

TOWN OF SUDBURY

Town Manager Newsletter

January 2015

Message from the Town Manager

January is the month when all the preparation on Town projects begins to result in articles for Town Meeting to consider and hopefully approve. Per Town bylaw, all articles must be received in the Selectmen's office by 5 pm on January 31. As that falls on a Saturday, articles will be received up to 5 pm on Monday February 2, 2015. Articles are being submitted by the Finance Committee, the Recreation Commission, the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Health, the Planning Board, department heads and many more. Citizen petition articles are welcome and the process for submitting one can be found on the Town's website. The Board of Selectmen will be voting on their list of articles at their meeting on January 27, 2015.

Work on the new Police Station is proceeding nicely – here is a picture of the steel being set this week. It is exciting to see the progress on the building and right now the projected date of completion has not changed – November 2015.



New Town Counsel Barbara Saint Andre is on board and is advising departments and boards on the many issues we face – she has already seen Sudbury is a very busy place with a lot going on!!

Happy New Year! I hope 2015 is an exciting, rewarding year for everyone.

Sincerely, Maureen G. Valente, Town Manager

From the Selectmen's Office

The Board had one public meeting thus far in January 2015. Open Meeting Law violations continue to occupy time on the Board's agenda. The Board reviewed the finding from the state Attorney General's Division of Open Government, which found that five emails sent out by Selectman Len Simon to his fellow Board members were individual violations of the Open Meeting Law, because in each he expressed an opinion, which constitutes deliberation. The AG's office found that the Board of Selectmen



as a whole had not violated the Open Meeting Law. The AG's office ordered that the Board release to the public all emails and memoranda related to these violations. These materials can be found on the Board of Selectmen's home page on the Town web site, as follows:

<https://sudbury.ma.us/selectmen/2015/01/12/open-meeting-law-decision/>

The Board also voted a remedial action in response to an Open Meeting Law violation complaint filed by Selectman Haarde, who asserted that the Board was not following the proper procedure for review and action on complaints. The Board voted to follow the following procedure, recommended by Town Counsel Saint Andre, for future complaints filed against any government board of the Town:

- Forward a copy of the complaint to all members of the board and Town Counsel.
- Schedule an agenda item within 14 business days of receipt of the complaint to review the complaint and determine if any remedial action should be taken.
- Alternatively, if more information is needed, request additional information from the complainant within 7 days.
- An extension of time can be requested from the Attorney General's office for good cause.
- Town Counsel will review and provide advice to the board or committee prior to the meeting at which the complaint will be reviewed.
- Board or committee determines at its meeting if any remedial action should be taken in response to the complaint.
- Complaint is forwarded to Attorney General's office by Town Counsel along with statement of any remedial action.

Town Counsel Saint Andre will respond to the AG's office on this complaint, providing a copy of this new voted procedure adopted by the Board of Selectmen.

The Board heard a report from consultant Linda Bournival of KMS Actuaries with updated valuations for the Town and L-S's OPEB (Other post-employment benefits – i.e. health insurance for retirees) obligations. The Board also heard a report from the Committee they had created to make recommendations on future actions to begin funding these liabilities, which included: beginning to include money for these costs into the budgets of the Town, SPS and L-S in FY16, placing the money remaining in the Town's Health Claims Trust Fund into an OPEB Trust Fund, and possibly earmarking receipts from local meals and hotel taxes into the OPEB Trust Fund. Articles for Town Meeting are being developed related to these recommendations.

As always, the Board made a number of votes which included approving appointments and contracts. For more information on any of these, please see the Board's agenda listing these items.

Please note: the brief description of the Board meeting found here are only designed to give a quick snapshot of those agenda items that received the most time at the Board meetings. They are not meant to be exhaustive on materials received by the Board or all comments on agenda items. For a complete understanding of the items at each Board meeting, please go to SudburyTV.org for a replay of the meeting or review the minutes of Board meetings, found on the Town's web site.

Sincerely, Maureen G. Valente, Town Manager



Assessing Department

Following the approval of the Fiscal Year 2015 assessed values and tax rates, the actual tax bills have been mailed. At this time of year we like to remind/inform/advise property owners about timely information and programs they may find of interest.

- Sudbury's property tax bill mailings occur twice a year. Each of the two mailings contain payment coupons for two quarterly installments. The most recent tax bill mailing (January 1, 2015) included a payment coupon for the installment due by February 2, 2015, and a coupon for the installment due on May 1, 2015. The Town does not mail four individual bills.
- The Assessor's Office department page provides assessment and tax rate information: [FY 15 Rates and Values](#)

The following three FAQ's address common inquiries regarding property assessments, appeals and tax relief.

How are assessments determined?

