

IN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1979

Present: Chairman John E. Murray, Robert J. Hotch and William J. Cossart.

The statutory requirements as to notice having been fulfilled, the meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman John E. Murray.

Present: Frank Grinnell, Chairman, Board of Assessors; LSRSD Committee Chairman Richard Davison; LSRSD Committee members Richard Brooks, Alan Grathwohl, Ronald Blecher; LSRHS Superintendent David Levington; Finance Committee Chairman Linda Glass and Committee members Philip Felleman, Carol McKinley, Edward Glazer, Robert Norling; School Committee Chairman, N. Cornell Gray and Committee members Jonathan Sirota and Beebe Nelson; William E. Downing, Treasurer; Loretta Bigelow, Assitant Town Treasurer; Police Chief Nicholas Lombardi; Fire Chief Josiah F. Frost; Inspector of Buildings and Zoning Enforcement Agent Francis E. White; Tax Collector Isabelle K. Stone; Highway Surveyor Robert A. Noyes; Town Engineer James V. Merloni; Sheila Stewart, Swim Needs Committee; Ancient Documents Committee Chairman Russell P. Kirby; Insurance Advisory Committee Chairman William P. Reed; Goodnow Library Trustees Chairman George D. Max and Trustee Anne Donald; Permanent Landscape Committee Chairman Gordon P. DeWolf; Robert Savoy, Joseph Klein, Board of Appeals; Conservation Commission Chairman Lynne Remington and members Richard Bell and Judith Cope; Permanent Building Committee Chairman John Reutlinger and members D. Bruce Langmuir and James Goodman; Long Range Capital Expenditures Committee Chairman James Pitts; Town Clerk Betsey M. Powers; Moderator J. Owen Todd; Charlotte E. Goss, Committee on Town Administration; Katie Abrams.

Chairman Murray stated in his opening remarks that this general meeting had been called to discuss the 1979-80 fiscal affairs of the Town relative to the upcoming 1979 Annual Town Meeting and strategy for complying with ultimate Tax Cap legislation pending before the State Legislature. After general remarks he turned the meeting over to John H. Wilson, Town Accountant, to review the handouts distributed to those present dealing with 1) State mandates; 2) the Governor's Tax Cap proposal; and 3) the Committee on Taxation's Tax Cap proposal and how they relate to and impact the Town of Sudbury's financial affairs, which handouts are attached to and are made part of these minutes.

The following general comments were made by those in attendance:

- Chairman Richard Davison of the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional District School (LSRDS) Committee informed those present that the District had received new information from the State Department of Education dealing with the amount of Chapter 70 monies the District might receive in excess of that anticipated, an amount of approximately \$188,000.
- Selectman Cossart questioned the inclusion on the list of State-mandated Programs of the item "Sewage Waste Disposal" and suggested that the Town Accountant might further review this item for exclusion from such listing. The Town Accountant responded that his inclusion of the same was due to the fact that the Town had no options for sewage waste disposal except to proceed with the joint sewage waste facility, i.e., the MDC forbids any future connections to their system from this area.

In reference to the same list, Police Chief Lombardi questioned and disagreed with the inclusion of ambulance costs and the reference to Civil Service requirements. Mr. Wilson responded that ambulance purchase and EMT training were directly the result of State legislation requiring the same.

