

IN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1979

Present: Chairman John E. Murray and Robert J. Hotch. William J. Cossart appeared later in the meeting.

Emergency Meeting

The Board of Selectmen held an emergency meeting on Saturday, March 24, 1979, at 9:00 a.m. in the Loring Parsonage for the purpose of informing candidates in the Annual Town Election scheduled for Monday, March 26, 1979 that a failure to post warrants in each of the precincts within seven days prior to the election had occurred and to discuss and implement a course of action.

Town Counsel Paul L. Kenny rendered his opinion, which will be submitted in writing to the Town Clerk, that the laws governing the conduct of elections do not preclude the Town from holding the Annual Town Election on March 26, 1979, because the warrant was delivered to every household nine days prior to the election and warrants will be posted in each precinct prior to the Town Election and, further, that such election will be a valid election because notice was sufficient to meet the statutory requirements for notice, in his opinion.

Executive Secretary Richard E. Thompson stated that at the direction of the Chairman he had personally informed all candidates of contested offices of the failure to post the warrant and that the Office of the Board of Selectmen had, by telephone, requested all candidates to meet in the lower Town Hall to discuss the same.

The meeting was then continued in the lower Town Hall at 10:00 a.m. where Chairman Murray gave official notice to all candidates assembled. After discussion of the options available for implementing the election were discussed, the candidates agreed to proceed with the Town Election on March 26, 1979.

Instructions to the Constables of Sudbury were signed by the Selectmen, in the Loring Parsonage where the meeting continued, relative to the mailing and posting of the Warrant for the Annual Town Election and the Annual Town Meeting. Constable John R. MacLean was dispatched to post the Warrant, three in each precinct, and to return service of the same.

After telephone consultation with the Attorney General's Office, a statement signifying approval of the manner in which the election and Annual Town Meeting have been called was drafted for the signature of the Attorney General of the Commonwealth, Francis X. Bellotti, for presentation to Mr. Bellotti by the Selectmen and the Town Counsel this day.

Later in the day it was learned that the Attorney General, after personal visit with representatives of the Attorney General's Office, recommended that the Board of Selectmen proceed to call a Special Town Meeting within the Annual Town Meeting for special legislation to verify Annual Town Meeting action.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Attest:

Richard E. Thompson
Executive Secretary-Clerk