Assessors in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are charged with valuing every property in their respective municipalities fairly and equitably. Each year the Sudbury Board of Assessors assigns a "full and fair cash value" to every parcel of real estate in the town. The town operates on a fiscal year basis, which runs from July 1 to June 30. Assessments are approximations of what the value of each property was on January 1 prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. Property assessments are always established as of a fixed point in time, unlike fee appraisals and the real-time sales market. The data used to establish assessed values are compiled from sales of the preceding calendar year. For example, FY 2015 commenced July 1, 2014, and the values were fixed as of January 1, 2014. The sales data used to determine the values were extracted from calendar year 2013 property sales. Only marketplace-derived sales (aka "arm's length") are used. Arm's length, or marketplace-derived sales, are those involving a willing buyer and a willing seller unrelated to each other and free from compulsion to buy or sell. Consequently, the sales data used to arrive at the values reflected on the tax bills issued January 1, 2015, is 12 to 23 months old. For that reason it is important for taxpayers to realize that this "new" assessment may not accurately reflect real-time market value.



How do I appeal my assessment?

If a taxpayer disagrees with the assessment, he or she has the right to file for an abatement as provided in M.G.L. Ch. 59, Sections 59-69. The time for filing an application for abatement under M.G.L. Ch. 59, Sections 59-69 is quite specific. To be considered timely filed, the FY 2015 applications for abatement must be filed on an approved application (State Tax form 128) within 30 days of the mailing of the actual tax bill (3rd quarter installment). The expected filing time frame for FY 2015 is: January 1, 2015 to February 2, 2015 (one month). The approved applications are available at the Assessor's Office. The Assessor's Office will remain open until 7:00 p.m. on February 2, 2015.



Click the following link for more details on Applications for Abatement: [FY 15 Abatement](#)

What kinds of tax relief options are currently available?

The Assessing Department is currently accepting applications for the FY 2015 established statutory exemption and senior tax deferral programs including: Community Preservation Surcharge Exemption; Senior Tax Deferral and the Chapter 59 Section 5 (Disabled Veterans, Blind, etc.) Exemption Program. The filing deadline for statutory exemption and tax deferral programs is March 31, 2015. You may contact our office for further information: 978-639-3393

Click the following link for more details on Real Estate Tax Exemptions: [FY 15 Exemptions Deferral](#)

Please note: the programs listed above do not include the Sudbury Means Tested Senior Exemption PILOT Program (please call 978-639-3395 for information relating to that program).

Submitted by Cynthia Gerry, Director of Assessing

Building Inspection Department

As winter sets in, we prepare for Town Report, code review, and training.

New Building Regulations

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Life Safety Board of Building Regulations and Standards has new regulations that are effective the first of the year.

1. Limited Radon Control for new construction of one and two family dwellings and town houses of 3 stories or less in radon zone 1. (Essex, Middlesex and Worcester Counties.) The system will be passive and can be voluntarily up-graded to Active. (Fan powered).
2. Installations of Fire Protection systems. Local fire departments will no longer issue permits for the installation of fire protection systems for new or existing buildings.

New additional building and energy codes may also be proposed for 2015.



LSRHS Solar Canopies

The work at the high school for the solar canopies continues through the cold. The foundations for the canopies are all poured and 85% of the steel has been erected.



New Softball Dugouts

On a different note, I would like to mention the great job that Eagle Scout Byron Crane and his team of volunteers have done providing dugouts for the Lincoln Sudbury Girls' Softball Field.



Solid Fuel Appliances

Safety Tip: Keep solid fuel appliances (wood stove, pellet stove, fireplace etc.) clear of combustibles and have appliances and chimneys properly cleaned and maintained.

Submitted By: Mark Herweck, Building Inspector

Department of Public Works

The towns of Sudbury and Wayland have incurred increasing maintenance costs for the repair of Sherman's Bridge over the past 20 years. In cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation District III Worcester, the firm Engineering Corporation was hired by the town of Wayland to perform an existing conditions assessment and a conceptual design plan for the bridge.



If funding is available, the State will cover 1/3 of the construction cost with Wayland and Sudbury providing the other 2/3. If all proceeds as planned, we may see a new deck, railings and sidewalk this summer.



This has been the best year ever for making ice and Ice Skating! The new **John Toland Memorial Rink** (shown right) was installed beside the Fairbank Community Center, south of the Atkinson Pool in the area of the volley ball court. The rink was built for the LSRHS, Sudbury Maynard Stow Youth Hockey, Curtis Middle School teams as well as kids and adults. Hours of operation will be posted on the Park and Recreation Web Site.



The **Featherland Park** skating rink (shown below) is open to skaters of all ages, with operating hours from morning until 11:00 P.M. Take advantage of the weather and get out there and have some fun!



Submitted by: I. William Place, P.E./Director of Public Works/Town Engineer

Facilities Department

New Police Station Update

Overall, the project took advantage of warmer than expected weather conditions experienced at the site. Although it is freezing cold outside as the author drafts this report, the weather has been on our side so far. Despite heavy rain experienced over several days early in the month of December, and mitigation and rework associated with the storm event, Hutter Construction completed the construction of the buildings foundation and associated waterproofing. In addition, Hutter and the plumbing contractor were able to



take advantage of favorable weather conditions and commence installation of under slab plumbing piping installations ahead of the planned spring installation.

