

ADJOURNED ANNUAL TOWN MEETING — May 11, 1983

Moderator DeWitt T. Minich called the second session of the Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, the sum of up to \$32,000 to purchase the development rights to the Morse and Alderbrook farms in West Boxford under the provisions of the Agricultural Preservation Restriction Act; said amount to represent five percent of the total purchase price, the remaining 95% to be granted by the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to transfer from Article 23 of the 1973 Annual Town Meeting the sum of \$4,026.87; transfer from Article 19 of the 1976 Annual Town Meeting the sum of \$3,500.00; and transfer from Overlay Surplus Reserve the sum of \$24,473.13; said total to equal \$32,000.00 to purchase the development rights to the Morss and Alderbrook farms in West Boxford under the provisions of the Agricultural Preservation Restriction Act; said amount, or portion thereof, not to exceed five percent of the total purchase price, the remaining 95% to be granted by the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to accept a certain parcel of land to be conveyed to the Town of Boxford by deed of Stanwood R. Morss, said land containing 10 acres, more or less, situated on private road off Main Street and just south of Stiles Pond, known as the "Nobody Swamp", as recorded on a plan filed with the Essex South Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 4823, Page 500 and dated September, 1961; said acceptance contingent upon Town Meeting approval of above Article 20 or take any other action thereon.

An amendment to purchase a .66-acre parcel of land adjoining the West Boxford well field was rejected by the Moderator.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to accept a certain parcel of land to be conveyed to the Town of Boxford by deed of Stanwood R. Morss, said land containing 10 acres, more or less, situated on private road off Main Street and just south of Stiles Pond, known as the "Nobody Swamp", as recorded on a plan filed with the Essex County Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 4823, Page 500 and dated September, 1961; said acceptance contingent upon Town Meeting approval of above Article 20.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or bond a sum of money, or borrow through State House Notes, or transfer from funds to become available, the sum of \$146,000 to purchase 31.44 acres, more or less, of land off Main Street and fronting on Stiles Pond, formerly known as Camp Sacajawea, to be used as open space/public domain, such sum to be expended under the direction and supervision of the Boxford Selectmen; said land to be purchased as recorded on a plan filed with the Essex South Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 3917, Page 6, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by hand count, 164 affirmative, 23 opposed, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$146,000 for the purchase of 31.44 acres, more or less, of land off Main Street and fronting on Stiles Pond, formerly known as Camp Sacajawea, to be used as open space/public domain, such sum to be expended under the direction and supervision of the Boxford Selectmen; said land to be purchased as recorded on a plan filed with the Essex South Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 3917, page 6; and to meet such appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, shall be authorized to borrow through State House notes said amount of \$146,000.00 over a period of four years, under the provisions of Mass. General Law Chapter 44; said borrowing to be contingent upon approval of the special ballot question on May 16, 1983, to wit: "Shall the Town of Boxford be allowed to exempt the amounts required to pay for the

bond issued in order to purchase 31.44 acres (more or less) of land off Main Street and fronting on Stiles Pond, formerly known as Camp Sacajawea, to be used as open space/public domain? Yes _____ (or) No _____?

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$6,760 for the use of the Council on Aging in procuring the services of a Director to assist in implementing needed services of the elderly in Boxford as indicated in the recent survey, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to pass over the article.

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to aid and support the work of the Boxford Tricentennial Committee in preparing for Boxford's 300th Anniversary Celebration in 1985, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to amend the Article by inserting the words "to establish a revolving fund" before "to aid and support."

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000 to establish a revolving fund to aid and support the work of the Boxford Tricentennial Committee in preparing for Boxford's 300th Anniversary Celebration in 1985.

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, or bond a sum of money, or transfer from funds to become available, a sum of money to be used to purchase a new Fire Engine to replace Engine #2 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of the present Engine #2 (a 1962 vehicle) in any manner which they deem advisable, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to transfer from Overlay Surplus Reserve the sum of \$15,000 and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$84,849, said sum to equal \$99,849, to be used by the Selectmen to purchase a new Fire Engine to replace Engine #2.

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to purchase and/or lease a computer system for use of the Town, or to contract with a computer firm to computerize some town records, or take any other action thereon.

This Article was taken out of order, prior to Article 37.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by a show of hands, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,770 to contract with a computer firm to computerize some town records.

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds a sum of money to incorporate the recommendations of the recent energy audit at the New Town Hall and the DPW Garage, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to pass over the article.

