

TOWN FATHERS FORUM  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1983

Present: Chairman John E. Murray, Anne W. Donald and Myron J. Fox.

At 8:00 p.m. Chairman Murray convened the 151 Session of the Town Fathers Forum. He began by announcing the Selectmen's activities over the past four months, as follows:

- Fourteen site plans were approved, most of them involving Boston Post Road properties:

Mugar - for construction of a new building at Star Plaza.

Hilco Supply, Inc., - to allow Board of Appeals action on storage use in a residential zone.

V.S.H., Inc., - to remodel the former Gulf Station to a Cumberland Farms convenience food store with self-service gas facilities for which an inflammables license was issued.

Patti & Orr - for an office and retail complex at the site of the existing Mountainview farmstand.

S. F. Doyle - for an expansion of the Post Road office park by construction of three buildings on adjacent property.

Vanaria - conversion of the former Amoco station to retail and office use.

Vana - for revision of the site plan for new construction, adjacent to the 1776 Plaza, removing the second floor office space and deleting the proposed restaurant.

Bushey/Power - to allow Board of Appeals action for a two-story building to be used as a decorator shop (denied subsequently by Board of Appeals).

Stanmar - (2 plans) - changing the use of a warehouse to research and development office facilities for New England Research, and expansion of the front building with an addition of a two-story research and development office building.

G. Burton Mullen - for construction of a kiosk-housed automatic bank teller machine opposite Bay Bank on Union Avenue.

Mayo - to allow partial use of the former South Annex on Massasoit Avenue for a ballet school.

In addition to the two site plans approved on Project Management's Lots 3 and 4 and for Lot 1A, off Powder Mill Road, the Board held a public hearing on the proposal by PMI for a change in traffic patterns, intersection and road improvements in the Powder Mill/Powers Road areas which resulted in denial by the Board. Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgement in the matter of the discontinuance of Powder Mill Road was heard on September 23 at Superior Court.

- Two applications for transfer of liquor licenses were heard:

Transfer of the Pizza Alla Pietra license to Dimitri's Pizza and Restaurant which was withdrawn and

Transfer of the Todd-Wagoner Corp. license for Ephraim's to Kenbo, Inc., which was approved.

Additionally, three temporary one-day alcoholic licenses were issued to various Town organizations.

- In personnel matters, performance reviews for most of the individually-rated positions were held and the salaries set. Compensation for the Plumbing and Gas Inspector vis a vis fee changes are currently under discussion. Police Officer Neil McGilvray, Jr. transferred from the Waltham Police Department and was welcomed to the Sudbury Police Department. Annual appointments are almost complete at this time. Resignations were accepted with regret from Rev. Trache (Council on Aging) whose position was filled by Berthe Lessard, Cletus Terwiske (Memorial Day Committee) and Hugh Caspe (Conservation Commission). The Selectmen were pleased to issue a Proclamation in honor of John Sullivan's ten years of service as Health Director which was presented to John at his retirement reception on Sunday.
- Walkway and Highway Easements were accepted and \$140,000 in State reimbursement notes were signed in conjunction with reconstruction of Dutton Road authorized by Town Meeting. Authorization was given by the Selectmen also for removal and reinstallation of the utility poles to facilitate the construction.
- In other real estate matters, a conservation restriction and easements relative to the Goodnow Meadows Subdivision off Maynard Road were accepted by the Selectmen and a one-year lease was signed for Loring School with the Sudbury Community Arts Center, Inc. and approvals of sub-lessees given.
- In public safety matters, the Selectmen have petitioned the State, under a Federal program, for funds to rehabilitate the railroad surface crossing at Route 20. Traffic safety relative to the development of new subdivisions was discussed at a public hearing and speed humps also continued as a

subject of discussion. Traffic Rules and Orders have been amended, in accordance with statute, to raise the amount of damages to be reported to \$500. Handicapped parking permits are now available through the Parking Clerk in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the Selectmen.