Hutter Construction, the General Contractor for the new station, completed the following major activities last month:

- Excavation and subgrade preparation for building footings.
- Concrete operations related to formwork, reinforcing steel installation, concrete placement and curing of foundation perimeter strip footings, foundation walls and interior spread footings.
- Waterproofing of exterior foundation walls, and subsequent installation of perimeter foundation drainage and downspout connections.
- Commencement of underground utility services within the building footprint, including secondary electrical services (conduits), domestic water services, fire protection services and plumbing waste lines.
- Completion of driveway grading, binder course installation and temporary driveway lighting at Musketahquid Drive. The new alignment of the driveway was placed into service and is open for regular use.
- Temporary electric service was completed and the construction trailers have been energized.



- Commencement of retaining wall construction, including crushed stone foundations and placement of retaining wall blocks at the northeast corner (low end) of the retaining wall.
- Steel fabrication for building elements has commenced.

A major milestone in our Town's construction project has taken place: the installation of the steel framing (see the progress left and below). This steel is the main skeleton and primary support of the

two story building, and the next step will be starting to place the interior masonry walls.

Mike Melnick, co-chair, and Bill Braun of the Town's Permanent Building Committee (PBC) have been meeting weekly (sometimes more than once a week) with the Architect and the Construction company, ensuring the project remains on time and on budget. The PBC also has regular evening committee meetings to review the progress and construction details and attend to changes or issues that arise, typical of all construction projects.

Submitted by: Jim Kelly, Combined Facilities Director



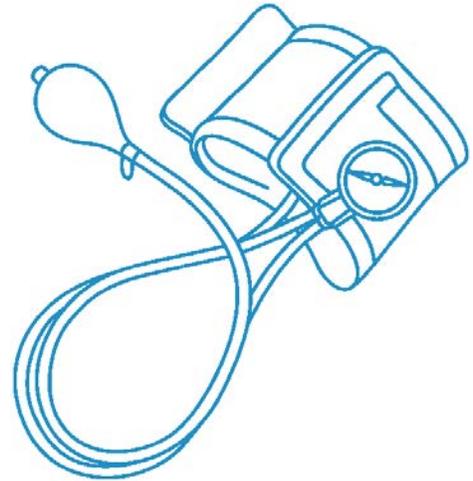


Health Department

On January 2nd, the Health Department welcomed Phyllis Schilp, former Parmenter Board of Health nurse, as the new public health nurse for the Town of Sudbury. Phyllis will be establishing the first “in-house” public health nurse position for the town which has relied on contracted nursing services dating back to the mid-1930’s. Phyllis will also assume the emergency preparedness and Medical Reserve Corps responsibilities for the department. She arrives with 20 years of nursing experience and is a valuable resource for citizens and employees of the town.

Phyllis will continue employee blood pressure screenings on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Please feel free to make suggestions as we look to expand our employee health and wellness programming.

The Health Department will be updating their website page on a regular basis. Current information regarding health related issues will be posted for the public and links will be provided to advisories from the Center for Disease Control and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Citizens will be able to access valuable and up-to-date information regarding communicable diseases, prevention measures, and emergency notifications.



Submitted by: Bill Murphy, Health Director

Information Systems

Town Website Introduces New Search Capabilities

The Town of Sudbury website was migrated from a home-grown content management system (CMS) to the WordPress CMS at the beginning of September 2014. As part of this upgrade, we have expanded the search capabilities on the new website with the hope that residents will have an easier time finding the content they need.

The front page of the website now has the ability to search *All News*, *All Documents* and *All FAQs* through a search filter.

Recent News	All News All Documents All FAQs All Meetings
<p>Fifteen Positions Available for Annual Town Election March 30, 2015 Nomination papers and packets for Town offices will be available on Monday, January 5th. More</p>	

For example, the All Documents link will take you to a list of all current documents. These are documents that have not yet been archived and are still actively displayed on our website. The listing has a search box which will filter the list based on the keywords you type in the box. In the example below, I’ve typed



the words “Town Forum,” which resulted in a listing of all active documents that have the words “Town Forum” in either the *Title*, *Committee/Department* or the *Category* fields.

All Documents

X Filter

[Click This Link to Include All Archived Documents... Please Be Patient](#)

All Current Documents
Download Excel CSV

Title	Department/Committee	Categories
2014_Town_Forum_2014Oct23_Minuleman_Regional_Info	Board of Selectmen	
2014 Town Forum - Affordable Housing	Board of Selectmen	Meeting Documents/Meeting Documents, Presentation/Presentation
2014 Town Forum - Land Acquisition 2	Board of Selectmen	Meeting Documents/Meeting Documents, Presentation/Presentation
2014 Town Forum - Operating and Capital Budget Presentation	Board of Selectmen	Meeting Documents/Meeting Documents, Presentation/Presentation
Town Forum 2014 Flyer	Board of Selectmen	
Town Forum Presentation 7-31-12	Human Resources / Assistant Town Manager	Assistant Town Manager/Assistant Town Manager

Clicking on *Download Excel CSV* link will create a list of current documents in an Excel file.

Archived Files

If you are looking for a document that may have been archived or would like to see all of the documents including the archived documents, click on “Click This Link to Include All Archive Documents”. This will display all documents posted on the website including archived documents.

In the example shown below, I typed the keywords “Campaign Finance” and it returned 13 results, including archived Campaign Finance reports. The *Download Excel to CSV* feature will give you a document list of all 7,700 current and archived documents on the website. Going back to the current document listing requires clicking the *Back to Current Documents* link.

