

IN BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1991

Present: Chairman David A. Wallace, John C. Drobinski, and Judith A. Cope.

At 5:35 p.m. Chairman David A. Wallace called to order an emergency session of the Board of Selectmen at the Loring Parsonage, 288 Old Sudbury Road.

Special Town Meeting Warrant

Present: John Rhome, Planning Board.

Executive Secretary Richard E. Thompson announced that the meeting had been called on an emergency basis, necessitated by receipt of an article from the Planning Board for the October 21, 1991 Special Town Meeting at approximately 4:00 p.m. on September 24, 1991. Notice of this meeting had been posted as early as possible this morning (September 25). Mr. Thompson further explained that any action concerning the Special Town Meeting Warrant could take place no later than today, as the document must go to the printer the next morning.

Before taking up discussion of the Planning Board's article, the Board reviewed with Executive Secretary Thompson certain changes that had been made to Article 1, the zoning article relative to the Unisys land, which had been agreed to by the Trust for Public Land (TPL) to meet some of the concerns expressed by the Selectmen at its meeting of September 23. The Board concurred with these changes. Executive Secretary Thompson also informed the Board that TPL was amenable to considering a reconfiguration of the division of land to include the septic system with the land to be retained by TPL.

Executive Secretary Thompson explained that the article received from the Planning Board had been submitted after the board and committee deadline of September 16 for submission of articles, and because it also was not a petition article it could not be accepted for the Warrant. He continued that the only way the article could appear on the Warrant would be for the Selectmen to submit it on behalf of the Planning Board.

John Rhome of the Planning Board stated he had been of the belief the Planning Board could submit an article up until five o'clock on Friday. He explained that the Planning Board had made the decision to submit this article when they learned it was withdrawn by the Selectmen on September 23. He stated that, because there was opposition by a majority of the Planning Board to aspects of Article 1, the Research District rezoning article, and that opposition on the floor of Town Meeting might defeat Articles 1 and 2, the Planning Board wished to reinsert the article to purchase the entire Unisys parcel (Sudbury and Concord sections) to provide another option for the Town, saying that "Unisys might accept our check." He mentioned that there was a general preference of the Planning Board for the previous zoning amendment article presented at the September 1990 Special Town Meeting, but the Board had no real agreement among its members on the zoning issues; rather, the consensus was not to rezone now (it being difficult to pass at Town Meeting), but to purchase the entire parcel.

All of the Selectmen tried to assure Mr. Rhome that the Monday night decision to delete the purchase and zoning articles which were repeats of previous articles from the Special Town Meeting Warrant had not been made with any idea of causing disagreement with the Planning Board, but that it had been based on the fact that the Unisys Corporation had informed the Selectmen in writing that the option of purchasing the entire Unisys site was not available to the Town.

Executive Secretary Thompson informed Mr. Rhome that the Selectmen were requesting a joint meeting on October 15 with the Planning Board to try to find a common ground on the Unisys articles.

Chairman David Wallace informed those present of his conversation with Peter Forbes of the Trust for Public Land late this afternoon and it was his impression that if this second purchase article were inserted in the Warrant TPL might walk away from their offer. Chairman Wallace strongly opposed including the article additionally because it would cause confusion and detract from the TPL proposal submitted under Articles 1 and 2. He stressed the Town's interest in attaining approval at the Special Town Meeting and reaching agreement with the Unisys Corporation and stated it behooved the Selectmen to consider the merits of the articles and support only the article with the most chance of winning, which he believed to be the 76-acre \$1 Million land purchase instead of a 142-acre \$1.8 Million land purchase which in all likelihood could never be consummated. He echoed an earlier statement by Mr. Rhome that this was an area of decision for the Board of Selectmen and Chairman Wallace opined that it would be wrong to place this article on the Warrant.

There followed discussion between Chairman Wallace and Selectman John C. Drobinski, during which Selectmen Drobinski said that philosophically he had difficulty in disallowing the democratic process.

Upon motion of Selectmen Judith A. Cope, it was

VOTED: To accept the Planning Board's article to purchase approximately 142 acres of the Unisys property for insertion in the Warrant for the October 21, 1991 Special Town Meeting.

(Selectmen Cope and Drobinski in favor; Chairman Wallace opposed.)

It was agreed that the new article would become Article #3 and a warrant report from the Board of Selectmen was approved for the same.

The Board signed the Warrant for the October 21, 1991 Special Town Meeting.

#### Executive Session

At 6:30 p.m., it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To go into executive session to discuss a transaction in real property where open discussion might be detrimental to such transaction.

(Selectmen Wallace, Drobinski, and Cope voting in favor.)

Chairman Wallace announced that open session would not reconvene following the executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Richard E. Thompson  
Executive Secretary-Clerk