

IN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1985

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

The statutory requirements as to notice having been fulfilled, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Donald.

Resignation/Election Officer

It was on motion by Selectman Frost unanimously

VOTED: To accept the resignation of Winifred Fitzgerald as an Election Officer, dated February 12, 1985, effective immediately, and to direct the Executive Secretary to forward an appropriate letter of appreciation to Mrs. Fitzgerald for her service to the Town.

Minutes

It was on motion by Selectman Fox unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the Regular Sessions of February 11 and 19, 1985, both as corrected.

Joint Meeting/Aquifer Study

Present: Richard O. Bell, Gordon D. Henley, Deborah Montemerlo, Conservation Commission; Chairman Marjorie E. Wallace, Christopher F. Baum, Carmine L. Gentile, Finance Committee; Michael W. Guernsey, Board of Health; Helen Casey, President, League of Women Voters; Henry P. Sorett, Personnel Board; Planning Administrator Lee Newman; Morton L. Brond, John C. Drobinski, Lael M. Meixsell, Planning Board; Judith A. Cope, Wayland-Sudbury Septage Facility Operational Review Committee, and approximately 20 other residents.

Chairman Donald convened a joint meeting with the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, and Finance Committee to discuss the aquifer study (Article 11 on the Water District Warrant and Article 14 on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.)

By way of further explanation, the Selectmen collectively stated the following:

- Article 11 does not include any money and, legally, it would not be possible to amend the Article on the floor of the meeting from zero dollars to any sum of money.

- The Selectmen propose an amendment to Water District Article 6, which currently asks for approximately \$20,000 for well exploration, so that it will ask, instead, that the money be appropriated for an aquifer study, based on a study recently completed by Dr. Edward Chiang, entitled, "Report on Raymond Road Aquifer Study, dated January 1985, i.e., "It is recommended that a study of the water supply system and long range water resource plan should be conducted. A review of the Town of Sudbury growth pattern, water

consumption trend, etc. would help to develop a long range water resource plan".

- It has been a consensus of opinion, with agreement of Water District Commissioners, at a joint meeting held by the Planning Board to discuss the necessity of an aquifer protection study, that an article should be placed in their Warrant for their Annual District meeting to fund said study.

- If the Moderator does not allow the amendment under this article, it is the Selectmen's recommendation that Article 6 be voted down and a special Water District meeting be petitioned within the next ten days for the purposes of an appropriation article for an Aquifer Study.

- Twenty thousand dollars would be enough money to do an Aquifer Study for at least the Pratt's Mill Road area; the Water District could then submit a contingency plan which would set forth priorities to continue the study in other areas of the Town with a \$20,000 appropriation request each year until a Town-wide Aquifer Study is completed.

Responding to the Selectmen, Planning Administrator Lee Newman stated that the Planning Board plans to meet with consultants who have submitted proposals to discuss the same and any new guidelines which are under consideration by the Planning Board as a result of Dr. Chiang's report.

Selectman Frost personally felt that the Aquifer Study was the responsibility of the Water District and felt that the District should carry out its responsibilities by supporting an appropriation article for an Aquifer Study at its District meeting.

Board of Health Chairman Michael Guernsey pointed out that the Planning Board had initially suggested that \$50,000 would be needed to do an complete aquifer protection study and recommended that, if a special Water District meeting were petitioned, the article ask for this amount.

Selectman Frost responded that, legally, that is possible, but felt that it could lead to a taxing situation, adding that he was not sure Dr. Chiang could complete the work in one year; also, it would be more appropriate to do one section at a time so long as the Water District prepares a contingency plan for the whole Town.

Upon questioning, Selectman Frost explained that a Water Tax would entail a separate tax bill to all people in the Water District regardless of whether or not they had private wells; there would be a small segment of people in Town who are not in the Water District and who have private wells who would not be taxed.

Planning Board member Morton Brond expressed concern regarding who would have "control" of the study. He felt there should be some assurance that Town officials and boards would have easy access to all the information they need, and felt there should be more involvement by Town boards in terms of obtaining the pertinent information required by them and having it available to them.

Selectman Fox expressed his opinion that part of the problem is that people should be more active in attending Water District meetings to be sure that things happen that are in the best interest of the Town.

Although there has been a lot of concern regarding water (and water protection) by Town officials and boards, Chairman Donald stressed that only as voters of the Water District can these issues be (discussed and) resolved.

Mr. Brond suggested that future consideration be given to increasing the number of Commissioners in the Water District in order to provide a broader and more diverse opinion in that segment.

Mr. Brond commented further that the Planning Board is very concerned about coming up with a methodology of insuring protection of our aquifer zones and stated that he was not sure whether Dr. Chiang could provide that; it was his hope that the consultant doing the aquifer study could provide some guidance in that direction.

Chairman Donald stated her opinion that the report by Dr. Chiang does offer some guidance in the "conclusions and recommendations".

Planning Board member Mike Meixsell asked if the motion by the Selectmen to amend Article 6 could include a clause which would assure that the money would be spent under the jurisdiction of the Planning Board, the Board of Health, the Conservation Commission, with technical advice from the Water District consultant.

Selectman Frost stated his position that the Town could tell the Water District what should be done but not how to do it.

Mr. Meixsell stated that his past experience has been that the studies and plans prepared for the Water District are sometimes looked at differently by other Town boards; also, that this material is not always made available to other boards by the Water District. He felt there should be some co-ordination between the Water District and the other town boards.

