

TOWN FATHERS FORUM  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1984

Present: Chairman Anne W. Donald, Myron J. Fox and Josiah F. Frost.

At 8:00 p.m. Chairman Donald convened the 157th Session of the Town Fathers Forum and reported the following items which represent Board of Selectmen action over the past month.

- Site plan review consumed the major portion of the four meetings held since the last Forum and resulted in: approval of the Raytheon expansion conditioned primarily upon certain traffic mitigation measures; a revision of the Sudbury Crossing plan for a change in location of an automatic drive-up teller and parking spaces; and an extension of the Patti/Orr site plan to allow completion of the 215 Boston Post Road complex.

- The Selectmen, in an effort to preserve the projected life of the Landfill and comply with DEQE regulations, approved an extensive redraft of the Landfill Rules and Regulations and successfully petitioned the Finance Committee for a transfer of funds in order to hire a Landfill Monitor for the heavily-used site. The new rules, which go into effect as of November 20, regulate residential and commercial use and establish criteria for permits and fees. Beginning November 20, the Landfill will operate Tuesday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

- Personnel matters were discussed extensively by the Selectmen, and the five Sudbury Police Sergeants have been interviewed for the position of Police Chief. Two appointments were made during the month: Gerard Butler as a Special Police Officer, and Elaine Aschettino to the Town Report Preparation Committee. The Selectmen also expressed their support for the creation of a Youth Commission as put forth by the Sudbury/Wayland Lions Club.

- The Selectmen were pleased to announce that the 1983 Town Report had been awarded first place in its population category by the Massachusetts Municipal Association. Also announced was the designation of October as United Way Month at the request of the Municipal Chairperson, Fire Chief Dunne.

- Several licenses were granted during this period: a Class II Motor Vehicle License for Mark J. McCall, 18 Moran Circle, in accordance with a Board of Appeals permit; a 6-month maximum extension of the Coatings Engineering Inflammables Storage License; and a Weekday Entertainment License for Background Music at Philip's Pizza.

- Donations of \$118.50 were accepted by the Selectmen on behalf of the Council on Aging for use in the van transportation program.

- The Selectmen discussed and endorsed requesting the assistance of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) with regard to a study of water resources which, in addition to the Route 20 Master Plan update, and the work of the Planner, will facilitate a coordinated effort to develop an article for Town Meeting consideration to protect those vital resources. The Planning Board will work in conjunction with the Conservation Commission on final plans for a study and warrant article.

Chairman Donald asked for reports from Town officials and the various representatives from Town boards, commissions, and committees.

Town Treasurer Chester Hamilton

Mr. Hamilton stated that, to date, \$93,000 had been collected on the real estate tax bills mailed out October 12 (due November 15), and that he invested \$200,000 from the Stabilization Fund for six months at 13.5%, a percentage recently offered by a area bank.

Responding to Selectman Fox, Town Accountant James Vanar stated that the stabilization fund could have only been used for school purposes in the event a Special Town Meeting were called within the period that the funds were invested.

Town Clerk Jean M. MacKenzie

Mrs. MacKenzie stated that her office has been busy preparing for the upcoming election - a 3-4 month process; that she had arranged for a one-page, non-political advertisement in The Bentley explaining a "yes" and "no" response to the ballot question (the Selectmen agreed that a press release explaining the pros and cons of the ballot question should be initiated through their office and so directed the Executive Secretary); and reported voter statistic information, i.e., 10,822 people in Sudbury eligible to vote, 9,156 registered, over 4,000 are registered as independent.

Building Inspector Joseph E. Scammon

Mr. Scammon reported that this year to date there have been seventy new house starts compared to a total of fifty-four last year; the total estimated value for new homes is \$6,991,000 which represents an average cost per new home in Sudbury of \$99,875, more than \$35,000 in permit fees, and twenty million dollars in assessed valuation.

Police Administrative Assistant Peter Lembo

Sergeant Lembo reported that, according to the Massachusetts Crime Reporting Unit of the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety, Sudbury is reported to be one of the ten lowest crime cities in the State and noted in Boston Magazine as one of the ten safest town in which to live.

Sergeant Lembo stated that, through the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety, under a three-year grant, the Police Department hopes to offer to the schools (grades K-8) "Officer Phil's" Program - a children's clinical awareness seminar, which he briefly explained to the Board. Sergeant Lembo stated that Sudbury's is the third department in the State to start this program, a program endorsed by Nancy Reagan, Governor Dukakis and Senator Atkins, among others. He stated further that it will require approval of the School Committee.

Clifford J. Hughes - Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority

Mr. Hughes informed the Board that the MBTA budget had increased drastically, that he did not believe it would not pass in the legislature, and that this increase would drastically affect Sudbury's Cherry Sheet.

Mr. Hughes also mentioned that the Council on Aging's grant application for a senior citizen/handicapped van had been approved and should be expected this spring.

Fire Chief Michael Dunne

Chief Dunne reported that, due to the lack of rain, many areas of the Town have been hard hit with brush fires; also, major fire damage was done to a house on Hammond Circle.

Marjorie Wallace - Finance Committee

Ms. Wallace reminded people of the November 1 budget meeting, to which all Town officials, boards, commissions, submitting budgets for the Warrant, are invited to discuss budget procedure; also, she noted that Bette Crawford has resigned from the Finance Committee.

Town Accountant James Vanar

Mr. Vanar stated that approximately \$6,000 will be certified in free cash, effective July 1, 1984, as submitted to the Department of Revenue.

