

TOWN FATHERS FORUM  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1980

Present: Chairman William J. Cossart and John E. Murray.

At 8:00 p.m. Chairman William J. Cossart convened the 133rd session of the Town Fathers Forum. Chairman Cossart introduced Larry Goldstein, who is working in the Selectmen's office under the High School Internship Program. Chairman Cossart reported that Mr. D. Bruce Langmuir, Chairman of the Permanent Building Committee, will make a presentation later in the Forum dealing with Annual Town Meeting articles for police facilities.

James A. Pitts - Long Range Capital Expenditures Committee(LRCEC)

Mr. Pitts reported that the LRCEC will be issuing its annual report to the Selectmen within two weeks. The report will address itself to capital expenditures of \$20,000 and up.

Myron J. Fox - Board of Appeals

Mr. Fox was present but stated that he had no report.

Donald D. Bishop - Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District(MRVTSD)

Mr. Bishop stated that the MRVTSC is reviewing school policies and reviewing the pattern of State-mandated examinations in school systems. Chairman Cossart commended the School for its high caliber of education and academics attributed to the School's administration.

Fire Chief Josiah F. Frost

Chief Frost reported on three serious fires in Sudbury during the month of February. The Chief encouraged homeowners to inspect their chimneys and fireplaces, especially in cases where fireplaces are now being used as alternate heating. Chief Frost announced the opening of a Fire Academy, located just outside Washington. The Chief stated that Fireman Dunne is presently attending school there at a moderate cost of \$100 for a week's attendance plus the expense to the Fire Department to cover for him.

Edward L. Glazer - Finance Committee

Mr. Glazer reported that the Finance Committee has held all of its budget hearings and has submitted all reports for printing in the Warrant. Mr. Glazer stated that if the Town Meeting follows the Finance Committee's recommendations, the increase on the tax dollar will be \$5.18. (Mr. Glazer explained the breakdown of the budget, therefore arriving at the \$5.18 figure.) Mr. Glazer reported that State aid is basically the same for 1979-80, and stated his assumption that State and County assessments will be up somewhat. Mr. Glazer stated that the Finance Committee is trying to offer a lower rate at the Town Meeting; consequently, they are trying to reduce the Sudbury School's budget and the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional School's budget. Mr. Glazer thanked Department heads and Committee Chairpersons for their cooperation during the budget process and anticipated continual cooperation.

Earl D. Midgley - Acting Building Inspector

Mr. Midgley reported that Building Department transactions as of the end of

January were: 42 permits, \$1,218 collected and 25 certificates, \$375 collected. For the month of February to date: 15 permits, \$339 collected and 3 certificates requested which require inspections. Selectman Murray thanked Mr. Midgley for the fine job he has done in the absence of a full-time Building Inspector.

Frank H. Grinnell - Tax Assessor

Mr. Grinnell reported that next week, under the re-evaluation program, work will begin on all tax exempt properties, including all town buildings, churches, schools. Mr. Grinnell stated that any of these properties, which do not presently have drawings/plans, will have them after the evaluation.

Chairman Cossart referenced a schedule of meetings regarding property tax classifications, enclosed in a communication dated February 19, 1980, from the State Department of Revenue. The Selectmen discussed with Mr. Grinnell some meetings which they thought they might possibly attend.

Donald R. Soule - Park and Recreation Commission

Mr. Soule reported that the Park and Recreation Commission is continuing its work in the following areas: building two soccer fields at Haskell Field, maintaining Phippard Field, and fencing at Fairbank School.

Board of Selectmen

Chairman Cossart reported that in Executive Session the Board took a position not to pursue appeal in telephone case #18153 based on lack of legal funds to do so, and the overwhelming requirements of Town Counsel and the overall priorities of Town business. Chairman Cossart expressed regret that it was necessary for the Board to make this decision, especially in view of the extreme efforts of Mrs. Simon to bring the case this far.