Selectman Fox stated that the Selectmen had appointed Ms. Newman as liaison for all water-related issues and to work with all Town boards and co-ordinate the use of this information so that there would be a common resource. He reiterated that the Water District meetings are open, public meetings, and stressed attendance.

Resident Cliff Hughes asked how Dr. Chiang's study differs from the Mott's (hydrology) study which had been completed about 6-7 years ago at a cost of \$50,000.

Mr. Meixsell explained that the Water District felt that some of the information in the Mott's study was incorrect and that it was done on the basis of information which was already available to the Town unlike Dr. Chiang's study which was done based on current field studies.

Following discussion it was on motion

VOTED: To withdraw Article 14, Aquifer Study, from the 85ATM Warrant.

(Chairman Donald, in favor; Selectman Frost, in favor; Selectman Fox, opposed.)

Selectmen Donald and Frost supported the above motion on the basis that other money articles on the 85ATM Warrant have priority, because the Finance Committee did not recommend any money for Article 14, because no additional information would be gained by further discussion on Town Meeting floor, and because it is the responsibility of the Water District and they should carry out their responsibilities. Selectman Fox opposed it because he did not think the Town should wait another year to have an Aquifer Study done if the amendment should fail at the Water District meeting.

At the conclusion of discussion, Chairman Donald thanked everyone for their interest and attendance this evening.

Utility Petition 85-7/Willis Road

Present: Robert Mallis, Boston Edison Company.

In conformity with General Laws, Chapter 166, Sections 21 and 22, the Board considered Utility Petition 85-7 of Boston Edison Company and New England Telephone and Telegraph Company for permission to lay and maintain, and a location for, such a line of conduits and manholes with the necessary wires and cables therein, under the following public way of the Town:

Willis Road - easterly approximately 1,231 feet north
of Maynard Road, a distance of about 3 feet - conduit.

Executive Secretary Pro Tem Janet Silva noted that all appropriate abutters had been notified, and that the Building and Wiring Inspectors recommended approval by communication dated February 20, 1985.

Following a brief explanation by Mr. Mallis of Boston Edison, it was on motion by Selectman Fox unanimously

VOTED: To approve Utility Petition 85-7, as described above and as shown on plans entitled, "Boston Edison Company Engineering and Construction Dept. Plan of Willis Rd., Sudbury Showing proposed location of customer conduit", dated December 26, 1984, and "Plan For Conduit Location to Accompany Petition of New England Telephone and Telegraph Company", dated February 20, 1985.

Federal Funding/MBTA

Present: Clifford J. Hughes, Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) Designee.

Against the recommendation of Clifford J. Hughes, Designee to the MBTA, following discussion; it was on motion by Selectman Fox unanimously

VOTED: To authorize the Chairman to sign a letter to be sent to the United States Congress in conjunction with other MBTA communities urging rejection of reductions in funding for public transportation.

The Selectmen agreed with the facts presented by Mr. Hughes, i.e., that the Advisory Board is managing the budget poorly - increased last year over \$40,000,000 from previous year, significant losses noted in audit reports, etc.; however, the Selectmen did not agree with Mr. Hughes' conclusions and felt something should be done to make the MBTA more efficient. Mr. Hughes responded that he had recommended that at the last meeting, but that the budget keeps going up!

Appoint Executive Secretary Pro Tem

It was on motion by Chairman Donald unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Janet Silva as Executive Secretary Pro Tem for the purposes of this meeting.

At 8:00 p.m., Chairman Donald recessed the meeting in order for the Selectmen to attend the Water District's Annual District Meeting in the upper Town Hall; the meeting was reconvened at 10:45 p.m.

MCSA Meeting

Selectman Frost indicated he would attend the Middlesex County Selectmen's Association meeting, Wednesday, March 13, at Bedford Stouffer's Glen.

Minuteman Planning Council Meeting

Selectman Frost stated he planned to attend the Minuteman Planning Council meeting Thursday, February 28, and, with the concurrence of the Board, stated he would convey the Board's position opposing a bill filed by Senator Amick, as stated at its February 11 meeting. Said bill would establish a Massachusetts Regional Planning District Environmental Commission to deal with regional issues, which the Board felt was a duplication of work already being done by other regional committees and, if this legislation passed, it would place too many restrictions on municipalities and commercial property owners.

85ATM Petition Articles 35 & 36 - Open Space

Following a brief explanation by Executive Secretary Pro Tem Janet Silva, it was on motion by Selectman Fox unanimously

VOTED: To re-accept petition articles 35 and 36, regarding open space districts which had been re-submitted with new signatures due to a technicality in the manner in which the petitions had been previously signed.

85ATM Article 34 - Stabilization Fund

It was on motion by Selectman Fox unanimously

VOTED: To accept the new language for Article 34, Stabilization Fund, and approve the corresponding Warrant report, as amended.

Girl Scout Week

It was on motion by Selectman Fox unanimously

VOTED: To proclaim the week of March 9 through 16 as Girl Scout Week in the Town of Sudbury, as requested in a communication, dated February 24, from Barbara Ann Cook, Service Unit Chairperson, Town of Sudbury Girl Scouts.

SHA/MAPC Services

Executive Secretary Pro Tem Janet Silva reported to the Board that David F. Grunebaum had called to advise the Board that the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) is working on a housing needs study for the SHA without using Sudbury's allotment of "free" MAPC service hours (approximately 75 hours annually).

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Attest: _____
Janet Silva
Executive Secretary Pro Tem