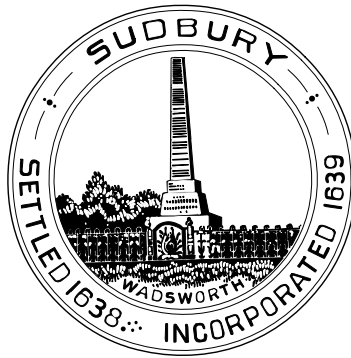


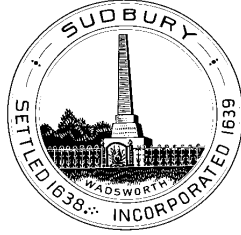
Town of Sudbury Massachusetts



2013 OFFICIAL WARRANT SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION JUNE 25, 2013

Polls Open 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.
Precincts 1, 1A, 2 & 5 - Fairbank Community Center, Fairbank Road
Precincts 3 & 4 - Sudbury Town Hall, Concord Road

**TOWN OF SUDBURY
SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION
WARRANT**



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Middlesex, ss.

To the Constable of the Town of Sudbury:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Sudbury, qualified to vote in Town Elections, that voters residing in Precincts 1, 1A, 2 and 5 should meet at the Fairbank Community Center and voters residing in Precincts 3 and 4 should meet at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, June 25, 2013, at seven o'clock in the forenoon; then and there to choose by official ballot in accordance with law, one member of the Board of Selectmen for a term of not more than two years, ending no later than the last day of the Annual Town Meeting in 2015, one member of the Board of Selectmen for a term of not more than three years, ending no later than the last day of the Annual Town Meeting in 2016; and to vote on the following questions:

BALLOT QUESTION NO. 1

Shall the Town of Sudbury be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to provide professional and engineering services for the final design inclusive of construction documents for a new Police Headquarters on Town-owned land on Hudson Road including the payment of all expenses incidental or related thereto?

YES ___

NO ___

SUMMARY: Under Article 16, of the May 7, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, the Town voted to appropriate \$627,000 inclusive of bond issuance costs for professional and engineering services relative to the design of a new Police Headquarters including a storage building and all other appurtenances thereto to be constructed on Town-owned land on Hudson Road and to pay all expenses connected therewith including preparation of plans, specifications and bidding documents, and borrowing costs including bond and note issue expense. These funds would be expended under the direction of the Permanent Building Committee. This ballot question seeks to exclude the principal and interest to pay for the funding of this project from the Proposition 2 ½ levy limit.

The project would be temporarily funded through the issuance of Bond Anticipation Notes. The amount of the bond issued at the completion of the project would be based upon the actual costs incurred. As an example, if the amount of the bond issued is \$627,000, the estimated annual debt service impact on the tax rate beginning in FY15 would be \$0.01 per \$1,000 of property assessment. In this example, the tax impact on a \$622,862 home valuation is estimated at \$7 in year one, declining to a low of \$5 over the twenty-year bond period.

A “yes” vote on this question will authorize the Town proceed with the design services outside of the Town’s levy limit; a “no” vote will mean the final design cannot proceed.

ARGUMENT FOR PASSAGE: Sudbury’s Police Station, built in 1960 and expanded in 1980, is too small for today’s police functions and substantially smaller than police stations in many other similarly sized towns. Located on .6 acres with no room to expand, the building does not meet state and federal requirements for handicap access, conducting interrogations, or size and location of cells; nor does it have proper facilities for community interface, separation of police and public traffic, evidence processing and storage, or safe handling of detainees. The building systems are at risk of failure. The electrical service is 200 amp, smaller than many homes in Sudbury. The building was not designed for today’s technological advancements in communications. A Blue Ribbon Committee appointed in 2008 by the Selectmen confirmed the structural and functional deficits of the existing facility. The proposed new 14,540 square foot facility is the most effective approach to addressing the need for a functional police station that will meet current codes/standards and serve Sudbury for many decades to come. Final design will allow appropriate siting on the town-owned property located in the geographical center of town adjacent to the Fire Headquarters, creating a public safety complex where fire and police services can be co-located. The design approval process will include public input and will produce a professional cost estimate based on specifications and drawings that define the cost required for construction funding, to be requested at a future date. As long-term debt is declining, now is the time to start this process.

