

IN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1985

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

o The statutory requirements as to notice having been fulfilled, the meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Fox.

Executive Session

At 7:30 p.m. it was on motion by roll call

VOTED: To enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing transactions in real property (Walker Farm, Goodman Hill Road), where open discussion may have a detrimental effect on such transactions.

(Roll call vote: Chairman Fox, in favor; Selectman Frost, in favor; Selectman Donald, in favor.)

Chairman Fox stated that Open Session would reconvene immediately following the Executive Session.

Precinct Boundaries

Chairman Fox convened a public hearing on the question of voting to redefine present voter precinct boundaries within the Town of Sudbury, in accordance with MGLc.54 and as required by the Massachusetts Local Election Districts Review Commission, Secretary of State, in conjunction with conduct of the 1985 State Census.

There being no public input and in accordance with the recommendation of the Census Supervisor, it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To redefine the boundaries of precincts 1, 2 and 4 within the Town of Sudbury, in accordance with General Laws Chapter 54 and as required by the Massachusetts Local Election Districts Review Commission, Office of the Secretary of State, as shown on a map entitled, "Precinct Map, Town of Sudbury, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, 1985", and described as follows (Precinct 3 included for reference):

PRECINCT 1

BEGINNING at the Sudbury-Maynard-Acton-Concord town corner; thence running

SOUTHEASTERLY along the Sudbury-Concord town line to the Sudbury-Concord-Lincoln-Wayland town corner; thence

SOUTHERLY along the Sudbury-Wayland town line to its intersection with Pantry Brook; thence

WESTERLY along Pantry Brook to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts railroad layout; thence

NORTHERLY along the railroad layout to Haynes Road; thence

WESTERLY along Haynes Road to Marlboro Road; thence

SOUTHWESTERLY along Marlboro Road to Morse Road; thence

SOUTHEASTERLY along Morse Road to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts railroad layout; thence

SOUTHWESTERLY along the railroad layout to Hudson Road; thence

WESTERLY along Hudson Road to Maynard Road; thence

NORTHWESTERLY along Maynard Road to the Sudbury-Maynard town line; thence

NORTHEASTERLY along the Sudbury-Maynard town line to the point of beginning.

PRECINCT 2

BEGINNING at the intersection of the Sudbury-Maynard town line and the southwesterly boundary of Precinct 1; thence running

SOUTHEASTERLY along the southwesterly boundary of Precinct 1 to its intersection with Hudson Road; thence

WESTERLY along Hudson Road to Run Brook; thence

SOUTHERLY along Run Brook to its confluence with Hop Brook; thence

SOUTHEASTERLY along Hop Brook to Peakham Road; thence

SOUTHWESTERLY along Peakham Road to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority railroad layout; thence

NORTHWESTERLY along the railroad layout to the Sudbury-Marlborough town line; thence

NORTHEASTERLY along the Sudbury-Marlborough, Sudbury-Hudson, and Sudbury--Stow town lines to the Sudbury-Stow-Maynard town corner; thence

EASTERLY along the Sudbury-Maynard town line to the point of beginning.

PRECINCT 3

BEGINNING at the intersection of the Sudbury-Marlborough town line and the southwesterly boundary of Precinct 2; thence running

SOUTHEASTERLY along the southwesterly boundary of Precinct 2; thence continuing

SOUTHEASTERLY along the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority railroad layout to the Sudbury-Wayland town line; thence

SOUTHERLY along the Sudbury-Wayland town line to the Sudbury-Wayland-Framingham town corner; thence

WESTERLY along the Sudbury-Framingham town line to the Sudbury-Framingham-Marlborough town corner; thence

NORTHEASTERLY along the Sudbury-Marlborough town line to the point of beginning.

PRECINCT 4

BEGINNING at the intersection of the Sudbury-Wayland town line with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority railroad layout; thence running

NORTHWESTERLY along the northern boundary of Precinct 3 to its intersection with the southeasterly boundary of Precinct 2; thence

NORTHEASTERLY, NORTHWESTERLY, NORTHERLY & EASTERLY along the southeasterly boundary of Precinct 2 to its intersection with the southeasterly boundary of Precinct 1; thence

EASTERLY, NORTHEASTERLY, NORTHWESTERLY, NORTHEASTERLY, EASTERLY, SOUTHERLY AND EASTERLY, along the southeasterly boundary of Precinct 1 to the intersection of Pantry Brook with the Sudbury-Wayland town line, thence

SOUTHERLY along the Sudbury-Wayland town line to the point of beginning.

