

TOWN FATHERS FORUM
120TH SESSION
MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 1978

At 8:00 P.M. Chairman Powers convened the 120th session of the Town Fathers Forum and announced that tonight the Ancient Documents Committee would give a special presentation relative to the Records Management Program and microfilming which the Committee has been working on for some time, following which he would ask each board, committee, and department to give a brief report.

Ancient Documents Committee -- Report by Russell P. Kirby

Mr. Russell P. Kirby of the Ancient Documents Committee reported that the Committee has been working for some time now in conjunction with Mr. Jesse Clark, its Records Management Consultant, to initiate in the Town of Sudbury, on a gradual basis, a Records Management Program. Records Management is an administrative technique based on the planned control of records to provide for the effective scheduling of retention, preservation, restoration, retrieval, disposition, and safekeeping of all documents.

A Records Management Manual has been distributed to all Town Boards, Committees, Officers and Departments at no cost to them, which contains the index and Retention Schedule related to the respective departments, the index to record code numbers, and the Record Retention Schedule covering all departments.

The School Committee has made available a 9 x 12 room for use as a Records Retention Center in the Flynn Building for centralized storage and servicing of the records -- vital records will be stored in a fire proof vault. Microfilming, too, is an important part of the overall Records Management Program.

Mr. Kirby summarized by crediting the Town Clerk, Betsey M. Powers, for initially putting together the Records Management Program, and for bringing it into fruition.

Selectman Powers indicated that Mr. Kirby and the committee would be available at coffee break for questions.

Statement of John C. Powers -- January 23, 1978

"In 1954, 24 years ago, I served on my first citizen's committee in the Town of Sudbury.

Since that time I have served:

- 5 years on the Committee on Town Administration
- 7 years on the Ancient Documents Committee
- 10 years on the Bicentennial Committee
- 2 years on the Public Celebrations Committee
- 2 years on the Sudbury-Wayland Committee on Boston Edison
- 1 year on the Horse Pond Road School Building Committee
- 2 years on the Regional Refuse Disposal Committee
- 2 years as an Elections Officer
- 2 years on the Legislative Procedures Committee
- 2 years as Town Historian

4 years on the Wayland-Sudbury Septage Disposal Planning Committee
1 year on the Regional Fire Dispatch Study Committee
5 terms as a member of the Sudbury Democratic Town Committee
7 terms as Moderator
6 years as Selectman

In addition I have served:

2 years on the Middlesex County Advisory Board
6 years as a fence viewer
2 terms on the Legislative Committee of the Mass. Selectmen's Association
As Special Counsel for the Town of Sudbury
As special Counsel for the Sudbury Water District
As a Member of the Home Rule Committee of the Mass. Moderators.

This has been in addition to Civic Service:

As President of Kiwanis
As President of the Sudbury Chamber of Commerce
As President of the Sudbury Historical Society
As Vice Chairman of the Committee to Preserve The Wayside Inn
As Chairman of the Church Building Committee of The First Parish
As Colonel of the Sudbury Companies of Minute and Militia
As Chairman of the Historic Route Committee of Framingham, Sudbury,
Concord and Lexington
As a Director and Trustee of St. Hubert's School
As Fund Drive Chairman for two Local Hospitals
As a Member of The Human Studies Committee of Framingham Union Hospital
As Treasurer of The Buddy Dog Humane Society
As Director and Manager in Sudbury Little League
As Coach and Manager in Sudbury Pop Warner
As a Director of Sudbury Youth Hockey

And I've forgotten the rest of it.

For a quarter of a century I have given service to the most remarkable Town in Massachusetts. In that period I have given my best Counsel to the Town I love so much.

I have seen Sudbury grow, and change and mature during these years. I have seen many reforms and changes in Sudbury's Government in these years -- and have had an active role in most of them.

I believe that the Town of Sudbury has never been as strong and resilient as it now is. Its Government is sound and stable. In all departments we are blessed with the finest professional staff in the Commonwealth. Sudbury has earned a reputation for strong and consistent leadership in the field of Municipal Government -- and has received strong voter support from its citizens in the exercise of that leadership.

Most importantly, from the days of the scattered and rapid growth of the 1950's, Sudbury has developed a high sense of identity, unity and community and a very real, warm sense of human concern.

