

TOWN FATHERS FORUM  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1982

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

At 8:00 p.m. Chairman Cossart convened the 146th Session of the Town Fathers Forum, and reported on the Board's activities over the summer months, as follows:

- The Board took action on three site plans, denying two submitted on the controversial Senecal property on Codjer Lane, and permitting modification of the Chiswick Trading Co. plan at the former site of the Sudbury Skating and Tennis Club; approved nine utility petitions; three, temporary, one-day liquor licenses for various organizations, one transient vendor license, use of two temporary trailers and permitted outdoor dining at Something Simple.
- The Board joined in a cooperative agreement for fuel oil supply and contracted for burner service, awarded bids on two police vehicles, approved a computer for the Engineering Department, authorized the refurbishing of Fire Engine #2, authorized the purchase of a mailing machine for the Town Hall, and approved the lease/purchase for a new ambulance funded under the 1982 Annual Town Meeting.
- A new police officer, Peter Fadgen, was added to the roster, replacing Officer Fitzgerald who retired in June.
- After extensive interviews, Stefanie Reponen was appointed by the joint vote of the Boards of Selectmen and Assessors to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. McClure.
- Two committees, the Inflammables Storage Bylaw Committee and the Town Facilities Committee, were dissolved; resignations were accepted from the Cable Advisory Committee.
- Dr. Shephard Johnson tendered his resignation on the Council on Aging due to relocation, and Rev. Robert Trache of St. Elizabeth's was appointed to finish Dr. Johnson's term.
- The Town will also miss Becky Ritchie's endeavors on behalf of the Conservation Commission, particularly in the area of farmland preservation which culminated in the signing of the Shick land deed this past June, transferring the Lincoln Road parcel to the Massachusetts Farm and Conservation Lands Trust in order to ensure its future in agricultural production.
- In other personnel matters, the Selectmen signed two-year contracts with the Police, Fire and Highway Unions and the Sudbury Supervisory Association, and approved pay raises for Town non-union employees.
- Gifts totalling \$1,725, including the proceeds of the Historical Commission's yard sale, were accepted as donations to the Edwin Barrett Hosmer Memorial fund, and \$193 was accepted on behalf of the Council on Aging.
- In financial matters, Tax Anticipation Notes in the amount of two million dollars were approved, as well as municipal bonds to fund the roofing work on the Curtis Middle and Noyes Schools.

- General meetings were held with the Town Accountant, Highway Surveyor, Town Engineer and the Insurance Advisory Committee.
- A Special Town Meeting was called for October 7, and meetings were held with the Permanent Building Committee and Town officials in relation to Articles 1 and 2, Fairbank School and Town office space requirements. Fourteen other articles, including the land swap between Wayland and Sudbury to accommodate disenfranchised Sudbury voters, were accepted for inclusion in the Special Town Meeting Warrant. A meeting with Town officials will be held on Saturday, October 2, at 9:00 a.m. to review and agree upon finances and procedures for the Special Town Meeting.
- Legal action was instituted to appeal the Department of Revenue equalized valuation figures for the Town.
- Lincoln-Sudbury West will continue classes at the Fairbank School.
- The Board is still in discussion with Ft. Devens Army personnel relative to their use of the Military Reservation.
- Meetings were held with the Committee on Town Administration relative to their feasibility study of a Public Safety Commissioner for Sudbury. At the conclusion of the study and their report, it was recommended not to proceed.

Chairman Cossart asked for reports from those committees and boards present.

Julia R. Barker - Permanent Landscape Committee

Mrs. Barker reported that the Permanent Landscape Committee had selected a tree to be planted at the Police Station in the fall with some underplanting to be done next spring. The tree will cost \$135 and will be paid for by the Permanent Landscape Committee.

James A. Pitts - Finance Committee

Mr. Pitts stated that the Finance Committee met and took positions on all the articles for the October 7 Special Town Meeting and prepared a report for the Warrant setting forth alternatives for the allocation of unanticipated State reimbursements. The Finance Committee is dealing with the fact that Proposition 2 1/2 is forcing the Town to do more in terms of long-term financial planning, and will ask all boards and committees to submit a second year budget projection with each budget request.