The number of inhabitants in each of the above-described precincts, as nearly as such number may be determined, is: Precinct 1 - 3,457; Precinct 2 - 3,320; Precinct 3 - 3,459; Precinct 4 - 3,500; as taken from the 1985 State Census.

And it was further on motion unanimously

VOTED: To request the Town Clerk to transmit this adopted precinct map entitled, "Precinct Map, Town of Sudbury, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, 1985", together with the above statement of population count, forthwith to the Secretary of State, attention Local Election Districts Review Commission.

Brush/Stump Removal

Present: Highway Surveyor Robert A. Noyes; and Town Engineer James V. Merloni.

Chairman Fox convened a meeting with the Town Engineer and the Highway Surveyor to discuss procedures the Town should follow in the wake of Hurricane "Gloria".

The following points were discussed:

- Wood and brush may be disposed of at the Landfill with a special permit in accordance with the Town's Rules and Regulations Governing the Operation of the Sanitary Landfill, section 5.B.: a) in maximum lengths of thirty-five inches; and b) commercial operators must chip all material three inches or greater in diameter.
- Stumps, from whatever source, may not be disposed of at the Sanitary Landfill (Rules & Regs., Section 5.C.).
- The Highway Department will pick up trees and accompanying branches which have fallen into the public way or onto private property from the public way, starting with primary roads, branching off to secondary roads, and, eventually, but not for at least a month, roads in subdivisions will be cleared.
- To keep Landfill use at a minimum, the Park and Recreation Commission is being requested to consider allowing the use of the Davis Land for the purpose of burying stumps and burning brush.
- Accordingly, the State, through Representative Lucile Hicks and the Massachusetts Municipal Association, have been contacted relative to this concern requesting emergency burning privileges.
- Residents will be informed as soon as possible regarding use of the Davis Land, as noted above, and whether permission is granted from the State which will allow the Town a burning dispensation.

Chairman Fox stated that he received the following status report from Boston Edison earlier this evening:

- tree work is 90% completed, i.e., tree companies have been hired by Boston Edison to remove fallen/broken branches from utility wires.
- many homes are still without electricity but most all power will be installed by tomorrow, except for isolated cases.

Chairman Fox commented that Sudbury is fortunate to have had such good cooperation from Boston Edison - he stated there are nine Boston Edison crews working in Town. He commented further that Sudbury is in much better shape than neighboring towns - for example, Framingham was not able to have school today because of Town-wide loss of power.

Mr. Thompson stated that people who are unable to get water from their wells due to no electric power can contact the Fire Department. Chief Dunne stated that the Fire Department had provided water to three families on French Road today.

Selectman Frost asked the Chief how he felt about a permanent location in Town for year-round burning, or for certain time periods at intervals throughout the year.

Chief Dunne expressed his opinion that, although it seemed to be a good suggestion, it would be difficult to do, mostly, because it would mean someone would have to be there at all times, and also, because it could become a place for people to dispose of other debris and rubbish, however illegal it may be.

Amend Traffic Rules and Orders

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To adopt amendments to the Town's Traffic Rules and Orders, as follows:

- a) By amending Article VII, Section 8, by adding stop sign locations 1) on Haynes Road at Pantry Road, and 2) on Deacon Lane at Pantry Road, both as requested by the Highway Surveyor and concurred with by the Police Safety Officer and the Town Engineer;
- b) By amending Article VIII, Section 1, entitled, "Drivers Must Report Accidents", to conform with Chapter 168 of the Acts of 1985, increasing the amount of property damage necessary for mandatory reporting of motor vehicle accidents, so that Section 1 reads as follows:

"Section 1. DRIVERS MUST REPORT ACCIDENTS. Every person operating a motor vehicle which is involved in an accident in which any person is killed or injured or in which there is damage in excess of one thousand dollars to any one vehicle or other property shall, within five days after such accident, report in writing to the registrar on a form approved by him and send a copy thereof to the police department having jurisdiction on the way where such accident occurred; provided, however, that such police department shall accept a report filed by an owner or operator whose vehicle has been damaged in an accident in which another person has unlawfully left the scene of such accident, in accordance with Chapter 90, Section 26, of the General Laws."

