



TOWN OF SUDBURY

Office of Selectmen
www.sudbury.ma.us

Flynn Building
278 Old Sudbury Rd
Sudbury, MA 01776-1843
978-639-3381
Fax: 978-443-0756

Email: selectmen@sudbury.ma.us

August 19, 2014

Town Counsel Paul Kenny has announced that will be retiring from the position of Town Counsel for the Town of Sudbury effective December 31, 2014.

Mr. Kenny has served Sudbury as Town Counsel for 38 years. He has had a long and distinguished career that includes the successful participation in a number of landmark legal cases on behalf of the Town:

- During the mid 1970's he appeared before the Labor Relations Commission on a key decision holding that minimum manning was not a mandatory subject of bargaining, which continues to be the practice today.
- In litigation on behalf of the Town against the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission in 1988 the Appeals Court upheld the Town of Sudbury's refusal to renew a package store liquor license where the holder no longer had any premises at which to exercise the license. The elimination of the so-called "pocket license" resulted in the issuance of new licensing guidelines by the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission.
- In 2003 he presented and argued the Town's position in a major land use case to the Supreme Judicial Court involving Town acquisition of land taxed as agricultural land pursuant to a statutory right of first refusal. The case was decided in favor of Sudbury. As a result, the Town was able to acquire substantial attractive acreage that would otherwise have been sold to developers at minimal cost. Mass General Laws were subsequently amended to comply with the decision.

Many of the major land acquisitions of the Town have involved important legal questions. Mr. Kenny played a vital role in bringing a successful conclusion to the negotiation and documentation of the Meachen, Weisblatt, Piper, Dickson, and Cutting land acquisitions. According to former Selectman John Drobinski, who worked with Mr. Kenny over a 27 year period, "Paul has been a key, though often unheralded, part of the Town's ability to preserve so much open space."

Less visibly but no less importantly, Mr. Kenny has spent countless hours advising Town staff and board and committee members on the complex legal issues that frequently arise in the course of conducting municipal business.

We are deeply grateful for his substantial efforts on behalf of the Town over close to four decades and wish him the very best.