Documents (Including Archived)

Filter

[Back To Current Documents](#)

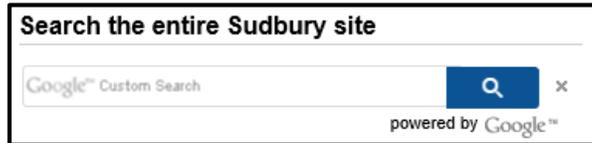
All Documents (Including Archived)
Download Excel CSV

Title	Department/Committee	Categories
Campaign Finance Report 2013 End of Year	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2013 Pre-Annual Town Election	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2013 Pre-Special Town Election June 25	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2012 End of Year	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2013 Post-Special Town Election June 25	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2013 Post-Annual Town Election	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2012 Post Annual Town Election Some End of Year	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2012 Pre-Annual Town Election	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2011 Pre-Annual Town Election	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2011 Post Annual Town Election	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2010 Special Town Election	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2010 Post Annual Town Election	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections
Campaign Finance Report 2010 Pre-Annual Town Election	Town Clerk	Elections/Elections



Google Search

The front page of the Town’s website also includes a Google search bar (shown below). The Google custom search will only return results from the Town of Sudbury website. Google search also has the ability to index the contents of most common file types such as Adobe Acrobat and Microsoft Office files. If you use Google search on our website, it will return all pages and files on our website where the keywords exists, including any archived material.

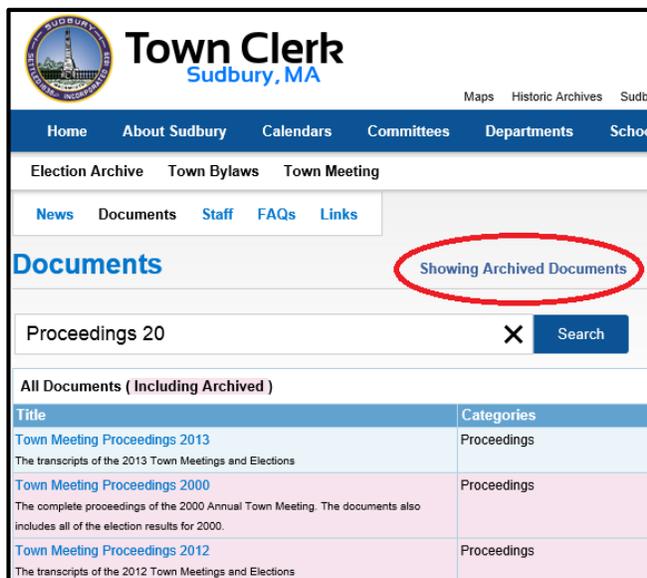
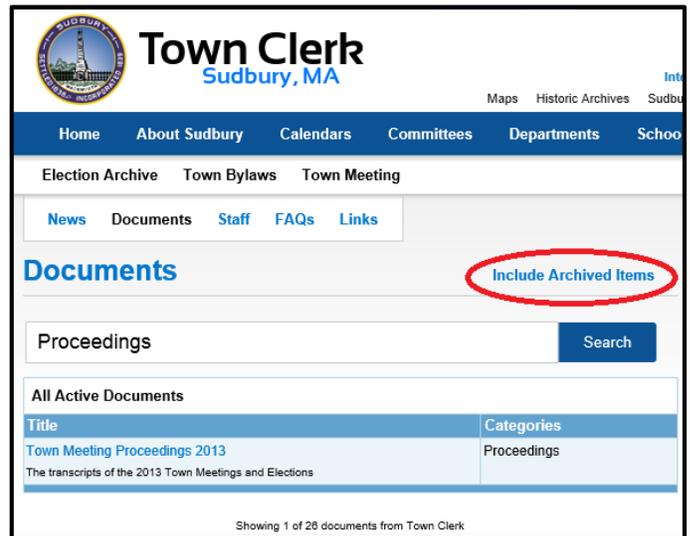


Department Search

The same listing and filtering capabilities have been extended into each Department’s document postings.

The example on the right shows the documents list for the Town Clerk’s Office. I’ve typed in the keyword “Proceedings,” which produced one result, the current 2013 Proceedings.

Clicking on the *Include Archived Items* link produces a list of current and archived documents. The archived documents are shaded in pink. In the example below, I wanted to find all of the proceedings for 2000 - 2013. I typed in the



keywords Proceedings 20, which returned all 14 Proceedings from 2000 – 2013. If I just typed in the word “Proceedings.” the filter would have listed all 58 Proceeding documents from 1950 – 2013.

Clicking on the *Showing Archived Documents* link will return you to the Current Documents listing for the department.

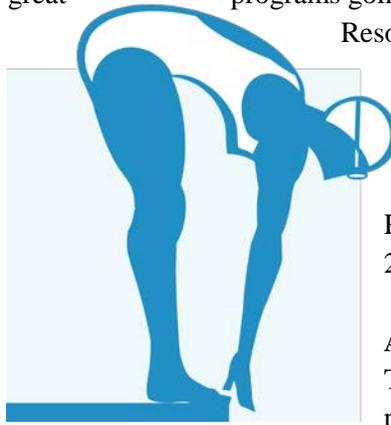
We hope that the introduction of these search capabilities will help residents find the information they are looking for in a quick and efficient manner. We continue to strive to make the Town’s website a valuable resource for our residents.

