

TOWN FATHERS FORUM  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1981

Present: Chairman Anne W. Donald, William J. Cossart and John E. Murray.

At 8:00 p.m. Chairman Donald convened the 142nd Session of the Town Fathers Forum and reported the activities of the Board of Selectmen during the past month, as follows:

- The Selectmen signed the final agreement form with Whitman & Howard to perform the study involving the MDC's proposed Sudbury River diversion;
  - The Selectmen worked with the Town Treasurer on the final processing of municipal bonds for the police station addition;
  - The Board accepted donations to the Council on Aging totaling \$847.05;
  - Performance reviews for individually-rated personnel were conducted;
  - Cleanup items concerning the police station addition, and a well-attended open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly renovated station on November 8, 1981, were handled by the Board;
  - The Selectmen continued monitoring, along with the Board of Health, waste disposal concerns at Coatings Engineering and Sperry Research;
  - Rita C. Cobb and Richard P. Stitt were appointed to the Insurance Advisory Committee; and Douglas Lewis was appointed new Security Guard/Custodian and Special Police Officer;
  - The Board unanimously supported the Bottle Bill by way of communications to State Representatives;
  - A retail package goods store license to sell beer and wine was approved for Sudbury Farms;
  - The formulation of the Selectmen's submissions of articles for the Annual Town Meeting and a report for the Capital Improvement Program were completed;
  - The Selectmen denied an application of Sudbury Variety to increase the number of automatic amusement devices;
- Following consultation with the Board of Selectmen, the Town Facilities Committee is now preparing its final report for the Board;
- The Board executed a purchase and sale agreement for the purchase of approximately 15 acres of Conservation Land and agricultural preservation of approximately 21 acres of the Barton Land;
  - A general meeting with the Personnel Board in preparation for this year's Annual Town Meeting was held;
  - The Board met with Gold Star Nurseries for a preliminary site plan review and discussion for property located on Codjer Lane;

- The Board accepted bids for the printing of the Town Report and Proceedings;
- The Board was represented at the Massachusetts Municipal Association's annual meeting; Sudbury received a third-place award for the 1980 Annual Town Report; Chairman Donald congratulated the Town Report Committee.

Chairman Donald noted the following reminders:

- Warrant articles are due December 1 and December 31;
- budgets are due December 15 to the Town Accountant;
- financial statements for the Town Report should be submitted to the Town Accountant for approval by December 1, and narrative reports to the Selectmen's Office, together with financial reports, on January 10.

Chairman Donald asked for reports from those boards and committees that were present.

Richard F. Brooks, Lincoln-Sudbury Regional School District Committee (LSRSDC)

Mr. Brooks reported that the LSRSDC is in the process of hiring a new principal - Mr. Brad Sargent is currently acting principal; that Mr. Anthony Zarella had been recently appointed as Special Needs Co-Ordinator for kindergarten through eighth grade and a business manager will be hired for both systems. The LSRSDC is working on specifications for the new bus contract, which, hopefully, will be a joint contract for the whole Town (one contract for all Sudbury schools, and one contract for Lincoln students at the High School).

Mary Jane Hillery, Memorial Day Committee

Ms. Mary Jane Hillery expressed the desire of the Memorial Day Committee to have some local groups march in the Memorial Day Parade. Ms. Hillery spoke about reactivating a writing contest for students entitled, "What Memorial Day Means To Me", with a dinner at the Wayside Inn for the winner.

Aleta F. Cane, Goodnow Library Trustee

Ms. Cane stated that the Goodnow Library Trustees have had to deal with boiler problems - the Library will have to pay for labor, but not the materials. Ms. Cane reported that \$5,000 in fine money had been turned over to the Town since June, when the fines were reinstated.

William W. Cooper, Operational Review Committee

Mr. Cooper reported that there should be some activity on the Septage Disposal Facility site shortly, and that construction will take about one year.

Michael J. Cronin, Finance Committee

Mr. Cronin stated that the Finance Committee had sent out letters to all boards and commissions relative to budgetary matters, and that it was the hope of the FinCom that everyone will come up with a frugal request.

Fire Chief Josiah F. Frost

The Fire Chief reported ninety-six emergency calls this month; that he plans to fill the Departmental vacancy by December 6th; that the Department will make home fire safety inspections at the request of the homeowner and encourages the same, citing one incident where this type of inspection prevented a fire emergency before it happened.

Town Treasurer Chester Hamilton

Mr. Hamilton stated that no further borrowing will be necessary to pay the Town's short-term borrowing debt, due December 15, since tax collections are coming in ahead of forecasts made by the Treasurer's office earlier in November.

Robert A. Noyes, Highway Surveyor

Mr. Noyes reported that the Highway Department, in its regular program of maintenance, is preparing for winter; i.e., raking leaves, doing cemetery maintenance and vehicle maintenance, and cleaning out catch basins.

Isabelle K. Stone, Collector of Taxes

Mrs. Stone stated that the real estate tax bills went out on December 7, the Personal Property taxes, on the 16th, and the agricultural use properties on the 21st. As of last Friday, November 23, the Town had collected \$645,015.33 in 1981 taxes.

William P. Reed, Insurance Advisory Committee

Mr. Reed stated that the Committee will be meeting next week and hopes to discuss those subject matters brought to their attention by the Board of Selectmen.

Joseph E. Scammon, Building Inspector

Mr. Scammon reported that house permits are up this year over last by approximately twelve, at this time; that stove permits are up to seventy-one for this year, with twelve issued during the month of November; that the Fire Station on Route 117 had been broken into; and that he is working on inspections of local establishments in conjunction with annual license renewals.

Joan C. Irish, Conservation Commission

Mrs. Irish reported on Wetland Protection Act hearings, and stated that there are three vacancies on the Conservation Commission now; the most recently known future resignee is Rebecca Ritchie.

Rebecca Ritchie, Conservation Commission

Ms. Ritchie reported that the Sudbury River is being considered as a scenic river under the State Scenic River Program Statute; Ms. Ritchie suggested that the Suasco and Concord Assabet Water Shed be contacted. Mr. Thompson stated this required no action on the part of the Selectmen, but that Town meeting vote would be necessary at some point in time if the Sudbury River is to be defined as a scenic river.

Donald P. Peirce, Board of Assessors

Mr. Peirce reported that the Assessors have been considering for the next Town Election a referendum question dealing with 1) open space classification for the Town of Sudbury; and 2) if two tax rates should be set as opposed to one. Mr. Thompson explained the process for submitting a referendum question.

Mr. Brooks asked the Selectmen about the status of the Neelon property dispute and Mr. Thompson replied that the Selectmen have been working in conjunction with the Town of Wayland Selectmen and engineers, and that a meeting with them is forthcoming.

At the conclusion of the reports, Chairman Donald recessed the meeting for coffee and conversation.