- Mr. Richard Brooks, LSRSD Committee member, suggested that Section 15 of the Committee on Taxation's proposal should be clarified where it indicates Town Meeting action must be reconsidered once tax cap legislation becomes effective. In addition, Mr. Brooks stated that, because of the current Finance Committee action of looking into further reductions in the Regional School budget, we might consider tabling Article 5 until the conclusion of Town Meeting.
- Mr. Edward Glazer of the Finance Committee suggested that we proceed with Town Meeting keeping an accurate tally of votes and, if necessary, have a two-thirds counted vote.
- Finance Chairman Linda Glass recommended 1) that possibly a resolution should be presented to Town Meeting objecting to the State's further erosion of Home Rule; 2) that we should proceed with Town Meeting and recommend a two-thirds blanket vote at the end of Town Meeting to exceed tax caps, if necessary.
- Selectman Cossart suggested that we may have to give up a little Home Rule because of the national, state and local clamor for tax relief and this would be done in the way of pending tax cap legislation. Selectman Cossart emphasized that the purpose of this general meeting was to discuss problems dealing with pending tax cap legislation, but that he had heard nothing new and that through the Massachusetts Municipal Associations all current problems with tax cap legislation have been addressed and presented to the Legislature. Mr. Cossart agreed that one method might be a two-thirds vote at the end of Town Meeting confirming all action that was in conflict with any tax cap legislation since all bills seriously under consideration allow for a two-thirds override to exceed tax caps. Lastly, Mr. Cossart suggested that the Moderator might begin Town Meeting with a preamble explaining the procedure for voting and the significance of a two-thirds vote to exceed tax caps.
- Mr. Felleman of the Finance Committee suggested that we proceed with Town Meeting and attempt a unanimous vote for the record wherever necessary and if this cannot be done then proceed to the next item without counting on every single vote.
- Moderator Todd agreed that we should keep a tally of votes as Town Meeting proceeds, and on the budget items especially, so that it can be determined if we are exceeding tax caps with later articles requiring dollar appropriations.

After further discussion, it was the consensus of those present that we proceed with Town Meeting and obtain unanimous or two-thirds votes on money articles wherever possible.

Approval of Location - Non-Profit Corporation under Chapter 180

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To approve the location of the American Legion, Sudbury Post #191, Inc., a Chapter 180 Non-Profit Corporation, at 676 Boston Post Road, Sudbury, Massachusetts,

and to signify the same by returning the signed response to the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

County Appropriations - Endorsement of H945

After discussion it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To endorse the comments by Jeanne S. Kangas, Middlesex County Advisory Board Chairman, dated March 26, 1979, relative to proposed amendments to H945 and its strengthening and refinement and to forward such endorsement to Representative Gannett and Senator Atkins, with a copy to Ms. Kangas.

One-day All Alcoholic Beverage License - Police Association Ball

In accordance with a request dated March 8, 1979 from Patrick J. Manzo, President of the Sudbury Police Association, it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To grant a Special License for the Sale of All Alcoholic Beverages, to be drunk on the premises, to Patrick J. Manzo, President, Sudbury Police Association to be exercised at St. Anselm's Parish for the purpose of the Police Association's Ball on May 11, 1979, from 8:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M., May 12, 1979.

Lions Club Solicitation - Sanitary Landfill

In accordance with a request dated March 26, 1979 from Kenneth E. Brown, Committee Chairman, Sudbury/Wayland Lions Club, it was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To approve solicitation of contributions by the Lions Club of Sudbury/Wayland in support of eye research programs, such solicitation to take place at the Sanitary Landfill on April 14, 1979 subject to the approval of Robert A. Noyes, Sanitary Landfill Agent.

Widening of Route 20 - DPW

Executive Secretary Richard E. Thompson informed the Board that he had been informed by letter dated March 23, 1979 from Justin L. Radlo, Chief Engineer, Massachusetts Department of Public Works, that the proposed project to widen Rt. 20 in the area of Nobscot Road and Union Avenue, which had been disapproved on October 18, 1976, has been resubmitted to the Project Review Committee of the DPW for their reconsideration.

Resignations

The Board accepted the resignation, dated March 26, 1979, from Donald B. Willard from the Council on Aging and from Donald B. Devoe, dated March 26, 1979, from the Historical Commission with regret, and further acknowledged the resignation, dated March 22, 1979, of Anne W. Donald from the Finance Committee. The Board directed the Executive Secretary to express its appreciation to Mrs. Donald, Mr. Willard and Mr. Devoe for their service to the Town.