Streetlights

Present: Highway Surveyor Robert A. Noyes; and Town Engineer James V. Merloni.

On the question of responding to a communication dated July 18, 1985, from Boston Edison Company informing the Town of its policy not to allow further installation of incandescent streetlights and asking for the Town's position on freezing further installation of mercury vapor streetlights and, instead, installing high pressure sodium street lights, the Board acknowledged receipt of the following communications:

- from the Planning Board dated September 17 stating non support of the installation of high pressure sodium streetlights mainly due to the illumination color; additionally, the Planning Board expressed the opinion

that, as a general policy, streetlights should be limited to locations where there is concern for public safety, such as dangerous intersections; the Planning Board would be willing to consider the retirement of all incandescent streetlights along Route 20 and their replacement with mercury vapor units;

- verbal response from the Board of Health on July 25, 1985, offering no comment or concern;

- verbal response from Weston Town Manager W. Carter on July 26, 1985, indicating that Weston is opposed to the use of high pressure sodium lights because of the pinkish/orange hue they impart, and indicating that the mercury vapor lights cast a blue/greenish hue which is not as offensive and which provides a better distribution of light than incandescent.

Highway Surveyor Robert A. Noyes agreed that the hue from high pressure sodium streetlights is not attractive but suggested the possibility of allowing Boston Edison to install a couple on a trial basis.

He went on to say that Boston Edison has not been very cooperative in responding to his request to replace approximately thirty-one incandescent bulbs in streetlights which are not operating. (Mr. Noyes responded to the Selectmen that he would forward to them a copy of that communication.)

Mr. Noyes explained that the existing incandescent streetlights are amortized over a twenty-five year period; that a vote of the Selectmen to upgrade by changing these lights to mercury vapor could mean a new 25-year contract, and a subsequent vote to upgrade from mercury vapor to high pressure sodium could then result in a back charge of a fee unknown. Mr. Noyes stated that to upgrade, for example, from incandescent (800 lumens) to mercury vapor (3500 lumens), usually would result in no charge, but to upgrade again (in a short time) to high pressure sodium could result in a back charge.

The Highway Surveyor felt that the installation of Town-wide mercury vapor streetlighting, rather than to high pressure sodium as Boston Edison is requesting, would mean that his budget would have to be increased to some degree and that the whole picture should be looked at more carefully.

Responding to Selectman Donald, the Town Engineer stated that Route 20 has both incandescent and mercury vapor streetlights.

Selectman Frost suggested high pressure sodium streetlights be installed on Route 20 from the Wayland line to Peakham Road, because they are a brighter light making visibility better; that mercury vapor streetlights be installed from Peakham to Wayside Inn Road, and that only incandescent be used on Wayside Inn Road and in other historic districts.

Mr. Noyes agreed with Selectman Frost that high pressure sodium, although a different type of lighting (not real bright) does light up a larger area.

Executive Secretary Richard E. Thompson suggested installing high pressure sodium on a trial basis from Concord Road to Horse Pond Road; Selectman Frost stated he would be happy to have them in front of his house on Maynard Road for the trial period.

Town Engineer James V. Merloni indicated that high pressure sodium lighting actually is the best type of light in fog and, therefore, recommended their installation in any areas of Town which are notably "fog areas".

Following further discussion, it was on motion by Selectman Fox

VOTED: To direct Boston Edison to install/maintain only incandescent lighting in the historic areas in Sudbury; specifically, Sudbury Centre and Wayside Inn Road; all other streetlighting to be only mercury vapor, subject to allowing the Town Engineer and the Highway Surveyor to jointly waive the use of mercury vapor lights in cases where such lighting will be objectionable or offensive to abutting properties.

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

Dispose of Obsolete Equipment

It was on motion by Selectman Fox unanimously

VOTED: To approve a request to dispose of obsolete, irreparable equipment, itemized in a September 11, 1985, communication from the Building Inspector.

Warrant/Budget Schedules for FY87

Present: Stephen D. Ellis, Finance Committee.

Following a brief discussion, it was on motion by Selectman Donald unanimously

VOTED: To approve warrant and budget schedules for the 86ATM, prepared by the Executive Secretary under date of September 30, 1985.