Mr. Vanar stated he expects delivery of the Accounting Department computer system tomorrow, but because the computer contract with IDM has not been negotiated, the software will not be delivered. Mr. Vanar stated that, once Town Counsel and counsel for IDM can reach agreement on the terms of the contract, the software will be delivered and he will be able to use the complete system. The Selectmen asked Mr. Vanar to check with Town Counsel and report back to the Board next week, and directed Mr. Thompson to have Town Counsel report back the following week when he plans to be in attendance.

Russell P. Kirby - Ancient Documents Committee

Mr. Kirby reported that the Ancient Documents Committee will update the Records Management Program manual with input from the appropriate Town officials and boards following which it will be submitted to the Supervisor of Public Records in the State House to make sure no statutory regulations are overlooked in terms of disposal of documents.

Gordon D. Henley - Conservation Commission

Mr. Henley reported the following involvement of the Commission over the past month:

- Wetland Protection Act hearings have slowed down after a hectic summer;
- Commission sees a continuing need for involvement between Town agencies and developers to be sure Town regulations are being adhered to;

- Two major subdivisions have been filed - Great Pond Woods and White Pond;
- Processing paper work for Stone Tavern Farm for the closing in mid-December; (The Treasurer stated that he would like a 2-3 week advance notice of the closing so that he can prepare the necessary paperwork for the bond.)
- Scheduled a public hearing, Thursday, November 15, for discussion and input on the subject of a Land Bank Tax, with the idea of presenting the same to Town Meeting; (Selectman Fox stated he has problems with the concept - reservations regarding the precedent this would set; therefore, felt an override of Proposition 2½ legislation would be preferable, i.e. a non-binding referendum question on the ballot in the spring.)
- The Water District is interested in the parcel of land known as Ford's Folly, being offered to the Town as a donation, regardless of the fact that there is no access to the site (a concern expressed in the past by the Selectmen and the Conservation Commission; there is also the public liability issue should the land be accepted by the Town); Mr. Henley stated that the Commission is in the process of writing to the owner to update the details of current ownership of this parcel;
- Hunting will be allowed on the conservation land known as Lincoln Meadows; however, the Commission is limiting the issuance of hunting permits to thirty; (After comments by Selectman Frost and responding to him, Mr. Henley stated that the State Game Warden is the person that would respond to a hunting complaint.)
- Conservation land maps are in the process of being printed; the cost is \$500 for 1,000 copies;
- Working with the Planning Board on what alternatives are available with regard to protecting the Town's water supply;

Helen Casey, President - League of Women Voters of Sudbury

Ms. Casey shared with the Board a communication dated October 18, 1984, congratulating the League on their October 2 public meeting - "Shaping A Town: A Symposium on Land Use", and commending the speakers as well as the community on the earnestness of their concern on the subject. At Selectman Fox's request, Ms. Casey provided the Board with a copy of the letter.

Handicapped Discrimination Regulations

Executive Secretary Richard E. Thompson explained that, in accordance with a timetable for compliance with administrative requirements of the handicapped discrimination regulations set forth by the Office of the Secretary of the Treasury, Washington, D. C., he, as appointed co-ordinator (in February), is working toward compliance in the following areas:

- A legal advertisement of the Town's intention to meet said requirements was published in a local paper early this year.

- A handicapped discrimination grievance procedure for the Town of Sudbury was drafted under deadline date of October 17 and is on the Selectmen's agenda for acceptance later this evening.

- A "self-evaluation" is in the works; the deadline for completion was October 17. Mr. Thompson explained that all governments must complete a self-evaluation of all programs, activities, etc., for accessibility by handicapped citizens and employees; this self-evaluation is to include determination regarding non-structural and structural modifications to Town buildings to accommodate handicapped access, a timetable for completion, and the cost of each. Mr. Thompson went on to explain that the self-evaluation is to be done in conjunction with interested persons, including handicapped persons and organizations representing handicapped persons. Mr. Thompson explained that the Supervisor of Town Buildings, Douglas Lewis, has been working with him; also, the Massachusetts Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities and the Greater Framingham Association of Disabled Persons will be contacted.

Mr. Thompson stated that structural changes must be completed by October, 1986, for the Town to receive its Federal Revenue Sharing monies. Compliance will be verified through the Towns' yearly audit. Mr. Thompson asked for input for all department heads, boards and committees.

The Town Clerk objected to the manner in which the Town's evaluation was being done. She felt it had been a "one man" evaluation, that a self-evaluation team is non-existent. She stated further that regulations state that the self-evaluation must be done by a citizens review committee made up of Town officials, citizens, handicapped people and agencies/groups/individuals dealing with handicapped, and that there is no valid evaluation without involvement of the handicapped. She stressed that Sudbury should follow the correct procedure to rightfully receive its Federal Revenue Sharing monies. She also pointed out that Sudbury had missed the October 17 deadline for submitting the self-evaluation to which Mr. Thompson responded he was aware that he was late, reiterated the involvement of agencies working with handicapped and or Town employees, i.e., Building Department, Schools, that the Selectmen did have the handicapped discrimination grievance procedure, which had been prepared under date of October 17, 1984, for approval later in the evening, that following completion of the self-evaluation, a transition plan (noting structural changes) would be prepared and implemented according to regulations.

There was some discussion, brought up by the Town Treasurer, regarding whether the amount of Revenue Sharing funds warranted implementing what could be costly modifications to Town buildings in order to comply with these Federal regulations. Mr. Hamilton pointed out that the cost (approximately \$15,000) of the Town Audit should be considered a factor in the total cost as well, since it is also a requirement of receiving Federal Revenue Sharing money.

Responding to Selectman Fox, the Town Accountant stated that the Town receives approximately \$38,000 quarterly in Revenue Sharing.

At the conclusion of discussion, Chairman Donald adjourned the Town Fathers Forum for coffee and discussion.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Richard E. Thompson  
Executive Secretary-Clerk