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION: If the design is implemented resulting in construction of a new Police Headquarters, Sudbury will have a new police station that is too large for the police function required for a Town of our size. The number of employees staffing the building at any one time is small and data shows the occupancy of the cells is minimal. Sudbury’s population has not grown in recent years so the current size should be sufficient. This plan calls for the new Police Station to be located adjacent to the Fire Headquarters when it should remain on Route 20 where it is close to the business community. Funds should be expended to upgrade and renovate the current station instead. If design funds are approved, the Town will next ask for construction funds, increasing the Town’s long term debt payments, which are now in decline. Even though long-term debt will not go up due to this project as other retiring debt will offset the increase, these savings should be passed on to the taxpayers. If a new police station is approved, there is the question of future use of the building/land owned by the Town on Route 20. No further action should occur until ideas for disposition of the current Police Headquarters have been formulated and until further consideration is given to consolidation of police functions with other towns.

BALLOT QUESTION NO. 2

Shall the Town of Sudbury be allowed to assess an additional \$700,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of constructing traffic improvements to the Town Center including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto for the fiscal year beginning July first 2013?

YES ___

NO ___

SUMMARY: Under Article 19, of the May 7, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, the Town voted to appropriate \$700,000 to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager for construction of traffic improvements to the Town Center and all expenses therewith including professional and engineering, the preparation of plans, specifications and bidding documents, and supervision of work. This ballot question requests a capital expenditure exclusion under M.G. L. c.59 § 21C(1 ½) which allows the Town to increase the amount of property tax revenue for a one-year period in the amount of \$700,000 in addition to the levy limit without increasing the levy limit or becoming part of the levy limit base for calculating future levy limits.

As an example, to fund the \$700,000 project the estimated impact on the tax rate would be \$9 per \$1,000 of property assessment. In this example, the tax impact on a \$622,862 home valuation is estimated at \$110 for one year only (FY14).

A “yes” vote on this question will authorize the Town to proceed with the project; a “no” vote means that the project cannot proceed.

ARGUMENT FOR PASSAGE: The reconstruction of the intersection as proposed fixes the major engineering alignment issues at this busy town crossroads and will increase safety for both vehicles and pedestrians. The improvements include new traffic lights, stormwater management, curbing, full reconstruction and realignment of the roads and better pedestrian opportunities.

The existing traffic lights are 58 years old and have recently been malfunctioning, and will need replacement in the near future. Replacing them in their existing location is not a viable solution as they do not conform to current traffic safety standards. The Sudbury Center Improvement Advisory Committee has studied the options for the intersection over the past 7 years and has recommended the present plan. The plan increases safety as well as takes into account the sensitive historic nature of the area, and is designed to enhance the public areas so Sudbury residents can more easily enjoy and access the Town Center.

As a one year capital exclusion, taxes for the project will be raised in one year, and there will be no tax impact from this project after the first year. The \$700,000 requested is the minimum amount needed to complete the project. The total cost of the project has been significantly lowered by the use of Chapter 90 state roadway funds dedicated to this project. This is the most cost effective way of updating the intersection and replacing the infrastructure, and it will be constructed to last for the next several decades.

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION: Any increase in the Town’s tax levy, whether or not it increases the levy limit now or in the future, will cause financial hardship to many residents. The final decision as to the disposition of the roadway closest to the Town Hall has not been determined and thus the Annual Town Meeting vote was based on incomplete information. This project will

not provide for a right turning lane for travelers driving north to south on Concord Rd. Additionally, this project will be funded from Chapter 90 highway funds which are better used for street paving and repair.

Polls will open at seven o'clock in the forenoon and will be closed at eight o'clock in the evening.

And you are required to serve this Warrant by posting an attested copy thereof at the Town Hall at least seven days before the time appointed for such election.

Hereof fail not and make due return of the Warrant by your doing thereon to the Town Clerk, at or before the time of election aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 4th day of June, 2013.

SELECTMEN OF SUDBURY:

Lawrence W. O'Brien

Robert C. Haarde

John C. Drobinski

Board of Selectmen
Sudbury, MA 01776

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SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION
Tuesday, June 25, 2013

