

TOWN FORUM  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1987

Present: Chairman Anne W. Donald, David A. Wallace and John C. Drobinski.

At 8:00 p.m. Chairman Donald convened the 173rd Session of the Town Forum.

Selectmen's Summary

Highlights of the Board's actions since the last Forum were summarized by Chairman Donald as follows.

With the aid of Budget Analyst Terri Ackerman, proposals were sought for Fiscal Year 1988 town insurance coverage and the Board contracted to continue coverage with the Middlesex Insurance Company for property, liability and auto insurance, and to change insurance company for Workers' Compensation from American Mutual to MIIA (Mass. Interlocal Insurance Association).

In June, a meeting was held regarding the Lowell-Sudbury Bike Trail feasibility study. It was agreed that a public hearing will be conducted this Fall for attendance by local abutters.

After several revisions and agreement by town boards and abutters, a site plan special permit was granted to James DiGiandomenico for an office building at 344 Boston Post Road on September 21, 1987.

A list of new appointments by the Board was read.

A transcript of the Willis Hill Package Sewage Treatment Plant hearing of August 4, 1987, is available for review in the Selectmen's Office. A new Residential Wastewater Treatment Facilities Advisory Committee has been appointed.

The office has been working with the Zoning Enforcement Agent, Town Counsel and the Planning Board in enforcing cessation of zoning violations and has been attempting to work with commercial property owners to screen, improve and control litter on premises.

In other business it was noted that

A two-year lease for Lincoln-Sudbury West to continue to use Fairbank Community Center was finalized,

a contract for Space Analysis Study was awarded Wilcox Associates, who is currently at work,

and the Resource Recovery Committee has submitted its first set of recommendations for action.

Report - State Representative Lucile Hicks

Representative Hicks updated the Town on the Bill regarding automobile insurance by stating the Bill received an unfavorable report in the House Ways and Means Committee, which means there will probably be no action on it this

year. She further informed that the Health Care Bill is being delayed and it is her opinion that this additional time will net a better Bill. Of particular interest to the Town, Representative Hicks stated she filed legislation on September 25, 1987, that will require DEQE to set up rules and regulations for package sewage treatment plants before permits are granted. She noted that the Bill she proposes goes farther than what the Secretary of State presently is proposing. The Secretary will require Environmental Impact Reports; Representative's Hick's proposed legislation will require that rules and regulations be established. These will be formulated with the help of an eleven-person advisory committee which will include a variety of representatives from construction people to health care people. She has received good reaction to the Bill and it will be reported to the Natural Resources Committee. She concluded by stating that although she has received unfavorable calls from some developers, it is her belief that in the long run this Bill will prove good for them as well, because it will afford them a framework with which to work from.

#### Board of Assessors

Linda Z. Buxbaum reported the Board of Assessors had provided the Board with a written breakdown of the growth in value of Sudbury property. She was pleased to note that, thanks to the additional staff and a new computer systems, the tax bills are being more timely mailed.

#### Historic Districts Commission

Chairman Donald reported that Burton Holmes of the Commission was required to leave the Forum early and he would therefore submit a written report to the Board at a later date.

#### Historical Commission

Lynn MacLean reported for the Commission and provided the Board with a written outline of its many activities, which included continuing renovation of Hosmer House, a successful "Yankee Doodle Yard Sale", and an Art Show held at Hosmer House.

#### Town Treasurer

Town Treasurer Chester Hamilton was pleased to report that the \$1,000,000.00 borrowing authorized by the Board on September 21, 1987, may be considerably less and the date of repayment may be shortened.

#### Town Clerk

Town Clerk Jean M. MacKenzie reported her office is preparing for the upcoming election year and invited the public to view a demonstration of a new voting machine to be held at the next Selectmen's meeting.

#### Conservation Commission

Cheryl Baggen of the Commission reported that representatives of the television series "Spenser For Hire" have expressed interest in the Ford's Folly Dam area as a locale for a segment, and they have indicated that they would consider repair work to the railing in their negotiation for use of the locale by them.

Veterans Advisory Committee

Mary Jane Hillery reported.

Town Report Committee

Mary Jane Hillery reported for the Committee and recommended that the Town consider establishment of a staggered schedule for submission of reports from the various boards. If, for example, the Memorial Day Committee could submit its report in June or July, it would alleviate overburdening the Town Report Committee at year end.

Town Engineer

Town Engineer I. William Place reported on-going projects and the continuing developments with regard to the Landfill.

Town Accountant/Director of Finance and Administration

James Vanar reported that all is proceeding well in the Accounting Department.

Schools Superintendent

Dr. David E. Jackson reported that the school budget packages will be going out in approximately two weeks.

School Committee

Stephen L. Bober of the Committee reported that a three-year contract has been ratified with the Teachers Association. Mr. Bober stated that enrollment continues to climb and they are continuing the space needs study; the largest increase in students is in grades K-2.

Council On Aging

Dr. Donald Oasis reported for the Council. He stated the Drop-In Center has been busy and they are currently seeking to fill the position of Outreach Worker. A subcommittee has been formed to consider changing the bylaws by increasing the number of members of the Council from seven to nine.

350th Anniversary Committee

Beverly Bentley reported the July 4th Outdoor Sale was extremely successful, and plans are continuing for the Anniversary celebration.

Tax Collector

Board of Selectman Chairman Donald informed the Forum that Collector of Taxes Isabelle K. Stone reported that the tax bills will be mailed by October 7, 1987 and will be due thirty days therefrom.

Town Meeting Procedures Committee

Board of Selectman Chairman Donald informed the Forum that Mary Jane Sanders reported for the Committee that it has met regularly throughout the summer and is formulating several changes in the Warrant process.

Chief of Police

Police Chief Peter B. Lembo reported that he attended a conference at the new training center in Needham, which discussed among other things suicide prevention and grants. He stated that the Police Department is one of eleven involved in the accreditation process which will allow matching grants for the purchase of computers. He further reported that the Department has applied for a grant of \$35,000 from the Division of Highway Safety for institution of an "O.U.I." (drunk driving) program.

Lincoln-Sudbury Regional School District Committee

Lynn B. Donaldson reported for the Committee a successful school year opening. Renovations have almost been completed and the parking lot has been paved, thanks to the Highway Department. She informed the Forum the Committee has been working on a potential Warrant Article for presentation at Town Meeting. She explained that when Lincoln and Sudbury first joined together to make a regional school district and create a high school, they set up an assessment between the two towns based on actual number of students. With the advent of Proposition 2-1/2, and shifts in enrollment, the assessment process became increasingly difficult. A subcommittee was established to explore alternative methods and they have been working with the Lincoln and the Sudbury Finance Committees to work out a mutually-satisfactory proposal. A working draft proposal has been drawn, a written explanation of which Mrs. Donaldson submitted to the Forum, and will be presented at a joint meeting to be held October 1, 1987. She stressed that it is up to each Town's Board of Selectmen to decide whether to go forward or not with the new proposals. Mrs. Donaldson explained that the proposal has several parts; however, she stated one section is generating much controversy and that is the excess and deficiency fund. She explained that that will have to be postponed temporarily because before the State Legislature is a question of the Stabilization Fund for regional schools.

There being no further reports to be presented, the Forum was closed.

Attest:

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Richard E. Thompson  
Executive Secretary-Clerk