- New site plan Rules and Regulations for Temporary Business or Industrial Trailers have been adopted by the Board and are also now in force.
- A tax classification hearing resulting in the adoption by the Selectmen of a residential factor enabled the FY83 tax rate to be set. Since the FY84 hearing has not yet taken place, borrowing in anticipation of taxes was authorized and some notes were renewed.
- Donations totalling \$440 for Council on Aging van transportation and a matching grant in the amount of \$20,000 for restoration of the Hosmer House were accepted by the Selectmen.
- And, as you are all aware, a Special Town Meeting, the subject of tonight's Forum, has been called for Monday evening, October 3, at 8 p.m., in the Lincoln-Sudbury High School Auditorium.

At the request of Chairman Murray the following Town officials, representatives, boards and committees reported activities:

Ms. Lorraine Greiff; Congressman Shannon's Office

Ms. Grieff reported that Congressman Shannon's office had been meeting with the steering committee to review the recently issued noise report (Fort Deven's Assessment Study), that Congressman Shannon is very concerned that a mutually acceptable agreement be found; also, they have been working with the Council on Aging to secure a new van for them.

Chairman Albert S. Feinberg - Sudbury Housing Authority

Mr. Feinberg reported that the Housing Authority has \$60,000 remaining on a 705 grant for scattered site low income housing and are planning to use the money for renovations on existing homes. The Authority has also received from the Executive Office of Communities and Development authorization to paint sixteen apartments this year and another sixteen next year at Musketahquid Village. Mr. Feinberg expressed, on behalf of the Housing Authority, special thanks to Mr. Guy Dietrich for his time and contributions to the Village - he has donated park benches, resident directories, piano tuning, activity boards, etc.

Fire Chief Michael Dunne

Chief Dunne reported that the ambulance has been quite busy this past summer; fires have been down and he attributes it mostly to the installation of smoke detectors; junk cars behind the Route 20 Fire Station are being used by the firemen for "jaws of life" training. These cars are delivered and

removed at the accommodation of the Fire Department by Post Road Auto Parts of Marlboro. Chief Dunne stated that Firefighter John Young continues to give CPR classes to residents of the Town at their request; that during the month of October, the Fire Department will run a special week of training with emphasis on "escaping from the home and what to do when a smoke detector goes off". Chief Dunne stated that this past school year the Department took a survey at the Curtis School by children taking fire courses run by the Department and learned that, although 95% stated their homes had smoke detectors, only about 25% knew what to do when the smoke detector went off. The Chief stated that, in conjunction with the Park and Recreation Department, he is installing emergency call boxes at Haskell Field and Featherland Park - the response will be the ambulance; these boxes are marked so as not to be confused with fire boxes. The Department has also been monitoring the installation of oil tanks at the Mobil Station and Cumberland Farms, and soon at Longfellow Glen.

Richard F. Brooks - Lincoln-Sudbury Regional School District Committee

Mr. Brooks reported that enrollment this school year at the High School is 1300, approximately 30 less students than expected; the split is a 5/1 ratio with Sudbury having approximately 85% and Lincoln 15%; there are 96 Metco students. Mr. Brooks stated that they are currently having a major portion of the school re-roofed at a cost of approximately \$300,000 - there are other maintenance problems at the school, and in addressing that, a sub-committee is consulting Town Departments, and the Director of Buildings and Grounds, Mr. Santella, has outlined a list of maintenance areas requiring attention over the next ten years amounting to approximately 1.4 million dollars. He said that work would be prioritized and the Regional School Committee will work with the Finance Committee and the Town Meetings to resolve these problems.

Donald R. Oasis, Council on Aging

Dr. Oasis reported that the Council on Aging has had a successful summer. They received a grant from Bay Path of \$1,000 to help run the van for the fiscal year starting in September. Also, the Council applied for a state and federal grant for a van for the elderly which would have a wheel chair ramp. The application was denied and Col. Leahy has written a letter to Senator Atkins to try and have that action reversed. Dr. Oasis stated that they have also applied for a \$1,000 grant, to be matched by Council funds, for the hiring of an outreach worker. This person will work in elderly affairs and hopefully help increase participation in senior citizen activities in Town.

Town Accountant James Vanar

Mr. Vanar stated he received the final draft of the audit and will be setting up a meeting with the auditors and the Board to finalize the same; that the Town will be due in 1985 for another audit; and that under proposed new legislation, the Town may be faced with an annual audit.

