



BOARD OF SELECTMEN NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF SUDBURY

2017 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

By Vice-Chairman Len Simon

The 2017 Annual Town Meeting at Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School on May 1 and 2 drew a large, engaged, audience that heard, debated and voted on the 28 articles on the Warrant.

Board of Selectmen Chair Susan Iuliano, in her State of the Town address, noted several major accomplishments and challenges including: Approval of the Raytheon site redevelopment which is well underway; the hard work of the Board of Appeals in dealing with three 40B projects, that Sudbury has now met the goal of 10% affordable housing; and the work of the BFRT Task Force in advancing the design.

On specific articles, Town Meeting voted approval of an override budget for Public Safety and Sudbury Public Schools. This need for additional funding of \$402,192, for Public Safety was presented by Fire Chief Miles and Police Chief Nix. This would allow the hire of four

additional firefighters /paramedics to staff a second ambulance and one additional police officer. Superintendent Wilson explained the need for additional funding of \$675,078, for grades K-8. Both measures were included in a single override vote, which required subsequent approval at the ballot. On May 9, the town voted in favor of the Proposition 2 ½ override, 1,609 to 1,173.

In the Public Safety area, Town Meeting voted \$670,000 for a new ladder truck to replace the aging ladder truck, which will have been in service for 19 years when the new truck is delivered. Such apparatus usually lasts 15 years.

Town Meeting voted additional funding for legal fees to oppose the Sudbury Station project (\$150,000) and the Eversource Sudbury to Hudson Transmission Line project (\$200,000).

Facilities Director Jim Kelly reviewed the need for capital

repairs for school and Town rooftop HVAC unit repairs and parking lot and sidewalk repairs, totaling \$305,000. Those requests were approved.

Town Meeting approved Park and Recreation's request for funding for reconstruction of the four tennis courts at Featherland Park. In addition there will be four half-court basketball setups and two pickle ball courts.

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A request by Community Preservation Committee Chair Chris Morley for \$600,000 of Community Preservation Act Funds for the purpose of preparing design and construction documents and associated cost estimates for the restoration/rehabilitation of Town Hall was approved by Town Meeting.

The last two Town Meeting articles were Petition Articles presented by members of the LSRHS Environmental Club to ban check-out plastic bags

and to prohibit the sale of bottled water in less than 1 liter bottles. Both were supported by Sustainable Sudbury and both were approved by Town Meeting, to take effect July 1, 2018.

One surprise was Moderator Michael Fee's announcement that this would be his last Annual Town Meeting, as he and his family are anticipating a move to Cape Cod. If Mr. Fee is no longer a resident in October, the hall will need to elect a new moderator for that

meeting, and then a new moderator will be elected next March for a regular three year term to begin in May 2018. The Board of Selectmen thanks Mike Fee for his service to the Town.

The Board also wishes to acknowledge the efforts of Town Manager Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues, department heads, and staff who worked diligently to prepare for Town Meeting, and who successfully presented many of the articles.

KEEPING OUR WATER CLEAN AND THE MS4 PERMIT

By Selectman Pat Brown

The new National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) for small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) permit was issued in March of 2016 and will become effective on July 1, 2017!* What does that mean?

The topic is too complicated for a single article. Here's an introduction.

Congress passed the Clean Water Act in the 1970's, directing the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to prevent pollution of US waters (rivers, lakes, estuaries, etc.) and restore them to a condition suitable for boating, fishing, and swimming. That was the goal, but we're still not there. Almost all of Sudbury, along with most of eastern Massachusetts, must comply with the NPDES MS4

