



The Town of Sudbury, Massachusetts
Town Manager's EMAIL Newsletter – January 20, 2006

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.

FY07 Budget Update

The Finance Committee has now heard budget presentations from the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School Committee and Superintendent, the Sudbury Public School Committee and Superintendent, and just last night from me, supported by many of our Department Heads and the Board of Selectmen. All the Power Points slides from these presentations can be found on the Town's web site. The revenue forecast for the Town has improved slightly, but there is still a substantial gap between budget requests and available revenue.



The biggest unknown at this point is Local Aid. Governor Romney promised in his "State of the State" address this week that he would file a budget bill requesting a significant jump in Local Aid, indicating that since towns and cities had taken a disproportionate share of cuts in the state budget in the past three years, he would favor them receiving a bigger share of the pie now that state receipts were growing and state reserves had been restored. No details are available yet, but his budget bill should be filed next week. After that, the state legislature will take a turn debating the future size and allocation of Local Aid to Sudbury and other communities. We should all thank the Finance Committee for all the effort they put in dealing with this difficult issue. They take their job very seriously and must weigh many considerations.

What a Wind Storm!

Sudbury suffered its share of damage from that storm and all our public safety and public works crews had their hands full dealing with the road closures, homes damaged by fallen trees, power outages, and more.

Chief MacLean offers this summary of the response of the Fire

Department. *"What a fantastic job was done by Group 4 on Wednesday during the high winds that caused so much damage. Captain Carroll, working overtime, had his hands full, but all hands were on deck and 23 nearly simultaneous calls were handled smoothly. Good work by Peter Holman, dispatcher, assisted by Kerri Ford kept things rolling. Lieutenant Glidden, Gary Bardsley, Josh McLeod, Ethan Craig, Peter Frost and George Place, along with a host of call back personnel made sure all calls were prioritized, investigated, and mitigated. Even Engine 5 got put to work. This may have set a record for calls received per unit of time. Excellent work and thanks to all."* Let me add my thanks to everyone in the Fire Department, and the Police Department and Public Works Department as well.



Small Efforts Can Make a Huge Difference



Perhaps a few of you know that the Town actually owns the bells that are located in the bell tower of First Parish of Sudbury? Recently, Art Richard, the Town's Supervisor of Buildings, was able to meet a request from First Parish to silence the bells for one day only so that a memorial service for a member of the Presbyterian Church, which is located on the northeastern corner of the Town Center, could include a ringing of their bell. It turns out this gentleman was instrumental in acquiring the bell owned by the Presbyterian Church. Art has a very busy schedule, but took the time to quietly provide this service. It is small acts like this that makes Sudbury so special to be in.

Flynn Building Conference Rooms are Named

The two conference rooms in the Flynn Building now have formal names. The Board of Selectmen recently decided to name these rooms in honor of two retired Town of Sudbury employees whose dedication to supporting the Board of Selectmen spanned decades. The new Silva Conference Room in the Flynn Building is the larger of the two meeting rooms, honoring Jan Silva, long time administrative assistant to the Board of Selectmen.



The Thompson Conference Room is the smaller one at the top of the stairs. This room honors Ed Thompson, who was Executive Secretary/Interim Town Manager for the Town of Sudbury from 1979 – 1996. This is one small way the Board can show we won't forget these two professionals who so well served this Town. When you call Mary or Rosemary in my office to book use of one of these conference rooms, you can now refer to them by name.

Jan's Reception a Huge Success



My thanks to Kirsten Roopenian, former Selectmen and current chair of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee, who almost single handedly organized the beautiful reception for Jan Silva. Food, decorations, and especially the gift – an incredible watercolor of the Loring Parsonage, where Jan worked for over 30 years – were all arranged for by Kirsten. Thanks to all who contributed towards Jan's gift and party and thanks to Tim Coyne for some great photos of the event. Here are two of my favorites.

Here is Jan surrounded by many of the staff she has worked with in recent years.



My thanks to all the staff and volunteers who work hard to make these good things happen. You make Sudbury great! Maureen Valente, Town Manager