Submitted by: Mark Thompson, Technology Administrator



Park and Recreation Department

January is off to a great start at Sudbury Park and Recreation and the Atkinson Pool. We have lots of great programs going on to get everyone moving successfully towards those New Year's



Resolutions! This time of year is a great time to take up swimming: spending some time at the pool is great exercise and good for your heart & mind as you get in shape and have some fun. Below are some other fun programs that we have going on this winter. Bring the whole family, and beat those winter doldrums! The entire staff at Sudbury Park and Recreation/Atkinson Pool wish you and your family a happy and healthy 2015!

Adaptive

The Sudbury Park & Recreation Program has some great Adaptive programs starting this January. Join us for Ice Skating, Soccer, Bowling, Hip Hop Dance, our 3rd Annual Sneaker Prom, and more! Just check out the brochure for more details!

Winter Programs

Winter Programs are starting up! There are still openings in many of our programs, including Preschool, Youth, Tweens & Teens, and Adult Programs. We have something for everyone. We have weekly programs during the week, over the weekends and even over February vacation. Looking to learn something new or get your children active and involved? Check out the many programs that we have to offer this winter! For more information, please visit the Sudbury Park and Recreation website or call the Atkinson Pool/Recreation office.

Ice Skating at FCC

Check out the new ice skating rink at the Fairbank Community Center this winter. Bring your skates and friends for a fun night of skating. Please check the website for more information about the hours and use of this skating rink.



February Vacation Event: Do You Want To Build a Snowman?

Sudbury Park and Recreation will be having a snowman building event, Do You Want to Build a Snowman? on Thursday, February 19, 2015 from 5:00PM to 8:00PM. This event will take place on the Fairbank Community Center Basketball Courts under the lights. Participants should dress warm and bring snowman building materials. They are also encouraged to bring their ice skates, as our new ice skating rink will be open during this event! Complimentary hot chocolate will be provided. Bring the whole family for a fun night of snowman building! If people can't make it to the event, they are welcome to post pictures of their snowmen to our Facebook page.

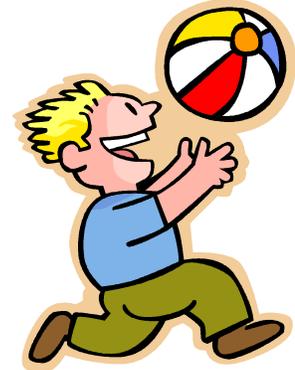


Summer Camps and Clinics Registration 2015

Resident Registration will take place on Wednesday, February 11th - 6:30PM Preschool Pals; 7:00PM Sudbury Summer & Sudbury Summer Inclusion; 7:30PM Sudbury Adventure Program; and 8:00PM CIT. Resident Registration for all other programs will take place on Friday, February 13th at 9:00AM. Non-Resident Registration will take place on Wednesday, February 25th at 9:00AM. For more information, please check our brochure, which will be available the middle of January.

Preschool

The Winter Sessions for the Preschool Programs, 'Terrific Twos' and 'Kreative Kids', are already under way. Our classroom is filled each morning with lively and energetic two and three years old who are enthusiastically and lovingly attended to by the Park and Recreation Preschool Staff. Our goal is always to provide a safe and happy environment for the children while they are away from their primary caregivers.



Based on a successful survey sent out this past fall to our Preschool Community, we have determined that parents love our current programs, but would like to see additional offerings for their preschool-aged children. The additional programs that we will be offering this winter include: the very popular 'Jump, Roll and Sing' which is a caregiver and child activity class for our youngest age group; 'Childhood Adventures' which is a daily theme related morning of activities for preschoolers offered during the February vacation; and brand new programs such as: 'STEM Exploration' which is a preschool class focusing on the topics of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math; 'Young Artists', a class that familiarizes young children with famous artists and different art techniques; 'Swim, Gym and Craft' a class that combines time in the pool with craft time in the classroom and active play in the Gym; and finally, 'Wacky Wednesdays', a theme based activity and craft program for preschoolers.

Recent studies indicate that the Preschool years are important for learning and development for young children. In the future, we hope to grow our Preschool Programs by offering meaningful experiences that are both fun and engaging for our youngest customers.

Submitted by: Nancy McShea, CPRE, CPSI, Director, Park, Recreation and Aquatics

Planning and Community Development

The Planning and Community Development office has been reviewing proposals for the FY16 Community Preservation Act funds. Project hearings have passed. The Community Preservation Committee will meet on January 28 to finalize the list of supported projects. All supported projects will then go to 2015 Annual Town Meeting for approval. Project proposals can be found on the town's website.

