

TOWN FATHERS FORUM
MONDAY, MAY 23, 1983

Present: Chairman John E. Murray, Anne W. Donald and Myron J. Fox.

Chairman Murray convened the 150th Town Fathers Forum at 8:00 p.m. and reported the Selectmen's activities for the past three months, following which he called on the various Town officials and representatives for reports:

- In personnel matters, the Board accepted the resignation of Francis Flynn from the Police Department. A requisition for Patrolman Flynn's replacement has been filed as required with the Division of Personnel Administration. Also, the Selectmen are proceeding with annual appointments at this time.
- The Board accepted approximately \$950 in grant money and miscellaneous donations for the Council on Aging van transportation program; \$9,305 as a payment in lieu of taxes from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and approximately \$25 to be added to the Town's Discretionary (Charity) Fund.
- Three site plan hearings were held: McGreenery - renovation and addition to office buildings off Boston Post Road; Sudbury Motor Parts for change in use of the building housing Thrifty Liquors; and Mugar for a new building at the Star Market Plaza. The Mugar hearing has been continued to June 6 to allow the Conservation Commission to formulate an Order of Conditions on the project. The Board also allowed an amendment to the Granco, Union Ave., site plan to accommodate construction of a loading dock. Proposed amendments to the Selectmen's Site Plan Rules and Regulations have been reviewed by the Board and sent for comment to the appropriate Town officials.
- The following licenses were granted: weekday and Sunday entertainment at Papa Gino's; Sunday entertainment renewals to Sudbury Bowladrome and "99" West; one-day wines and malt beverages license to First Parish for a fundraiser; and a one-day auctioneer license for the Parvenik benefit auction. In addition, the Selectmen approved the temporary use of a trailer for dwelling purposes, approved four utility petitions and allowed poppies to be sold by the American Legion.
- Relative to public safety, the Selectmen discussed speed humps with Longfellow Road residents and provided for posting of Sherman Bridge weight limits. In the near future a public meeting will be held to discuss problem traffic situations exacerbated by new building.
- The long-awaited Cable Hearing was held on March 21, followed by a decision of the Board on March 23 to grant a provisional cable television license to Adams-Russell Telecommunications Group of Waltham. This decision has since been appealed by Community Cablevision to the Massachusetts Cable Television Commission.

- a large amount of time was directed, of course, to Town Meeting preparation and Town meeting concerns such as Powder Mill Road. Town Meeting's decision to discontinue Powder Mill Road has since been appealed to the County Commissioners by the Town of Maynard. It is our belief that the Commission lacks jurisdiction in the matter.
- The Board met with the Historical Commission relative to selection of a designer to carry out renovations in the Hosmer House and an application for Preservation Development Program matching funds in the amount of \$25,000 to carry out such work.
- The Board also worked with the Highway Department to solve the problem of containing the trash dumped at the Landfill to prevent it from blowing onto adjacent property. A new regulation requiring bagging of trash was adopted.
- The Selectmen proclaimed Earth Week early in May which culminated in the Town's Clean-up Day on May 15th. The Selectmen wish to thank Administrative Secretary Janet Silva for organizing the entire campaign and for the many extra hours of involvement on her part. May was also recongized as Historic Preservation Month.
- In real estate matters, the Board approved an Agricultural Preservation Restriction application on the Stone Tavern Farm, Boston Post Road, which will be forwarded to the State by the Conservation Commission for approval. The Board also indicated its willingness to accept the historic landmark known as "Ford's Folly", located off Brimstone Lane, from WestWay Hill's owner and developer Arden MacNeill. A draft lease was reviewed relative to Fairbank School and forwarded to the Regional High School Committee for review and a lease proposal was discussed with a community group for the Loring School building.
- In financial matters, the Selectmen recently approved and signed Tax Anticipation Notes in the amount of \$900,000.
- Meetings were also held with the Permanent Landscape Committee and with the Board of Assessors relative to the Assistant Assessor position and classification. On-going matters such as the Fort Devens plans for use of the Sudbury Annex are receiving attention on a continuing basis in liaison group meetings which the Executive Secretary is coordinating.
- In the midst of all this business, the Board had the honor of welcoming a delegation of citizens from Sudbury, Ontario on the weekend of April 16 and hosted the group at the luncheon at the Wayside Inn. Selectman Donald will be Sudbury ambassador to Sudbury, Ontario's 100th Anniversary in June.

Superintendent Joseph D. LoPresti

Dr. LoPresti reported, in part, as he had to the School Committee in March, that the 1982-83 school year had been an active one. In terms of curriculum, they are focusing on the science and social studies areas; computers are available

in the 5th and 6th grades this year and will be available to the 7th and 8th graders next year; and there has been an increase in communication between the Lincoln-Sudbury and Sudbury School systems.

