission; Francis White as Zoning Inspector and Dog Officer; Howard Porter as Gas, Piping, and Gas Appliance Inspector; Robert Noyes as Local Superintendent of Insect Pest Control; John McKenna to the Board of Appeals; Myron Fox, Joseph Klein, Robert Hotch, and Robert Burd as Board of Appeals Alternates; Albert Feinberg and Josephine Doyle to the Council on Aging; Edwin Blackey to the Historic Districts Commission; Donald Devoe to the Historical Commission; John Wilson, John Naatz and William Reed to Insurance Advisory Committee; Paul Remington to Long Range Capital Expenditures Committee; Gordon DeWolf to Permanent Landscape Committee; Eileen Todd to the Talent Search Committee.
- Accepted with regret resignation of Dr. Stanley Barron from the Sign Review Board.
- Voted to dissolve the Business Advisory Committee.

Chairman Powers also reported that Town Counsel Paul L. Kenny was on vacation and Town Accountant John H. Wilson was on military duty for a two-week period.

Engineering Department - James Merloni, Town Engineer

Mr. Merloni reported that his department was very busy and he would appreciate early work requests from other boards and committees.

Police Department - Chief Nicholas Lombardi

Police Chief Lombardi reported that the Department was doing its best to keep the kids dispersed and, in particular, off Round Hill.

He stated that approximately 1000 households were participating in the neighborhood watch program which has proved to be an effective deterrent to crime.

The Chief also expects to accomplish an orderly transfer of ambulance service to the Fire Department.

Highway Department - Robert A. Noyes, Highway Surveyor

Mr. Noyes reported that work is progressing on road paving and that portions of Rt. 117 and Concord Road are finished. Mowing is in progress and thanks to a Sudbury Laboratories gift, a soil testing kit has been put to use. Street sweeping is almost complete. Elsbeth Road is almost ready to pave. The Highway sign truck has been refurbished.

Mr. Noyes also stated that at the Landfill a new cell has been excavated and an addition constructed on the equipment shelter.

Work on storm damaged trees is progressing with the availability of two skyworkers to trim tree limbs. The remainder of the brush is being picked up.

Fire Department - Chief Josiah F. Frost

Chief Frost reported that there were seven structure fires during the month. Four of these were kitchen fires, which, he stated, are becoming increasingly frequent due to the home cooking of fried foods, and are very expensive fires. He feels that fire prevention education needs to reach the homeowners.

Chief Frost commented that the recent serious fire at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School causing approximately \$26,000 in damage probably started out as a prank. He reported excellent cooperation between the Police Juvenile Officer and the Fire Department and he hoped that the case would be solved shortly.

Convictions have been obtained involving four persons on the transport and sale of fireworks.

The Sudbury Fire Department recently participated in a successful mutual aid drill with the Wayland Fire Department with the cooperation of Arthur Morgello, Linde Air, Union Carbide.

Ambulance training is in progress with each man serving three hours in service in the patient compartment becoming familiar with the use and maintenance of the equipment. Driver training will commence soon.

The Chief reported that under the \$7500 Fire Alarm budget, \$6900 has been spent laying/repairing three miles of wire.

The Chief stated that there have been nineteen medical emergencies and ten auto accidents.

A recent fire in a trash basket at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School which smoldered in the empty building was thought to be a result of careless disposal of materials.

Planning Board - Albert St. Germain

Mr. St. Germain stated that the Board was involved in two law suits, one of which had just been settled, and that two small sub-divisions have come in for approval, also that the Planning Board is in the process of revamping the zoning bylaws which will come before the next Annual Town Meeting.

Mr. St. Germain reported that the Septage Sludge Committee expects 90% (75% Federal; 15% State) reimbursement on the whole project and that a recent EPA hearing was held in Wayland on the facility. The committee was requesting approval for a curb cut from the State. He also reported that a cost rate program was being set up on use charges and that the Town of Weston has expressed interest in using the facility.

Personnel Board - Chairman Daniel McLean

Chairman McLean reported that he had been appointed as Chairman and that the Board is in the process of interviewing people relative to the clerical study contract.

Sudbury Housing Authority - Thomas Blanchette

Mr. Blanchette reported that the dedication of Musketahquid Village had been held on May 30 and that the sign had been installed and shrubs planted. As the apartments are not air-conditioned, screen doors are needed at an approximate cost of \$6500 - \$8000.

The Housing Authority is also maintaining five homes; these are undergoing \$5000 - \$6000 worth of repairs (primarily plumbing in kitchens and bathrooms) to bring them to standard.

As an example of the costs involved in running the housing units, Mr. Blanchette, the Housing Authority Treasurer, stated that the monthly rental income from Musketahquid Village is \$4200, while the cost of electricity for the project for the months of January and February was in excess of \$5500. Cost reduction measures are being studied, but the use of incandescent fixtures and electric heat will not affect reductions.

Conservation Commission - Chairman Kathleen Brown

Chairman Brown reported escalating vandalism, citing the loss of street signs designating three of the Conservation Reservations, and the destruction of garden plots at Community Gardens. The Commission is involved heavily in wetland hearings and Mrs. Brown advised anyone contemplating a project which may involve or may affect a wetland to contact the Commission for information concerning their responsibility under the State Wetland Protection Act. Commissioners have recently attended a soil survey seminar to further their engineering expertise.

Mrs. Brown stated that an Open Space Planning meeting is to be held June 28 for the purpose of organizing to work on the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan which must be on file with the Office of Environmental Management as of January 1, 1978 in order to qualify for State Self-Help reimbursement and Federal BOR funding. The Town Planner, Mr. Tiliakos, will coordinate the effort of the committee which will include a member of the Park and Recreation Commission, a LWV Land Use Study representative, and a member of the Planning Board. Input is expected from the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Health, the Water District, the Historic Districts Commission, and SUASCO.

Mrs. Brown also reported that the Commission's Planning and Acquisition Committee is studying development rights legislation.

Talent Search

Mrs. Todd, the only current member, stated that she was involved in a search for members for the Committee.

Representative Ann Gannett - Precincts 2, 3 and 4

Representative Gannett reported that the Senate overrode the Governor's veto of the compulsory and binding arbitration bill on a 20-8 vote and the house did not have enough votes to sustain the veto.

Mrs. Gannett reported that the conferees were sitting down this day to try to iron out the conflicts in the budget, particularly in regard to tax measures. The House will be in semi-recess in July but may be working over the Fourth.

Park and Recreation Commission - Chairman Piscitelli

Chairman Piscitelli reported on the plans for the Fourth of July weekend which include the following events:

Saturday - model airplanes at the Davis field

Sunday - model airplanes at the Davis field; ball game at Feeley Park; dog show, Miss Sudbury Contest (10 finalists), two-mile race, parade, traditional field day; pie-eating contest; All-Star softball game.

Three floats have been readied to date for the parade. The Selectmen will act as marshalls for the parade which will include four marching bands.

Mr. Piscitelli reported that the track meet in May for fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth graders was successful and that clinics will be held next year. The meet will become an annual event.

Forthcoming events will include a Senior citizen picnic at Feeley Park in July. The results of the swimming survey of 200 people by John Becker Associates are being tabulated and will be published shortly.

Problems were noted which include a drainage problem on the Haskell tennis courts and the increasing use of mini-bikes on public property within the Town. Mr. Piscitelli stated that there were no areas available where Park & Recreation could set up an area for the use of the bikes.

At 9:05 p.m., Chairman Powers adjourned the Forum for coffee and informal conversation.