The Town has procured the services of Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) to complete the 25% Design Plan for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. Early survey and data collection has begun and public engagement will kick off early in the New Year. At the same time, ongoing discussions on how best to

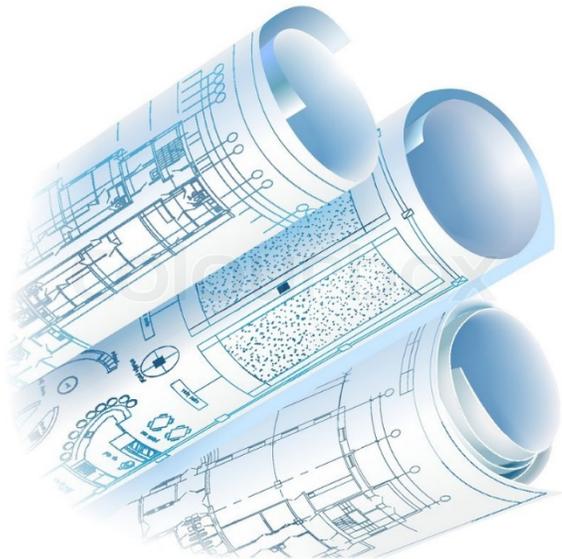


proceed with the Mass Central Rail Trail have been progressing. Both corridors will be discussed at the Rails to Trails Forum on January 22nd, 7p.m. at Town Hall.

The Planning Board continued the discussion of the Route 20 Zoning Study, which will provide a visual understanding of the potential development improvements that we may expect if the sewer project is implemented. The Cecil Group intends to make a final presentation of their findings at the February Planning Board meeting.

The Planning Board has been discussing the redevelopment of the Raytheon property with the Board of Selectmen, in hopes of influencing the future private development of that site to include Town goals and priorities. The Raytheon property is slated for sale and vacancy by the end of 2016.

The Town has procured the services of Sudbury Design Group to develop a landscape plan for the Town Center. The draft concept design will be presented to the Sudbury Center Improvement Advisory Committee on January 12th at 9:00 am in the Flynn Building, and additional public meetings will be scheduled for comments on the plan before it is finalized. The final landscape plan will be coordinated with the construction of the traffic safety improvements at the intersection.



The Sudbury Housing Trust's proposed 3 unit affordable housing project at 278 Maynard Road intends to break ground this spring. This development will produce 3 units of affordable housing for households earning less than 80% of the area median income. Occupancy is expected in the fall of 2015.

Construction continues at the North Ridge subdivision on Route 117 (6 lots), Dudley Brook Preserve on Tall Pine Drive (26 age-restricted condos), 82 Maynard Road (1 lot) and Olde Bostonian Estates on Goodman's Hill Road (3 lots).

Residents interested in any of these issues are welcome to attend the various meetings at which these projects are discussed. Check the Town's website calendar for a listing of meeting dates and time.

Submitted by: James S. Kupfer, MPA, Assistant Town Planner

Public Safety

Fire Department

Attic Fire/70 Pantry Road

The Sudbury Fire Department received a call for an attic fire in the early evening hours of Saturday, January 10, 2015. Firefighters responding from Station 3 in North Sudbury found smoke coming from the attic and quickly determined that a gas furnace had set fire to the insulation below the unit. They did a



great job extinguishing the fire and quickly removing the smoldering insulation with minimal damage to the home. Once again, early warning from a smoke detector allowed a quick response and limited the impact on the residents.

Satchel's Lucky Day

We received a call for a dog through the ice on the morning of Wednesday, January 7, 2015. As you may have seen in the local media, the result was the best we could have expected. Firefighters Mike Kilgallen and Shane Medeiros donned ice suits and deployed the ice rescue sled. From the initial 911 call to seeing Satchel sitting happily on dry land, the successful rescue happened in just a few quick minutes. We spend a lot of time training for ice rescue events, so whether it is man or beast who falls through the ice, it is good to see such a positive outcome. This is a tremendous success story and not only reflects well on the responding firefighters, but on the townspeople and their continuing support for personnel, training programs, and equipment here at the Sudbury Fire Department.



Chimney Fires/Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

We responded to a call for a chimney fire at 12 Easy Street in the early morning hours of Monday, January 5, 2015. Under the direction of Captain Douglas Stone, responding firefighters found a fire that had extended from a wood stove connected to the fireplace and into the wall above. Fire crews did a nice job of carefully opening the wall, extinguishing the fire, and checking for extension of the fire into the attic area. The residents of this home would certainly agree with me regarding the importance of having working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

In addition to the Easy Street fire, we have responded to a number of fireplace and chimney related mishaps. In some instances, we have found dangerous combustibles located near the fireplace and smoke detectors that have been disconnected and removed. Please check yours to be sure they are operating properly and the batteries are fresh. If you have any questions about the detectors in your home, please feel free to call us at 978-443-2239.

Outdoor Burning Permits

We are now issuing permits for the outdoor burning season that begins on January 15 and runs through May 1, 2015. Permits may be obtained at Fire Headquarters at 77 Hudson Road for a 10 dollar fee.



Residents are reminded to call into the automated phone line or log in to register each day they wish to burn. Detailed instructions are provided on the permit. If you have questions about open burning, please call us.

Chief Miles' Tales of the Wayside Inn

When Fire Alarm Operator Leo Quinn answered the telephone call reporting the Wayside Inn Fire in the early morning hours of December 22, 1955, the Sudbury Fire Department was like many other 1950's small town departments. Many struggled with purchasing adequate apparatus and maintaining sufficient levels of personnel to respond to emergencies.

