

TOWN FATHERS FORUM
MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 1985

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

Department Heads not in attendance were: Town Engineer, Library, Health Director, Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Town Accountant.

Chairman Donald convened the 159th Session of the Town Fathers Forum and reported the Selectmen's action over the past two months as follows:

- Five site plans were approved allowing completion of the Vanaria building (housing HealthFirst) at 440 Boston Post Road, utilization of a recently purchased soccer field for Camp Sewataro off Haynes Road upon Board of Appeals approval, enlargement of the Automotive Diagnostic Center facility at 100 Boston Post Road, installation of NEXRAD and RAMP towers at Raytheon Company's Boston Post Road site, and the installation of a temporary "bubble" warehouse at Chiswick Trading off Union Avenue.

- In addition, all annual licenses have been renewed.

- In financial matters, Reimbursement Anticipation Notes for \$30,000 were renewed on the Dutton and Union Avenue reconstruction projects; bonds were sold to the Stones to finalize the acquisition of development rights to the 56-acre portion of Stone Tavern Farm; miscellaneous donations of \$111 were accepted on behalf of the Council on Aging for its van transportation program; and as Co-Trustees of Town Donations, concurrently with the Treasurer, approval was granted for expenditure of \$6,000 in Goodnow Library Trust Fund interest income for repairs and equipment.

- Selectmen warrant articles and reports were reviewed for submission in preparation for the Annual Town Meeting, and extensive budget hearings were held with departments under the jurisdiction of the Board. A Special Town Meeting was called within the Annual Meeting for the purpose of increasing the FY85 appropriations in the Blue Cross/Shield, Casualty Insurance and Unclassified Salary Adjustment accounts to meet projected requirements. Joint meetings have been held with the Personnel and Planning Boards to discuss warrant article submissions and, to date, a thirty-four article Warrant has been ordered. A group of designated Town officials and League of Women Voters representatives will be meeting soon to explore ways to better inform the townspeople regarding Town Meeting affairs and procedures.

- The Board and remaining Sudbury Housing Authority members met in joint session for the purpose of holding interviews to fill the position recently vacated by Charlotte Goss; Clifford Askinazi was elected at the second meeting. In other personnel matters, Town Clerk Jean MacKenzie resigned as State Census Supervisor; Town Accountant James Vanar has been designated as Town Computer Coordinator; Mark Hynes was hired as Landfill Monitor and was recently appointed a Special Police Officer; Officer Peter Langmaid was appointed Acting Sergeant while the Selectmen requisitioned a certification list, and earlier tonight was appointed as a temporary full-time Police Sergeant. Additionally, as part of the Selectmen's ongoing commitment to control rising health insurance costs, a Sudbury Group Insurance Advisory

Committee will be formed to study modification of the Town's health insurance coverages and plan.

- A contract was awarded for Town gasoline supply; also, the purchase of four police cruisers was approved under the Greater Boston Police Council bid award and a bid award was made for the purchase of a new Building Department vehicle.

- In addition to various meetings with other boards and the Water District for discussion of Town Meeting matters, joint meetings with the Conservation and Park and Recreation Commissions were held relative to land management of parcels under their respective jurisdictions.

- In regional matters, an informal conditional commitment has been made for Sudbury's participation in the Wachusett Regional Waste Disposal Study, Town officials have met with the MetroWest and MetroWest North (now Minuteman Regional Planning Council) groups relative to subregional studies, and have also been involved in discussion on various levels with regard to the surplus 300-acre portion of the Natick Laboratories Annex in Sudbury.

Chairman Donald read submitted reports from the Finance Committee (brief update on budget and warrant articles still to be formally voted on by the FinCom), the Planning Board (explanation of action on a 26-acre and a 7-acre sub-division plans and notification of public hearings on Warrant Articles February 19 and 26), and the Sign Review Board (brief update on applications).

Chairman Donald asked for reports from Town officials, departments, boards and commissions present.

Michael W. Guernsey - Board of Health

Mr. Guernsey reported on the financial status of the Wayland/Sudbury Septage Facility, which is supported by user fees under Massachusetts General Laws, and reported on well testing which the Board of Health has been doing in conjunction with the Water District Commissioners.

Town Treasurer Chester Hamilton

Mr. Hamilton indicated that bonds on Stone Tavern Farm had been delivered to the Stones this month, and that he anticipates approximately \$2,000,000 in short-term borrowing this spring.

John C. Powers - Historical Commission

Mr. Powers reported that the Commission had now sold enough cup plates to cover the initial cost of them, and future proceeds will be profit; also, the second round contract on the Hosmer House will be put out to bid approximately April 8.

Robert A. Noyes - Highway Surveyor

Mr. Noyes reported on the following Highway Department business:

- on-going equipment maintenance;
- purchased a sweeper for \$700 through surplus;
- the Department has been working on walkway trimming, and tree trimming is being done by Boston Edison;
- Landfill monitor is working out well - there has been a noticeable decrease in the number of commercial haulers.