Chairman Cossart reported on the following Board activities during the past month:

- The Selectmen established a reserve-for-appropriation fund for ambulance charge receipts to be used for future ambulance purchase(s) or for maintenance.
- The Board took positions on a majority of the articles for the upcoming Town Meeting, following meetings with various boards.
- The Selectmen are pursuing proper reimbursement from the State for Landham Road construction.
- The borrowing of \$1,500,000 in Tax Anticipation Notes was authorized.
- The Selectmen supported Middlesex County Commissioners in their efforts to obtain reimbursements from the State of its use of county court facilities.
- A temporary trailer permit for property at 4 Frye Road was granted until the necessary house repairs from a recent fire there can be completed.

- The Board supported Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School in its efforts along with other regional school systems to obtain federal construction aid reimbursement, which was promised under Public Law 90-576.

Chairman Cossart announced the Warrant Review to be held Wednesday, April 2, at 8:00 p.m. to be held in place of the Town Fathers Forum for the month of March.

The Board will schedule with the Finance Committee a Saturday meeting of all boards regarding budget/Town Meeting and will so inform Department heads and/or Committee chairmen.

Chairman Cossart invited Mr. Langmuir to make his presentation at this time.

Mr. Langmuir passed out a two-page report on comparative summaries of costs for police and central fire stations, and of police facility areas of proposed Sudbury police station addition and alterations versus Wayland and Weston.

In discussing the two, Mr. Langmuir pointed out the following:

- a consensus by the Permanent Building Committee and the Selectmen is to proceed at the 1980 Annual Town Meeting with an article dealing with the addition to the existing police station on Route 20;
- and to address the new fire facility at the 1981 Annual Town Meeting.
- the estimated savings by building two separate buildings/additions, at the above-mentioned locations, is \$139,000.
- an estimate from Kubitz & Pepi Architects, Inc., and preliminary design plans and specifications for the two proposed facilities, have been received.

Mr. Langmuir showed a series of slides of the two proposed facilities.

The Board suggested and the Permanent Building Committee agreed to amend the final sentence in the third paragraph of the Permanent Building Committee's report for the warrant, dealing with the timing of bringing the Fire Station back to the 1981 Annual Town Meeting; the Selectmen will only evaluate the same during 1980.

Following Mr. Langmuir's presentation, the following questions were asked:

- if anticipated excess school space has been considered being used for either facility, and what the cost of refurbishing would be.

Selectman Murray stated that location is of the utmost importance; furthermore, the schools do not lend themselves to be refurbished into police and/or fire facilities.

Mr. Bishop commented that the police facilities could be divided in order to use excess school space and asked

- if it would be possible to use excess school space for certain areas being

proposed in the new addition to the police station; and

- what the real advantage is of having the Police Station on Route 20, when police officers are on duty throughout the Town.

Mr. Fox commented that perhaps the Town Hall could be renovated into a fire facility and the Town offices be moved into the excess areas in the schools.

Mr. Langmuir stated that at the Town Hall there would not be adequate space for additional vehicles for the Fire Department.

Chairman Cossart commented that the idea of renovating the Town Hall offices is still being pursued.

Selectman Murray stated that a committee is being organized to look into the best uses for the excess space within the schools and the Town Hall buildings.

Mrs. Patricia Hersey recommended that when the article dealing with the Police addition (Article 25) is presented at the Town Meeting, we not be apologetic about the request; that there is no question the Town of Sudbury's facilities are not adequate.

Selectman Murray commented that Kubitz & Pepi Architects, Inc., confirmed the inadequacies in our present police facilities.

Mr. Langmuir reported on some of the improvements recently made by the Towns of Weston and Wayland, and how our facilities compare; he referenced page 2 of his handout. Mr. Langmuir commented that using excess school space, or for example, an entire school building, would create the problem of having vacant rooms within the facility; also, he agreed with Selectman Murray, the locations would not be suitable.

There being no further questions or discussion, Chairman Cossart recessed the meeting at 9:15 p.m. for coffee and conversation; the meeting was called back to order at 9:30 p.m.