I therefore ask my friends and fellow Townsmen to understand that I have reached a point in my life when I desire to lay down the burden of public life for a while and return to more personal and reflective pursuits.

I am going to reach the age of Fifty this year -- and that is a time for some adjustment, too, and refreshment of the soul. Very simply put, I want to have some time for my family. I want to put a canoe into the river -- to walk upon the mountain, to dip my pen into the inkwell and prepare for the next fifty years.

Please do not breathe too deep a sigh of relief -- because I will be holding this chair until the election -- and you couldn't keep me off the Town Meeting Floor.

I do not at this time intend to run for reelection to the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Sudbury. Only the most extraordinary circumstances could change this decision.

I want to thank you all for your help, your counsel and your love through the last few difficult weeks of decision -- as well as through the two and a half decades of my service to the Town.

I ask from you now your understanding."

Chairman Powers reported, on behalf of the Selectmen, the following activities and events during the past two months:

- The Board approved underground storage of fuel oil to John Hickey, 4 Highland Avenue, d/b/a Harvest Greenhouses, Inc.

- Chairman Powers noted the resignation of Gloria Powaza and the appointment of a new director of Sudbury Public Health Nursing Association, June Grace.

- The Board had held a meeting with MAPC re 208 Water Study -- SUASCO Basin -- and filed responses from various departments of the Town.

- The Selectmen had selected the option of using the reimbursement method of financing unemployment compensation.

- Appointments:

- Lawrence Blacker, David Horn as Associate members of the Board of Appeals and Earth Removal Board members.

- Resignation of Eunice Secatore from Board of Appeals.

- Joseph Klein to the Board of Appeals (full member)

- Ed Lapal as MAPC designee (Town Planner).

- Patricia Glazer to Talent Search Committee.

- Nora Hall to the Talent Search Committee.

- Frederick Garrity to the Personnel Board.

- Oscar Harrell had been elected to replace John R. Carter, Park and Recreation Commission.
- Annual licenses renewed for serving and selling alcoholic beverages, common victualer licenses, weekday entertainment licenses, auctioneer, used car, automatic amusement devices.
- The Board has worked with the Dog Officer re a proposal for new dog pound facilities to be funded under Dog Officer budget with Town Meeting approval.
- After lengthy meetings and planning, it was decided to withdraw the article on the Regional Dispatch Center.
- Sudbury has been notified its 1976 Annual Town Report received 3rd place award from the Massachusetts Selectmen's Association.
- The Board supported the Governor's veto of the Middlesex County Budget, which was overridden by legislature.
- Assistant Town Counsel Tom French's new hours are that he will be in the office on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- The Board approved Utility Petition for Concord Road, 36' of conduit.
- The Board met with the Regional High School re law enforcement problems.
- Revisions to Traffic Rules & Orders were approved: stop signs on Union Avenue at Concord Road, on Rambling Road at Warren Road, and on Morse Road at Concord Road, and speed regulations for Warren Road, subject to approval by DPW.
- The Board approved a new site plan for Village Green shopping center.
- The Board denied without prejudice a site plan application and application for increased storage of gasoline for 440 Boston Post Road, AMOCO station.
- 1:00 a.m. closing time was extended for licensees serving liquor, for Friday and Saturday nights only, when kitchens remain open -- for another six months.
- Sudbury was selected as one of fourteen communities to be funded for construction of a salt storage shed.
- Bid was awarded for gasoline for town vehicles to Union Petroleum Corporation of Revere.
- Borrowing of \$2,000,000 in tax anticipation notes was approved.
- Anonymous gift of \$300 for Council on Aging was received.

Selectman Potell expressed his deep regret on Chairman Powers' decision not to rerun for the Board of Selectmen. He also thanked Bob Noyes for a job well done regarding snow removal during the storm.