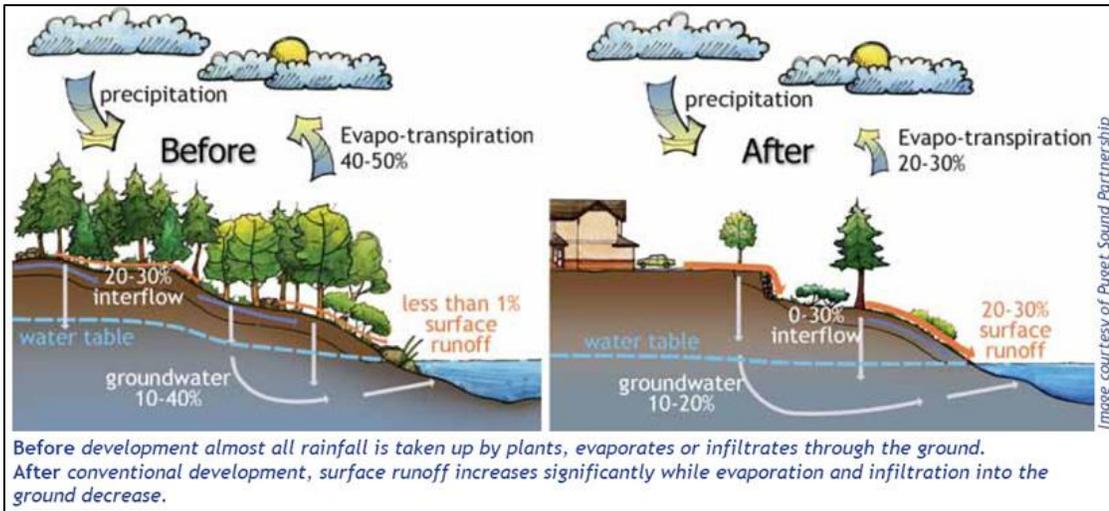
general permit requirements, or face fines and penalties from the EPA.

EPA issued the "old" MS4 permit in 2003. It generally required towns to reduce or eliminate polluted runoff. Sudbury's wetlands bylaw and Water Resource Protection Districts, already in place, had imposed runoff controls before they became necessary under the 2003 permit. EPA issued the new MS4 permit on April 13, 2016. The new MS4 permit imposes more stringent and more specific requirements to reduce pollution and to improve "infiltration"—having rain soak into the ground where it falls rather than flowing off over the surface and washing pollution into waterways. The new permit has strict new provisions surrounding the Illicit Discharge

Detection and Elimination (IDDE) of pollutants into surrounding watersheds. It also requires mapping and eventual monitoring of storm water outfalls to identify and correct discharges of pollution.

What is Sudbury doing to comply with the new MS4 permit?

First, Sudbury has for decades been proactive in handling runoff and in environmental protection in general. Sudbury already has a storm water bylaw (Bylaw Article V(F) as required by the permit. The Conservation Office and the Department of Public Works are jointly engaged in outfall mapping—identifying places where we discharge runoff so we can monitor for pollutants. For a number of the new MS4



Development increases runoff. MS4 requires that we address the environmental impact.

requirements, we're ahead of the curve.

Second, Sudbury formally adopted the Community Compact Agreement with Governor Baker's administration on January 26, 2017. One of the "best practices" the town identified as part of this agreement, and for which we are receiving state support, is to create and implement land use regulations to promote infiltration,

control flooding, and reduce pollution. Sudbury's Planning Department submitted our Community Compact application in time to benefit from a regional effort to create one common set of the required public education materials to inform people about storm water issues and ways to reduce our environmental impact. Because complying with the new permit will impose significant costs, staff

members are continuing to pursue aid, grants, partnerships, and other ways to defray them.

The requirements of the new MS4 permit phase in over five years, and become stricter as time passes. This is a significant challenge not just for Sudbury, but for the entire greater Boston area and a fair part of the entire country. You'll hear more about MS4 as new requirements are imposed. Stay tuned.

RAYTHEON DEVELOPMENT UPDATE - MEADOW WALK

By Chairman Bob Haarde

The Whole Foods Market grand opening is on July 8th. They will have outdoor patio seating for 72 patrons! This is promising to be a great gathering place in downtown Sudbury. Please consider yourself invited to attend the grand opening ceremony at 10:00 AM on Saturday July 8th at Whole Foods.



Bridges Memory Care, the Avalon Bay 40B development, is scheduled to begin construction this July as well, and construction will take approximately one year to complete.

The Avalon Bay 40B development will be completed in phases over the next few years. The 55 and over housing development by National Development is scheduled to begin construction in September of this year and the units will be completed in phases throughout 2018 and 2019.

There are two other leases signed so far which have been delivered in escrow but are not at the point where they can be announced. I can say they are both restaurant and fast/casual dining and I am told that we will be pleased when we learn who these tenants are. Construction on those establishments will also begin this July with the plan to open in Spring 2018.

The plan for the traffic signal is to be completed by the end of 2017. As these different milestones are completed, the Town of Sudbury receives more payments from the developers as outlined in the multi-million dollar development agreement we negotiated.