Fire Chief Michael Dunne

Chief Dunne reported three house fires this past month and commended his Department for keeping the loss on the three homes, worth approximately \$250,000 down to only \$40,000. The Chief commended one of his EMTs for performing CPR and saving a resident in cardiac arrest; he said that he will be recommending the honoring of this EMT at an awards ceremony at the Maynard Elks, March 2. The Chief further reported that the new fire engine had been delivered and all firefighters had been trained on it; that he has one firefighter opening and received about twenty applications; and that the Fire Department received a public service award from the Sudbury Grange.

Police Chief Peter Lembo

Chief Lembo reported as follows:

- the Department will receive a computer (including software and paper) February 11 donated from Digital; an Acton police officer has volunteered to assist in getting the necessary programs on it;
- Sudbury's crime rate is down by 20%; according to the Uniform Crime Report, Sudbury has the lowest crime rate of sixty area towns so far this year;
- there has been an increase in shop lifting as a result of the new shopping centers in Town;
- there has been a higher than usual number of police-investigated accidents of late.

Col. Paul J. Leahy, Council on Aging

Col. Leahy reported good attendance at the drop-in center; that the new van is expected within the next three months and that Friends of Senior Citizens will pay Sudbury's share, \$3,300; and that fourteen volunteers at the center were taken to lunch at the Wayside Inn.

Building Inspector Joseph E. Scammon

Mr. Scammon reported that as of the end of calendar year 1984, ninety-three single family house permits had been issued compared to previous years of 69, 46, 43 and 32! Additions were down to 127 from 138; swimming pools were up to 31 compared to 17 the previous year. During January, five single family house permits were issued. Mr. Scammon gave a brief update on the commercial development under construction at this time.

MaryAnn K. Clark, Board of Appeals

Ms. Clark stated that there was a significant increase in the number of applications which came before the Board of Appeals in 1984 - 64 compared to 48 in 1983. She felt this was mainly due to their new duties under the Sign Review Bylaw. Selectman Fox commented that an article in the Warrant for the 85ATM asks that the Sign Bylaw be taken out of the Zoning Bylaw and put into the Town Bylaw under the Sign Review Board which will help relieve the workload of the Board of Appeals.

Susan F. Abrams - Sudbury School Committee

Ms. Abrams reported as follows:

- the budget has been finished and submitted to the Finance Committee;
- bids for school bus contracts are being reviewed - specifications included with and without seat belts;
- curriculum is being reviewed, i.e., computers now in grades 5-8; catalyst program now in grades 4-7;
- absentee check in place with present secretarial staff and is within the confines of the school budget.

Donald R. Soule - Park and Recreation Commission

Mr. Soule reported the following:

- new baseball lights at Feeley Field through the Friends of Park and Recreation;
- Haskell Field's baseball field is being groomed;
- plans for Rotary Club to help fund a toddler park at Haskell;
- in serious talks with Lincoln-Sudbury to combine the outside field personnel at Lincoln-Sudbury and the two men under the supervision of Jack Braim (Park and Recreation) to take care of all the grounds for the High School and Park and Recreation;
- a brochure on the Town's recreation activities will be available this spring.

Edwin A. Blackey - Historic Districts Commission

Mr. Blackey reported that there is a Historic District violation, which has been outstanding for almost five years, at Village Green, and that the District is depending on the Selectmen to resolve the issue.

Gordon C. Henley - Conservation Commission

Mr. Henley reported on the following:

- working with Stone Tavern Farm on trail easements;
- involved in the major sub-division, Wright Farm, and recently gave input to the Selectmen on the Chiswick site plan;
- a New Bedford representative filed general legislation for a land bank tax to cover the entire State. Conservation will hold a meeting February 6 on that subject; also, a meeting will be held February 27 with developers and real estate agents;
- a land use conference is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15;

- budget includes a request for a significant contribution to the open space fund.
- acceptance of Ford's Folly is still an open, active issue;
- newly printed conservation land maps are available at Town Hall;
- the Commission is still identifying open space parcels in Town and is aware of several Agricultural Preservation Restrictions potentials and several large parcels of open space.

Henry P. Sorett - Personnel Board

Mr. Sorett reported that the Board had taken a favorable position regarding the Sick Leave Bank article for the 85ATM; that data is being compiled on the subject of salary scales for elected officials which reflect the actual work being done; and that it is not possible for this part-time board to provide the necessary data to implement non-union re-classification for the 85ATM, but, hopefully, for the 86ATM.

Helen Casey - League of Women Voters

Mrs. Casey invited everyone to attend a champagne birthday party for the League's 65th year, February 6, at 7:30 p.m. at the Wayside Inn.

Chairman Donald adjourned the Town Fathers Forum for coffee and conversation.

Attest: _____
Richard E. Thompson
Executive Secretary-Clerk