



The Town of Sudbury, Massachusetts  
Town Manager's EMAIL Newsletter – May 7, 2007

*Town staff and committees are constantly working to improve the quality of life in Sudbury. This email is designed to share information with Town staff and committee members about the many programs and efforts that are underway.*

#### **"Town Matters" airs Second Show**

"Town Matters" is the new monthly ½ hour cable show featuring the Sudbury Board of Selectmen. The Board just taped their second program and discussed three of the most important initiatives coming out of Town Meeting – the new Police Station project, the Rail Trail articles and the Town Center project. All three projects were approved by Town Meeting, and in this program the Board discussed what type of activities will be undertaken by staff and committees post Town Meeting, as well as why the Board requested the funds and the approvals to move forward with these projects.



#### **Town Meeting Wraps Up, Lots of Work Ahead**

Town Meeting adjourned after three nights, having worked through 35 articles, including the operating budget, the capital budget, several capital articles (fire truck and the police station), nine Community Preservation Act funded projects, and five citizen's petition articles. Based on these votes, Town and school staff and various boards and committees have a lot of work ahead of them. Sudbury's Town Election and Annual Town Meeting go so smoothly due to extraordinary work by a number of individuals. Just to name a few (and I apologize to anyone I left out) Mary McCormack, my executive assistant; Rosemary Harvell, Town Clerk; Judie Newton, Assistant Town Clerk; Elaine Jones, Legal Office Assistant; Mark Thompson, Technology Director; Brian Powell, Technology Assistant; Patty Golden, Office Manager/Selectmen's Office; all the staff at LS and all the police officers who work those nights; Lynn Puorro, Cable TV Access Coordinator; and of course Moderator Myron Fox. Myron appointed an Assistant Moderator, Fred Pryor, to assist him from the Cafeteria, where a second room was opened for Town Meeting attendance.



Thanks to all of these hardworking people and to everyone else who makes the effort to attend Town Meeting and participate in the governing process.

#### **Board of Selectmen/Staff Start Work on Goal Setting**

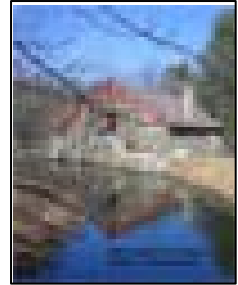
Each year, after Town Meeting concludes, the Selectmen take some time to determine new goals for the upcoming fiscal year. Last week a memo went out from the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen John Drobinski to the chairman of all the town's standing boards and committees asking for ideas and suggestions for their consideration. If you have an idea or goal suggestion, please email the Selectmen by May 16<sup>th</sup> – their email



address is [Selectmen@town.sudbury.ma.us](mailto:Selectmen@town.sudbury.ma.us). In each year's *Town Report*, the Board and I include a report on the progress that was made on achieving the goals that were set in the prior year. And on the Board's website is the list of the FY07 goals, if you would like a sample of the type of policy issues that the Board addresses in its goal setting process.

#### **Town Report Completed, Delivered**

Speaking of the Town Report, once again the Town Report Committee did an outstanding job on the 2007 Town Report. One unique feature of Sudbury's Town Report is the school children's artwork, which are used throughout the report. Use of this artwork makes assembling the Report more a challenge for the Committee, as each item has to be scanned in, the right place for each piece has to be selected, and the artist's name correctly listed. But it's enjoyable to see how Town facilities and landmarks are seen through the eyes of our school children. The Town Report contains a richness of data and information on Town and school services, including a report card from the Board of Selectmen on progress toward meeting their goals, the Treasurer's report on the Town's Trusts, statistics reported by the Police and Fire Departments, and much more. Check it out! Each household should have received their copy in the weeks before Town Meeting.



#### **Photography Contest**

What are the special places and spaces that define the character of the community? The Sudbury Planning and Community Development Department and the Conservation Commission are holding a photo contest of landscapes in town that contribute to the character of the community. The Town recently completed two reports that note landscapes identified by Sudbury residents as being significant for their contribution to the character of the town. As part of this project, the Town is staging a photography contest and asking residents to share photos of their favorite views in town. For more information see the front page of the Town website: [www.sudbury.ma.us](http://www.sudbury.ma.us) and follow the link to the details of the program.

#### **Auction of Low Value Property Scheduled for May 31**

Town Finance Director/Treasurer/Tax Collector Andrea Terkelsen will be conducting an auction of properties the Town has taken possession of due to tax foreclosure. As Andrea notes, these parcels vary in size, location and topography and are being sold "as is" without any opinion or warranty of land use. Tax assessment designation may not reflect final designation or determinations by Town Boards regarding allowable use. Sale of these parcels can help put money into the general fund, and relieves the Tax Collector's bond for responsibility for further collection efforts on these abandoned properties. For more information see the front page of the Town website: [www.sudbury.ma.us](http://www.sudbury.ma.us) and follow the link to the details of the auction.

*My thanks to all the staff and volunteers who work hard to make these things happen. You make Sudbury such a special place.*

*Maureen Valente, Town Manager*