In those days, standards for apparatus performance were written by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. The standards for Class B Pumpers were written and developed in the 1930's. By the 1940's, national authorities were contemplating new standards to require pumping apparatus to perform to a higher standard in order to deliver larger volumes of water at higher discharge pressures. This new classification would be known as Class A, but it would take until the early 1950's before a Class A pumper was widely available for purchase.

When Sudbury's volunteers responded to the Wayside Inn on that cold December night, all of their fire trucks were of the Class B type, and were "commercial apparatus." In other words, they were built on a commercially available cab and chassis and were not always equipped with large enough engines or braking systems to adequately manage heavy loads of hose and water.

The first of Sudbury's fire trucks to respond was Engine 3, a 1942 Ford. Shown below in a picture taken around 1948, is Firefighter Leo Quinn, who lived in the Loring Parsonage (pictured in the background) and his passenger Fire Chief William Davison. Davison served as Chief from 1931 to 1953. Taking a closer look, the truck is equipped with a 500 gallon per minute front mounted fire pump which is driven by a small shaft from the front of the motor, which most likely produced only about 85 horsepower. The pump has only a single intake and the hose is primarily small diameter, which was used for brush fires.





Also responding was Sudbury Engine 4, a 1938 Ford known as the Wayside Inn Engine. It was built by the Ford Motor Company specifically for use at the Wayside Inn and had been donated to the Town only a year before the fire. Like the 1942 Ford, it was equipped with a small pump, a small water tank, and a limited hose load. The last Sudbury engine responding was a 1947 International which was a former oil truck and had been donated to the Town by Interstate Gas and Oil in October of 1954. The truck is pictured below as it looked before it was re-painted and lettered, and fitted with a front mounted fire pump. The 800 gallon tank was retained to carry water.



The Wayside Inn caught fire, there were no hydrants within a mile, and Chief St. Germain and his department responded with apparatus that may not have been up to the task. As often happens, the Chief acted on the heels of disaster and took the opportunity to ask for a new piece of Class A Apparatus at the 1956 Town Meeting. Reading the Chief's "Report of the Fire Department" in the 1955 Town Report, he outlines the state of his equipment.

"Engine 3 which is the 1942 Ford truck will need a new engine in 1956. Engine 5 which is the 1947 International 800 gallon tank truck given to the Fire Department by Interstate Gas and Oil Corp. now has a high pressure front end pump on it. This truck was the means of saving a building in the Pine Lakes area recently. Engine 4, the former Wayside Inn truck, although 18 years old is in good condition and is equipped for high pressure fog and carries 500 gallons of water. Engine 2 which is a 1930 International truck and only carries two barrels of water must be replaced in 1956.

Keep in mind there was still only one firehouse in Sudbury, the north and south fire stations would not be built for another few years. Reading further in the Chief's 1955 report, I can sense his frustration in his last sentence.

"Many new homes are being built and occupied in areas where there is no water close by for fire protection. Some are four and five miles away from the station. The new fire pumper should be powerful, fast, have a large water tank, and a 750 gallon per minute pump to take care of several long lines of hose.



The New England Fire Insurance Rating Association has recommended that Sudbury purchase a 750 gallon class A fire truck. I sincerely hope the taxpayers of Sudbury will insist on the purchase of a real fire truck this time.”

The Finance Committee Report for Article 18 of the 1956 Town Meeting read:

“We are sure that this committee can add nothing to the description given by the Fire Chief and the members of his Department at the Finance Committee hearings and at other public and private gatherings of the age and condition of the present Fire Department trucks. The Finance Committee unanimously endorses the purchase of a truck described in this article.”

Article 18 called for the 18,000 dollar purchase price to be funded by \$1,250 dollars from the Excess and Deficiency fund, and the remaining \$16,500 to be borrowed for a term not exceeding five years. As Fire Chiefs, we always hope for that unanimous town meeting vote, but I am sure Chief St. Germain was encouraged to see his article pass with 259 in favor, and only 5 opposed.

The Chief is pictured below at the wheel of his “real fire truck,” a new Ward LaFrance Class A Fire Engine which was delivered on January 16, 1957. It was built on a custom chassis, and was equipped with a powerful Waukesha gasoline engine, a vacuum assisted hydraulic braking system, a 750 gallon per minute pump, three pump intakes, and a 680 gallon water tank. When I was hired by the department in 1981, this truck was still in reserve service. I remember it as a handsome piece of apparatus, and still recall senior members of the department speaking with pride about the day it was delivered. With an open cab, it was certainly a throwback to the 1950’s, especially on a winter night. Sudbury traded it in on a new fire engine in 1984, then it was purchased by the North Attleboro Fire Department for use as a reserve engine.





Fortunately, the 1957 Ward LaFrance ended up in the hands of a private collector from Rhode Island. As seen in the picture below, Richard Quetta has done quite a bit of restoration work to Sudbury's former Engine 1. Firefighter Hal Cutler talked Richard into participating in the Sudbury Fourth of July parade last year, but the heavy rain spoiled those plans. We hope to see it at this year's parade, and hope that when residents see the gold "Providence" lettering across the hood, they will realize that this truck was once the pride of the Town of Sudbury.