Chairman Donald P. Peirce, Board of Assessors

Mr. Peirce stated that the Assessors have finished their work for FY83 as it relates to real property; they have 100 parcels of commercial property to do; the utilities are finished; and there are a few new parcels of personal property to be determined. Mr. Peirce stated that the final values are being prepared. Mr. Peirce further stated that there does not appear to be a substantial increase in property values in Town this year because the 1980 and 1981 sales analyses indicate a 93% of market value factor.

Richard O. Bell, Conservation Commission

Mr. Bell reported that the Commission's main activity is holding Wetlands Protection Act hearings, of which there were ten this summer - a much higher than usual number. Mr. Bell stated that there are generally seven or eight over a year's time, and that this year the Commission has held twenty to date.

Chester Hamilton, Town Treasurer

Mr. Hamilton stated that municipal bonds have been issued for the roofing of the Curtis (Middle) and Noyes Schools, and two million dollars has been approved for borrowing, effective September 29.

William P. Reed, Insurance Advisory Committee

Mr. Reed reported on plans to file the necessary forms relative to pollution insurance coverage and expressed his great concern regarding the importance of the same. This type of insurance would protect the Town against suit of negligence on the Town's part regarding pollution, such as by Coatings Engineering. Mr. Reed also conveyed the Committee's recommendation that the Town's umbrella policy be increased by two million dollars.

Fire Chief Josiah F. Frost

Chief Frost reported on the normal Fire Department's functions over the summer and stated that two captains had retired after thirty and thirty-five years of service; the two new captains are Joseph Helms and Gerald Spiller.

Joseph E. Scammon, Building Inspector

Mr. Scammon reported as follows:

- new house permits - 32 to date; 2 this month compared to 8 last year.
- relative to Longfellow Glen - there are 120 units planned with the following breakdown: one with 28 units; one with 30 units; one with 50 units (these are all apartments); one with 8 town houses and one with 4 town houses (these are both two-story buildings).

Police Administrative Assistant Peter B. Lembo

Sergeant Lembo presented the following statistics:

	1982	1981	
- rape	1	0	
- robbery	5	1	
- assaults	15	17	
- break and entry	74	124	-40% (decrease in gold and silver)

- larceny	150	239	-37%
- motor vehicle theft	12	10	
- Totals	257	391	-34.3%

The value of property stolen is down 36%; recovery up 61%.

There were 275 accidents in 1981 - 255 to date in '82, down 7%

Fatalities in 1981 equalled 2; there are none this year to date.

W. Burgess Warren, Historic Districts Commission

Mr. Warren stated he had nothing to report.

Chairman Eileen M. Todd, Talent Search Committee

Mrs. Todd stated she had no report; she introduced a new member to the Committee, Mary Anne Dignan.

Chairman Albert S. Feinberg, Sudbury Housing Authority

Mr. Feinberg introduced Jo-Ann Howe who is replacing Executive Director Lucille Crist. Mr. Feinberg commented that he would like to see more accuracy by the Sudbury Town Crier in reporting the news, since a recent article stated that the appointment was made at a closed meeting in Executive Session, when in fact it was done at a public meeting.

Jane A. Neuhauser, Park and Recreation Commissioner

Mrs. Neuhauser reported as follows: that the Park and Rec. Commission will re-evaluate the summer swim program to see if it is financially feasible to continue the program next year in view of the small number of children who participated this summer; that, due to input from Fairbank School area parents, that playground was opened for the summer and was the best attended program; that with the help of the Kiwanis Club, who will do the planning, Park and Rec. is looking into installing a dirt bike trail (to be used by non-motorized dirt bikes); and soccer and football fields have been prepared for the fall season.

Town Report Award

Chairman Cossart announced that Sudbury's 1981 Town Report was awarded first place in the Annual Town Report Contest by the Massachusetts Municipal Association. The presentation will be made at the Friday Awards Dinner scheduled at 7:00 p.m., November 12, in conjunction with the MMA Annual Meeting.

Chairman Cossart adjourned the meeting for coffee and conversation.