

IN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1985

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

The statutory requirements as to notice having been fulfilled, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Library of the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School.

Joint Meeting/Park and Recreation Commission

Present: Chairman Jane A. Neuhauser, Donald R. Soule, Peter A. Berkel, Rosalyn J. Drawas and Robert J. Myers, Jr., Park and Recreation Commission.

Chairman Fox explained the Selectmen's position with respect to the Park and Recreation budget and Article 16, a \$40,000 appropriation request for Haskell recreation improvements. He stated that the Selectmen are not going to ask for the budget to be held, and that they need to decide what they will do with respect to Article 16. He stated the Selectmen have no problem with the Commissioners requesting the \$40,000 but they do not agree with the priorities set by the Commission, i.e., the bathroom/shelter facility at Haskell and the paving of the parking area there. Selectman Fox stated that the Selectmen did not support the construction of a bathroom facility/shelter because of the close proximity of the Fairbank facility across the street and because of anticipated vandalism of the structure, and they did not support the paving of the large parking area which they felt would destroy the natural appeal of the area. Selectman Fox stated that the Selectmen were concerned with the 100% cost over-run of the project (\$45,000 was appropriated at the 84ATM for the bathroom facilities and a new paved parking area).

Selectman Fox went on to say he had not understood from the Selectmen's meeting with Chairman Jane Neuhauser (February 11, 1985) that the Commission had awarded the contract for the completion of the paving.

Mr. Berkel explained that the Commission opened bids on January 10 and at its meeting of January 23 voted to award to the contractor and was committed to him. When Mrs. Neuhauser met with the Selectmen on February 11, it was her understanding that she had explained that action to the Selectmen. Selectman Fox stated that there must have been a miscommunication as this was not the Selectmen's understanding.

Responding to Selectman Fox, Mr. Berkel stated that the contractor had staked out the field today and planned to complete the work within one week to ten days. Mr. Berkel went on to say that, if Town Meeting approves Article 16, there will be enough money to complete the top coat of the parking area and paint lines; without approval of the appropriation article, the parking lot will have a weakened surface and there will be a risk of it cracking.

Responding to Selectman Frost, Mr. Berkel confirmed that, of the \$40,000 appropriation under Article 16, \$16,000 would be for the completion of the paving and \$24,000 for the bathroom/shelter facility.

Selectman Fox referenced the Park and Recreation "change notice" handout on Article 16; it explains the change in the Article since it was printed in the Warrant.

Regarding the cost over-run, the Commissioners stressed that bids for the parking came in higher than expected - at a mean of \$78,000. Mrs. Neuhauser stated that their original estimates were based on architectural plans that a Harvard School of Design student had prepared; they were not engineering plans and when engineering was included the cost increased.

Responding to Selectman Frost, Mrs. Neuhauser stated that the cost of the water is included under plumbing and electricity on the change notice handout; Mr. Berkel stated that the septic system for the facility has already been installed.

Selectman Frost stated he still had a problem with the building and the fact that there was a possibility the paving job would not be completed if Article 16 were defeated and this would result in a breakdown in 2-3 years and would be a waste of approximately \$35,000.

Responding to Selectman Frost, Mrs. Neuhauser showed the Selectmen a new plan drawn by W. H. Porter, dated February 19, 1985, showing a new design for the structure. The plan showed a cluster of three hexagon shaped buildings - a bathroom facility, an open, covered shelter, and an equipment storage area. The structure will be of steel and wood, steel supports on a cement slab.

Following further comments and discussion, Selectman Donald complimented the Commissioners for doing a lot of homework.

At the conclusion of discussion, it was on motion by Selectman Fox unanimously

VOTED: To withdraw the Board's opposition to Article 16, Haskell Recreation Area, and, instead, to support the same.

At the suggestion of the Executive Secretary, Mr. Berkel stated the Commissioners would look into the availability of federal funding; Mr. Thompson expressed willingness to help if needed.

Mrs. Neuhauser invited the Selectmen to a formal dedication of Feeley Park, Monday, May 6, at 7:00 p.m.

Walkway Articles 31 and 32

Present: Town Engineer James V. Merloni.

The Town Engineer confirmed that, for at least the last ten years, it has been the practice of Town Meeting, when dealing with walkway articles, to appropriate engineering money the first year and construction monies the second.

Parker Academy

Executive Secretary Richard E. Thompson gave the Board a copy of a communication dated April 1, 1985, from Atty. Michael S. Hargreaves, on behalf of Parker Academy, suggesting that Town Counsel meet with trial counsel, Marc Redlich, regarding the cease and desist order issued by Building Inspector Joseph E. Scammon, and the Board agreed that Town Counsel would pursue the matter and report back.

Finance Committee Meeting

At 7:50 p.m. the Selectmen joined the Finance Committee meeting (the Town Accountant and the Town Engineer were also in attendance) for a general discussion regarding intersection improvements and specifically 85ATM Article 15, Intersection Improvements.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Attest:

Richard E. Thompson
Executive Secretary-Clerk