Town Treasurer Chester Hamilton

Mr. Hamilton stated he had requested (and received approval from the Selectmen) for additional borrowing in the amount of \$350,000,000 until December 1. Mr. Hamilton stated that, because he anticipates tax bills going out late and because once they do go out it takes a minimum of forty-five days to receive any significant amounts of monies, with the permission of the Finance Committee he now plans to amend his Warrant Article, Article 2, FY84 Budget Adjustment, for the October 3 Special Town Meeting to \$35,000 on Town Meeting floor (from \$20,000 printed in the Warrant).

Building Inspector Joseph E. Scammon

Mr. Scammon reported that building has increased in Sudbury - forty-six new house permits have been issued to date this year which was the twelve-month figure for 1982. Mr. Scammon reviewed new buildings under construction along Route 20.

Michael W. Guernsey, Board of Health

Mr. Guernsey reported that eleven candidates had been interviewed for the position of Health Director, a vacancy created by the retiring of John V. Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan's son was selected from among the qualified candidates.

Mr. Guernsey further reported that the Board of Health, in conjunction with the Fire Department and the Highway Department, have formed a Household Hazardous Waste Committee - October 15th has been designated Household Hazardous Waste Day, a day when residents can take all their household hazardous wastes to the Highway Department to be properly disposed of at no cost to the residents. Mr. Guernsey explained that this is an attempt to educate citizens of Sudbury about what household hazardous wastes are and how they should be disposed of in order to protect the Town's Landfill and Town wells.

Eileen M. Todd, Talent Search Committee

Mrs. Todd reported that advertising on the back page of the Warrant brought in eight people interested in serving on various Town boards/committees.

Town Moderator J. Owen Todd

Mr. Todd urged attendance at the Special Town Meeting and reported that there is a Sudbury vacancy on the Minuteman School Committee.

Judith C. Torian, Sudbury School Committee

Mrs. Torian reported a smooth opening of school this year; she stated that there are many committees/people working toward the quality of the schools at no expense to the Town. Mrs. Torian said that Dr. LoPresti had purchased computers for the Middle School including one room of word processors and this completes the computer program for the Middle School (grades 6-8).

Mrs. Torian noted receipt of a report from John Wilson on the status of their end-of-the-year budget. She stated that the School Committee is still working on implementing new curriculums and are accomplishing this by having several delayed (one hour) openings this year rather than having early dismissals on Wednesdays as in the past.

Later, Mrs. Torian publicly thanked the Rotary Club for a significant contribution for an anti-drug program for Middle School students.

Julia R. Barker, Permanent Landscape Committee

Mrs. Barker reported on two projects which the Permanent Landscape Committee (PLC) are involved with, one being at the Library and the other at the Loring Parsonage. Mrs. Barker stated that, because of a water problem at the Library, a trench had to be dug around the building and the PLC responded by saving whatever plantings they could and those will be re-planted in the Spring. Also, at the Loring Parsonage, the PLC requested \$80 for additional plantings, and Mrs. Barker stated that she personally would see to it that the shrubs were watered properly after planting.

Charlotte M. MacLeod, Goodnow Library Trustee

Mrs. MacLeod reported that the Library is operating on fall hours and will go into the winter hours after Columbus Day, which means they will be open on Sundays. They have completed an inventory and, to the credit of Sudbury borrowers, find that the number of missing books is lower than at other libraries and that most of those which are missing are books which are out-of-date. Mrs. MacLeod stated that the Highway Department has completed most of the work that was laid out because of the flooding problems at the Library and that only the work on the south side has not yet been completed.

James A. Pitts, Finance Committee

Mr. Pitts stated that budget forms for the FY85 budget year will be going out October 1, and suggested that anyone needing assistance in filling out those forms should work with their liaison or the Town Accountant. He stated that non-salary increases should stay within 2½% - that most salaries are under collective bargaining negotiations. He also requested that second year (FY86) projections also be proposed and submitted.

Mr. Pitts stressed the Town's dependence on the use of free cash to stay within Proposition 2½ limitations and still allow for salary increases and modest expense increases.

Assessor Vacancy

Selectman Fox announced that there is an Assessor vacancy and that applications are available upon request in the Selectmen's and Town Hall offices.