Fidelity Bonds - Town of Sudbury

It was on motion unanimously

VOTED: To authorize the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to sign renewal fidelity bonds to be forwarded to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, Bureau of Local Taxation as follows:

William E. Downing, Treasurer of the Town of Sudbury, executed by him and the Peerless Insurance Company in the amount of \$128,000 as of March 26, 1979, Bond No. S-58-68-33;

Isabelle K. Stone, Collector of Taxes, executed by her and the Peerless Insurance Company in the amount of \$126,000 as of March 26, 1979, Bond No. S-58-68-34;

Betsey M. Powers, Town Clerk, executed by her and the Peerless Insurance Company in the amount of \$5,000 as of March 26, 1979, Bond No. S-72-20-23;

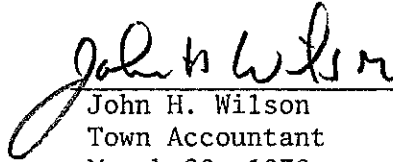
and Loretta A. Bigelow, Assistant Treasurer, executed by her and the Peerless Insurance Company in the amount of \$32,000 as of March 26, 1979, Bond No. S-76-64-59.

Attest:

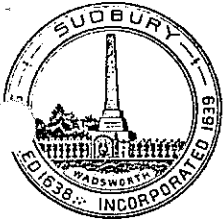
Richard E. Thompson
Executive Secretary-Clerk

MANDATES

1. Shown on the attached sheets are the mandated programs for which financial data is available. There are other state-mandated programs which cause increases in local costs such as: the state building code, civil service requirements (Police Dept.), publishing various reports (Town Report), training requirements for certain employees, etc; additionally, there are other mandates, such as binding arbitration, which have not affected Sudbury because Sudbury has never reached an impasse with a bargaining unit, but which have affected us indirectly based on other binding arbitration settlements in other towns.



John H. Wilson
Town Accountant
March 20, 1979



TOWN OF SUDBURY

Sudbury, Mass. 01776

March 19, 1979

TO: Richard E. Thompson, Executive Secretary

FROM: John H. Wilson, Town Accountant

SUBJECT: Tax Caps

I. King's Budget Caps v. Sudbury's Estimates

Levy Limit +

A. Appropriation Limit

Minus

1. Decrease in Principal & Interest payments on Bonds

+ 94,330

B. Appropriation & Budget Limit

Total Appropriation & Budget limit is within Guidelines

C. Levy Limit

1. FY 1978-79 Actual FY 1979-80 Est.
10,578,151 10,620,249
2. Decrease in Overlay
3. Decrease in State & County Assessments

+ 42,098

+ 117,034

+ 9,782

TOTAL

+ 263,244

II. Sudbury

At this point Sudbury is \$263,244 over the levy caps; there are additional important suppositions that could increase this amount:

A. Possible Town Meeting increases

1. Local Schools
2. Conservation Fund
3. Miscellaneous Budget
4. Miscellaneous Articles

+ 66,000

+ 49,304

+ 5,000

0

TOTAL

+ 383,548

III. Possible Levy Reductions (or offsets) for Selectmen to Support.


A. Town Meeting

1. Less Schools	66,000
2. Less LSRHS	200,000 *
3. Less Unemployment Comp.	25,000
4. Plus Increase State Aid	25,000
5. Less Community Use of Schools	10,000
6. Less Tax Anticipation Notes	10,000
7. Less Reserve Fund	40,000
8. Less Conservation Fund	9,304

TOTAL BELOW 78-79 LEVY

- 1,756

* The King Cap addresses both municipalities and special districts (e.g. LSRHS). Without considering the important issue of school autonomy, the LSRHS, according to the King Cap plan, cannot exceed last year's gross appropriation which was \$5,278,982; this year's request is \$5,567,192 = \$288,210 difference X .82 (Sudbury's share) = \$236,332.


 John H. Wilson
 Town Accountant

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ON TAXATION'S
CAP LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

1. TOWN BUDGET

	<u>1978-79</u>		<u>1979-80*</u>
Gross Total	\$12,428,879		\$12,502,479
Less Debt	- 482,282	-	412,942
(TAN's)	+ 35,000	+	60,000
Less Pension	- 207,770	-	207,770
Less Grant Funds	--		--
TOTAL	\$11,773,827		\$11,941,767

(AT 1.04 THE BUDGET LIMIT = \$12,244,780.)

2. APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT

	<u>1978-79</u>		<u>1979-80*</u>
Gross Appropriation	\$14,103,560		\$13,624,778
Less Debt	- 482,282	-	412,942
(TAN's)	+ 35,000	+	60,000
Less Pension	- 207,770	-	207,770
Less Grants	--		--
Less County	- 709,782	-	700,000
Less Overlay	- 242,034	-	125,000
TOTAL	\$12,496,692		\$12,239,066

(AT 1.04 THE APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT = \$12,996,559.)

3. LEVY

	<u>1978-79</u>		<u>1979-80*</u>	
Levy	\$10,578,151		\$10,620,249	
Less Debt	-	482,282	-	412,942
(TAN's)	+	35,000	+	60,000
Less Pension	-	207,770	-	207,770
Less Grants		--		--
Less County	-	709,782	-	700,000
Less Overlay	-	242,034	-	125,000
TOTAL		\$ 8,971,283		\$ 9,234,537

(AT 1.04 THE LEVY LIMIT = \$9,330,134.)

Can only increase \$95,597 unless Lincoln-Sudbury Regional decreases by \$63,800-105,000.

*Based on Finance Committee recommendations.

STATE MANDATED PROGRAMS

	<u>1975-76</u>	<u>1976-77</u>	<u>1977-78</u>
I. Chapter 766			
Local School	439,321	522,955	429,567
Receipts	- 72,294	-174,175	-356,840
NET	<u>367,027</u>	<u>348,780</u>	<u>72,727</u>
LSRHS	169,263	261,117	319,108
Receipts	-132,231	-208,894	-180,897
NET	<u>37,032</u>	<u>52,223</u>	<u>138,211</u>
MMRVT	20,000	21,000	24,000
Receipts	- 10,000 Est.	- 10,500 Est.	- 12,000 Est.
NET	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,500</u>	<u>12,000</u>
Total Appropriated	628,584	805,072	772,675
Total Receipts	-214,525	-393,569	-549,737
NET	<u>414,059</u>	<u>411,503</u>	<u>222,938</u>
TAX RATE	\$ 2.41	\$ 2.35	\$ 1.25
II. Real Estate			
Exemptions	73,876	71,527	70,389
TAX RATE	\$.43	\$.41	\$.40
III. Ambulance			
		25,000	
TAX RATE		\$.14	
IV. Solid Waste Disposal (MDC) Board of Health			
		30,000	22,405
TAX RATE		\$.17	\$.13
V. Wetlands Protection (Conservation)			
	4,500	4,500	4,500
TAX RATE	\$.03	\$.03	\$.03
VI. State & County Assessments			
County Tax	414,005	374,734	432,667
MBTA	125,384	131,105	174,000
State Recreation	72,436	65,801	67,799
TOTAL	<u>611,825</u>	<u>571,640</u>	<u>674,466</u>
TAX RATE	\$ 3.56	\$ 3.27	\$ 3.79
(MBTA Tax Rate Alone)	.73	.75	.98
VII. Ambulance Attendants			
Fire	5,835	5,665	6,892
EMT Training	6,800	6,800	10,958
TAX RATE	\$.07	\$.07	\$.10
<hr/>			
TOTAL TAXES	620,819 \$ 3.61	676,635 \$ 3.87	479,232 \$ 2.79

ACCEPTANCE STATUTES

	<u>1975-76</u>	<u>1976-77</u>	<u>1977-78</u>	<u>1978-79</u>
Insurance - Casualty				
1. Indemnification	--	--	--	6,000
2. Ambulance	--	--	--	500

MANDATED FRINGE BENEFITS

Insurance - Health & Life	155,190	173,659	161,368	220,000 *
Pension Fund Benefit	159,050	200,446	207,742	206,353
Unemployment (Federal)				35,000

* Health Insurance - Sudbury pays 3/4 but only must pay 1/2