Dr. LoPresti reported further that despite a 19% reduction in students and staff and a 50% reduction in buildings over the past four years his staff is co-operative and strives for "importance in excellence". Sudbury School Committee member, Judith Torian arrived later and reported similarly on the goals of the School Committee for the upcoming year.

Building Inspector Joseph E. Scammon

Mr. Scammon reported that construction is active - new house starts are up with 18 this year as of May 1. Additions this year, 40 to date, compared to a total of 32 last year. Demolitions: present Cumberland Farm complex will be going down, as will the real estate office next to Marrone's Bakery so that the 424 Realty Trust Site Plan can get off the ground. Responding to the Building Inspector, who requested that the "Rainbow Covenant" signs be removed, Mr. Thompson stated he would call the person responsible.

Town Treasurer Chester Hamilton

Mr. Hamilton stated that, as he had advised on May 9, it would be necessary to renew the \$3,000,000 borrowing (borrowed February 23) that was due June 15. Also, he will ask to be on the Selectmen's June 6 agenda to renew the \$900,000 borrowing which matures June 30. Mr. Hamilton stated that he hoped to be successful in getting through June with no additional borrowing but that around the first of July he will be borrowing again due to late mailing of tax bills; Mr. Hamilton said he felt the Cherry Sheet would not be distributed on schedule which could affect the calling of an October Special Town Meeting and could cause a delay in sending out tax bills in October for fiscal '84.

Regarding an October Special Town Meeting, Mr. Thompson stated that it may not be necessary depending on an opinion from Town Counsel who is looking into the wording of the 83ATM vote regarding the "use of free cash". Mr. Thompson added that a meeting is scheduled with McGee and Magane and the State at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning to do the final re-checking of values, and that within seven days the Assessors and Selectmen will hold a public hearing and set the tax rate. Tax bills could go out by the middle of June.

George D. Max, Goodnow Library Trustee

Mr. Max expressed appreciation of the fine work being done by the Executive Secretary, the Town Engineer and the Highway Surveyor to alleviate any further water problems and damage at the Library. He stated that the Trustees are meeting Wednesday night, May 25, to review the recommendations provided by those Town officials on how to proceed.

Town Clerk Jean M. MacKenzie

Mrs. MacKenzie stated that she is completing all Town Meeting requirements; appointed an Assistant Town Clerk, Florence Fosgate (who has worked eight years in the Town clerk's office) and is now looking for a replacement for Mrs. Fosgate's previous position.

Richard O. Bell, Chairman, Conservation Commisison

Mr. Bell reported that there has only been one one new filing under the Wetlands Protection Act since April; and that the Commission is looking for a replacement for Lynne Remington.

Fire Chief Michael C. Dunne

Chief Dunne reported that fire activity is down but that the ambulance is extremely busy. He expressed concern about people who depend on the Fire Department regularly to pump their homes rather than take the responsibility of getting their own pumps, and that he would like to develop some type of policy which would address this situation. Some alternatives might be to put those people on waiting lists, which would give others priority; charging user fees; develop guidelines whereby the Fire Department would handle first-time emergencies free of charge but if called on a "maintenance basis", there would be a justifiable charge for the service. The Chief commented that he is attending a retirement party for a Firefighter who was injured last September, and stated that with new State legislation he hoped the situation would improve so that a person injured in-the-line-of duty can be retired in less than eight months!

Town Accountant James Vanar

Mr. Vanar stated he is continuing to work on the 1982 audit.

James A. Pitts, Chairman, Finance Committee

Mr. Pitts announced the appointment of a new member to the Finance Committee, William Gervais, and that the Town Moderator will make two additional appointments. He reiterated what Mr. Thompson had stated earlier regarding the calling of a Special Town Meeting. Also responding to Selectman Fox regarding Finance Committee recommendations (both pro and con) being printed for every article in the Warrant in the future, Mr. Pitts stated that this could place the FinCom in the position of defending articles and he felt it was the proponent's obligation to do so; if someone had a special interest, he would encourage that individual to attend their FinCom posted meetings. Selectman Fox pointed out that the Finance Committee should take a position on every article and asked Mr. Pitts to bring his recommendations before his Committee. Mr. Thompson stated that Mr. Fox's recommendations of April 25, 1983 which included this subject were forwarded to the FinCom in writing on May 2.

Before Chairman Murray concluded the 150th Town Fathers Forum, Mr. Thompson commented that, at the 100th Town Fathers Forum on June 23, 1975, State Office of Communities and Development Secretary Flynn was guest speaker and a citation had been presented to Sudbury from Governor Dukakis; also, the then Fire Chief Josiah F. Frost had introduced newly-appointed Captain, Michael Dunne!

There being no further business, Chairman recessed the Town Fathers Forum for coffee, cake and conversation.