Kathleen Brown -- Conservation Commission

Mrs. Brown reported that the Conservation Commission's prepared budget was accepted by the Finance Committee; received transfer of funds from Finance Committee for Clerical Budget; completed Long Range Capital Report; completed Town Report; completed Raymond Land Report; prepared Warrant Articles: 1. Wetlands Study 2. Hudson Land Acquisition 3. Lyeth Land Acquisition; final editing of Open Space Plan in progress; on-site inspections including Raytheon site, who will file under Wetlands Protection Act; met with Highway Department to discuss Salt Shed; updated Guidelines for Determination of Applicability and Notice of Intent; appointed Josephine Ashley Conservation Associate; received: 1. notification from Environmental Protection Agency that Marlboro's request to modify nitrification treatment has been denied, 2. Map Kit from Middlesex Conservation District, 3. Chapter 780 G.L. re Acquisition of agricultural preservation restriction (6 months).

John H. Wilson -- Town Accountant

Mr. Wilson reported that he is working on the budgets with the Finance Committee for the 1978 Town Warrant, but that it is too early for a projection of total dollar impact yet. He expects to have all the final bids back on 1978 insurance within two months' time.

Robert A. Noyes -- Highway Surveyor

Mr. Noyes said that currently the Highway Department is working on the plans for the construction of the Morse Road walkway, from Concord to Marlboro Roads.

Representative Gannett -- Precincts 2, 3 and 4

Representative Gannett, with reference to Chairman Powers' personal message, said that she didn't blame him for wanting to "step aside" for a short time after all his contributions and continuance of service to the Town of Sudbury, but she was sure that Mr. Powers could not stay out of Town Government too long!

Mrs. Gannett said that she will be sending an annual report of all major legislative bills for the new session to the Board.

Edward W. Connors, Jr. -- Planning Board

Mr. Connors stated that he was thankful for the newly hired Town Planner, Ed Lapal, whom he introduced. He also reported that the Planning Board has received two letters of resignation, member Eben Stevens and secretary Pat Bell. Mr. Connors further stated that they will have a long range budget review this month; reported on new walkways, those being planned and those approaching construction; and stated that the Planning Board was preparing to incorporate the Records Management Program and also designing the re-hab program and will be obtaining applications for the same in February.

George D. Max -- Goodnow Library

Mr. Max said that "there isn't too much new in the book business!" He mentioned a \$500 gift given some years ago from the Estate of Mrs. Raymond that was inadvertently put in the Goodnow Trust Fund, but will now be separated into

a separate account; stated that the library access situation is working very well; said that the curbing on the South side must be taken care of and he has spoken to Bob Noyes about it; Friends of the Library is doing quite well and has acquired two quite nice Victorian chairs; and they are working on the decor on one of the rooms at the Library and making provisions to hang a kayak used by George Hunt in 1896.

Larry Gogolin -- Board of Health

Mr. Gogolin commented that the Board of Health will be seeking funds shortly in order to promote the Motts Hydrology Study in Town relative to the quality of streams, for impurities in wells and providing land around well sites for future water purification in the Town of Sudbury.

Douglas Zanzot -- Committee on Town Administration

Mr. Zanzot said that a questionnaire/survey has been prepared, hopefully to be included in the 1978 Town Warrant or circulated separately.

Robert Savoy -- Board of Appeals

Mr. Savoy commented on the Vic Neumeier case which has been returned to the Board of Appeals by the Superior Court for a re-hearing relative to allowing instruction of a photo class in his own home.

Mr. Savoy suggested to the Selectmen that in the future, before appointments are made to the Board of Appeals, they should be consulted.

Fire Chief Josiah Frost

Chief Frost expressed his appreciation for the cooperation of the Highway Department during the recent storms in keeping the roads clear. He said that January has been a quiet month compared to the past two years, but he was thankful for it. Chief Frost thanked the CETA employees who are working with the Highway Department on clearing out hydrants and drains in Town. He further recommended that people consider clearing out hydrants in their neighborhoods as there is a limited number of employees to do the work.

Mike Lochiatto -- CETA

Mr. Lochiatto said that he has been busy clearing out the hydrants, as Chief Frost said, and that coming up is some work at the Town Hall. He is also painting the auditorium at the High School.

Eileen Todd -- Talent Search Committee

Mrs. Todd reported that the Committee has submitted its budget to the Finance Committee; has submitted its annual report; and has updated the talent list for the Selectmen.

Chairman Powers thanked the various committee representatives and Mr. Kirby for his presentation, and he adjourned the Forum at 9:00 p.m. for a brief period for coffee and informal conversation.