Warrant to Dog Officer

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To authorize the Chairman to sign a Warrant to the Dog Officer relative to unlicensed dogs in the Town, in accordance with G.L.c.140,s.151A.

Responding to Chairman Fox's question, Executive Secretary Richard E. Thompson stated he will evaluate the question and report back to the Board whether or not notices to owners of unlicensed dogs should be sent out in advance of the notice of penalty and/or court action next year.

Election Officer Appointment

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To acknowledge receipt of a letter dated August 27, 1985, from Cheryl Rogers declining appointment as a Teller for the Democratic party due to her move out of state.

and it was further on motion unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Maurice J. Fitzgerald, 200 Concord Road, as Teller for the Democratic party as Cheryl Rogers' replacement, for the 1985-6 year expiring August 15, 1986.

Minutes

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the Regular and Executive Sessions of September 18, 1985, both as amended.

MetroWest Traffic Study/Appoint Sudbury Co-ordinator

At the request of Selectman Donald and on recommendation by the Executive Secretary, the Board concurred to designate the Town Engineer, with the assistance of Officer William Carroll, as the Co-ordinator(s) for the Town of Sudbury in conjunction with the regional traffic study being conducted by MetroWest.

Suburban Coalition

The Board acknowledged receipt of a communication dated September 24, 1985, from the Suburban Coalition, with revised wording relative to an article to be included in the warrant for the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA)/Massachusetts Selectmen's Association (MSA) Annual Meeting, and the same article, in the form of a resolution, to be presented at the Massachusetts Association of School Committees meeting, relative to providing state aid to cities and towns at a minimum increase annually of 2½% of the preceding year's tax levy beginning in 1987; the Board will take further action at a later date.

October Town Fathers Forum

At the suggestion of Chairman Fox, the Board agreed to invite the Chairman of the Finance Committee to address the October Town Fathers Forum on the subject of budgetary procedures for FY87.

Police Training/Liability to Towns

Chairman Fox brought to the Board's attention a recent newspaper article regarding the Town of Saugus being held liable by the court because a Saugus police officer's actions proved to be in error due to lack of training; he referred the article to the Police Chief and Town Counsel.

Hosmer House Caretaker

It was on motion by Selectman Fox unanimously

VOTED: To approve and concur with action taken by the Historical Commission as explained in its communication of August 20, 1985, in the vacating of the Hosmer House.

Town Counsel Paul L. Kenny stated he would follow up and report back to the Board.

Health Insurance

Chairman Fox commented on the various methods being investigated by the Town to try and reduce health insurance costs, i.e., the Executive Secretary has been meeting with a newly-established employees' health committee comprised of representatives of the various Town departments and unions, and will be meeting with the Insurance Advisory Committee. A meeting was held today, September 30, with a representative of Blue Cross/Blue Shield regarding "Master Health Plus", a health insurance to replace Blue Cross/Blue Shield Master Medical. That meeting was attended by the largest union in Town, the Sudbury's Teachers Association, and the leadership of that group is recommending to the members that they consider switching to Master Health Plus for several reasons, some of which follow: a) freedom of choosing one's own doctor; b) no additional claim forms to file; c) covers students until age 23 unlike Sudbury's Master Medical which covers only to age 19; and d) tremendous savings to the Town.

Selectman Fox explained that switching to Master Health Plus must be endorsed by all the unions and indicated that the Selectmen would be glad to have a representative from Blue Cross/Blue Shield return and discuss the program with the other unions as they did for the teachers.

Chairman Fox directed Mr. Thompson to do the following: 1) determine what percentage of Town employees have master medical, and 2) determine what those employees will save each month if they switch from Master Medical to Master Health Plus.

Mr. Thompson stated he would do so and also bring a summary of the Master Health Plus contract to the Selectmen's next meeting for their information.

Environmental Program/Bay Circuit Greenbelt

In accordance with a communication from the State Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, dated September 10, 1985, and on the recommendation of the Executive Secretary, it was on motion by Selectman Frost unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Gordon C. Henley, as local representative to a regional committee associated with the State Department of Environmental Affairs, in conjunction with the Bay Circuit Greenbelt program; and further, to appoint Lael M. Meixsell as alternate.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Attest: _____

Richard E. Thompson
Executive Secretary-Clerk