In the next edition of the newsletter, I will write about a second fire at the Wayside Inn, and the subsequent fire safety improvements that were required by Chief St. Germain.

Information was used from an article in Fire Apparatus Magazine by Bill Adams, and from various Sudbury Town Reports and Fire Department Records.

Submitted by: Bill Miles, Fire Chief

Police Department

Patrolman Ken Hanchett was reassigned from Patrol to the Detective Bureau. Detective Hanchett has been with the department for over four years and has demonstrated abilities necessary for the transition. He will assume the position that Sergeant Perodeau vacated upon his promotion.

Construction of the new police station continues with the steel structure assembly beginning on January 14th. The cold temperatures have been challenging, but Hutter Construction has persevered through the weather.

With the New Year, we look forward to new opportunities to improve our service to the citizenry. One of which is our relationship with Sudbury Public Schools. Officer Hutchinson, our School Resource Officer,



begins assisting in various curriculums that he and Betsy Grahams, Sudbury Public Schools Curriculum Coordinator, have worked diligently on this month. Previously, there was interaction with students limited to the 5th grade revolving around the DARE program. This relationship has been expanded greatly to involve multiple grade levels, particularly in the middle school. Our intent is to provide a more robust educational component surrounding positive decision making involving drug/alcohol/tobacco use, proper use and understanding of social media/technology, demonstrating positive relationships and beyond. We are excited about this opportunity and hope our students are receptive to the improvements.

Please see the police department home page at <https://sudbury.ma.us/police/> for the following press releases:

[December 27, 2014 Motor Vehicle Pursuit](#)

[Driver Pleads Guilty in Connection with Fatal Sudbury Car Crash](#)

Submitted by: Scott Nix, Police Chief

Town Clerk

Town Census

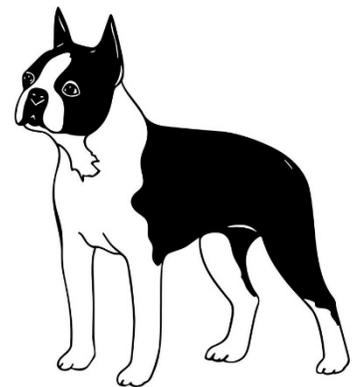
The 2015 Annual Town Census has been mailed to all households. Residents should verify or correct all information, sign, and return the census within 10 days of receipt for processing by the Town Clerk's Office. The data from the census is used to compile the Sudbury voter list, Sudbury school planning, and other reports required by Massachusetts General Law, therefore all members of the household, aged three years and older, should be included. If a resident needs a replacement census form, or has any questions, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at 978-639-3351.

A completed census can be returned by mail or hand-delivered to drop-off boxes located outside the Town Clerk's Office (322 Concord Road) and the Flynn Building (278 Old Sudbury Road).

Failure to respond to the Annual Town Census will result in the removal from Sudbury's active voting list and removal from the resident list for any non-registered voters.

Dog Licensing

All dogs aged six months or older must be licensed each year. Applications for dog licensing can be found inside the census packet, at the Town Clerk's Office, or on our [website](#). The dog licensing period extends from January 1 through March 31, 2015. Beginning April 1, a late penalty fee of \$25 will be assessed for each unlicensed dog, in addition to the regular licensing fee (Town Bylaw Article V, Section 3A.)



Annual Town Election

The Annual Town Election will be held on Monday, March 30, 2015. Candidates' packets are available at the Town Clerk's Office. The deadline for filing Intentions to run for office is February 5th. For more information, please contact the Town Clerk's Office at clerk@sudbury.ma.us or 978-639-3351. Click here to view the [How to Run for Office Workshop](#). The following fifteen positions will be included on the ballot:

**For Three Years:**

- One Moderator
- Two members of the Board of Selectmen
- One member of the Board of Assessors
- Two Goodnow Library Trustees
- One member of the Board of Health
- Two members of the Park and Recreation Commission
- Two members of the Planning Board
- Two members of the Sudbury School Committee

Included as part of the Annual Town Election will be an election of two members for three years each to the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional School Committee.

Submitted by Veronica W. Craven, Assistant Town Clerk

▶ **Volunteer Opportunities** ◀

Looking for a way to get more involved in the community? The Town Committees listed below are looking for volunteers.

To learn more about the invaluable work of these committees, please contact them directly or stop by an upcoming meeting. General information and meeting times can be found on the town website.

- ▶ Capital Improvement Advisory Committee
- ▶ Commission on Disability
- ▶ Earth Removal Board
- ▶ Fairbank Community Center Study Task Force
- ▶ Finance Committee
- ▶ Local Emergency Planning Committee
- ▶ Memorial Day Committee
- ▶ Planning Board
- ▶ Route 20 Sewer Steering Committee
- ▶ Sewer Assessment Technical Committee
- ▶ Sudbury Housing Trust

Ready to apply? The committee application form is available at:

http://sudbury.ma.us/departments/Selectmen/doc361/Blankapplicationforappointment_v4.pdf