VIEW 1: LOOKING EAST ON BOSTON POST ROAD



VIEW 2: MAIN ENTRANCE LOOKING NORTH FROM BOSTON POST ROAD



VIEW 4: VIEW OF BUILDINGS 4 & 5 CENTER COURT

Things will start happening fast at the former Raytheon site, and we hope to see this downtown area become a bustling gathering place for Sudbury residents.

EVERSOURCE SUDBURY TO HUDSON TRANSMISSION RELIABILITY PROJECT

By Selectman Susan Iuliano

In early 2016, Eversource announced its proposal to build a high-voltage transmission line through Sudbury, running from the Sudbury substation to the Hudson Light and Power substation, along the MBTA Right-of-Way. Eversource planned to file its Petition with the Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB), the state board that must approve its proposal, in June of that year.

Since this announcement, the Selectmen have worked with federal and state officials and with local community and environmental organizations in our effort to fight the Eversource project. The proposed project crosses or abuts land parcels which are protected to preserve vulnerable environmental features and wildlife habitats, which include groundwater sources for our drinking water, and which incorporate several historic sites and districts. Further, local residents formed Protect Sudbury, a non-profit organization to contribute a complementary voice in the process, working closely with our Town officials. This groundswell response contributed significantly to the delay of the Eversource filing

and revision of the alternatives proposed.

On April 20, 2017, Eversource filed its EFSB Petition, which proposes a Preferred Project of an underground transmission line along the MBTA ROW, a Noticed Variation project of overhead lines on the MBTA ROW, and a Noticed Alternative project buried under the streets of Sudbury. Originally, Eversource had announced plans to designate the overhead line as the Preferred Project. Related filings submitted to the EFSB include requests for numerous zoning exemptions.

The EFSB conducted a Public Comment Hearing on May 25 at LSRHS. The large attendance and comments from the public and town and state officials underscored our concerns about the project.

On June 15, the Town of Sudbury petitioned the EFSB for leave to intervene as a full party in the upcoming proceedings, and has been granted intervenor status. Thus, the Town can take part in discovery as well as present evidence at the proceedings. Others granted intervenor status include Protect Sudbury and the Town of Hudson.

On May 15, Eversource filed an application with the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) for review under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). This state environmental review process runs concurrently with the EFSB proceedings. On June 12, the MEPA Office conducted a visit of the proposed project site and a public Scoping Session to hear comments on potential environmental impacts. The EEA will soon issue a Certificate to outline the scope of the issues and analysis for the Environmental Impact Report to be submitted by Eversource.

The Selectmen have been working closely with special counsel to prepare our responses to the EFSB Petition and the MEPA application. We have engaged multiple experts to inform our responses and to assist in development of the evidence we will present in the EFSB proceedings. The next stage will involve a lengthy discovery process, focusing on expert testimony. We will continue to update the public as these developments proceed.

Click [here](#) for the latest [Eversource](#) updates.

COMMUNITY COMPACT

By Town Manager Melissa Rodrigues

In January, the Town of Sudbury became the 255th community in the Commonwealth to participate in the state's Compact Community program.

On January 23, 2015, Governor Baker signed his first executive order creating the Community Compact Cabinet and prioritizing the Administration's partnership with municipalities. Lt. Governor Polito chairs the Community Compact Cabinet and oversees the effort to provide more resources to local governments, through grants and technical assistance.

By entering into a Compact Community Agreement,

Sudbury agreed to implement at least one best practice selected from numerous available subjects. These best practices show a commitment to the Commonwealth and to residents. Sudbury chose three best practice initiatives, which were in line with the goals set by the Board of Selectmen last year.

Sudbury chose three best practices that will allow them to focus on three important initiatives: cyber security, storm water management and production of an updated master plan. Recognition as a compact community also opens up other grant opportunities each year.

The scope for the cyber security project has already been approved by the state, and the Town has been granted \$10,000 toward that goal. The funds should be arriving over the summer.

The storm water management best practice is part of a large regional collaboration to work collectively on achieving compliance with the MS4 permit also discussed in this newsletter.

The master plan scope has also been approved by the state, and funding of up to \$20,000 has been award. The Town is currently awaiting funds and contract approval.



The Board of Selectmen, Lt. Gov Polito, Town Manager Rodrigues and Town Staff gathered for the Community Compact signing on January 26.

***Correction:** The MS4 permit in 2016 was to become effective on July 1, 2017; however, a last minute change has deferred the effective date to July 1, 2018.