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$8,500 to purchase and equip one sedan to be used as a police cruiser, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,500 to purchase and equip one sedan to be used as a police cruiser.

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$13,000 to purchase telephone equipment to replace the existing rented New England Telephone equipment at the Police/Communications building, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$7,600 to purchase telephone equipment to replace the existing rented New England Telephone equipment at the Police/Communications building.

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$2,200 to purchase a base station transmitter to replace the existing Police Intercity and Ambulance base station which consists of two (2) modified old tube type mobile radios, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,200 to purchase a base station transmitter to replace the existing Police Intercity and Ambulance base station which consists of two (2) modified old tube type mobile radios.

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$1,500 to install a fire alarm system at the DPW Garage, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,500 to install a fire alarm system at the DPW Garage.

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$5,000 to build a block enclosure around the diesel generator behind the Police Station.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$600 to build an enclosure around the diesel generator behind the Police Station.

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town of Boxford will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$500 for the purpose of participation in the HELP FOR ABUSED WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN project, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$500 for the purpose of participation in the HELP FOR ABUSED WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN project.

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will vote to amend its Bylaws in Article III, Section 4 by inserting the following paragraph, or take any other action thereon:

"3-4-2 The Capital Budgeting Committee shall, from time to time, project the capital equipment needs of the Town for periods up to ten years based on information obtained from town officials and committees and the committee members individual expertise. The Committee shall present an Annual Report to the Selectmen and Finance Committee detailing the forecasted capital needs of the Town, and this report shall be published in the Annual Town Report."

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to amend the Bylaws in Article III, Section 4 by inserting the following paragraph:

"3-4-2 The Capital Budgeting Committee shall, from time to time, project the capital equipment needs of the Town for periods up to ten years based on information obtained from town officials and committees and the committee members individual expertise. The Committee shall present an Annual Report to the Selectmen and Finance Committee detailing the forecasted capital needs of the Town, and this report shall be published in the Annual Town Report."

ARTICLE 35. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$2,500 for construction costs to decrease the slope angle in the

embankment at the intersection of High Ridge Road and Georgetown Road, with the Boxford DPW supplying the necessary labor, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to pass over the article.

ARTICLE 36. To see if the Town will vote to accept the proposal of the Masconomet Regional School District passed on March 23, 1983 to amend the Agreement establishing the Masconomet Regional School Section 1, by providing for an eleven member Regional School Committee consisting of four (4) members from Boxford, four (4) members from Topsfield, and three (3) members from Middleton, and to accomplish said change in the Committee at the annual town elections in 1984, when the Town of Boxford and the Town of Topsfield shall elect two (2) members for a term of three (3) years, and the Town of Middleton shall elect onw (1) member for three (3) years. Thereafter, at the expiration of the term of office of each elected member, the member towns shall elect a successor or successors to serve for a term of three (3) years or until his or her successor is elected and qualified. Copies of the amendment are available at the office of the Town Clerk. The purpose of this change is to bring the Regional School Committee's membership into compliance with the Constitutional Mandate as set forth by the United States Supreme Court concerning the "One Man/One Vote" requirement for elected public bodies, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to accept the proposal of the Masconomet Regional School District passed on March 23, 1983 to amend the Agreement establishing the Masconomet Regional School Section 1, by providing for an eleven member Regional School Committee consisting of four (4) members from Boxford, four (4) members from Topsfield, and three (3) members from Middleton, and to accomplish said change in the Committee at the annual town elections in 1984, when the Town of Boxford and the Town of Topsfield shall elect two (2) members for a term of three (3) years, and the Town of Middleton shall elect one (1) member for three (3) years. Thereafter, at the expiration of the term of office of each elected member, the member towns shall elect a successor or successors to serve for a term of three (3) years or until his or her successor is elected and qualified.

ARTICLE 37. To see if the Town will vote to add the following paragraph to Section VI.B of the Zoning Bylaw:

11. Lot Shape — the total length of the boundaries of a lot shall not exceed twice the length of the boundaries of a square lot of the same area.

EXPLANATION: The purpose of this article is to exclude lots of excessively irregular shape.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to pass over the article.

ARTICLE 38. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section VI.B.2.c.2 of the Zoning Bylaw by deleting the words "and not over twenty (2) percent in slope."

EXPLANATION: This amendment removes the requirement that the legally buildable area may not include land over twenty percent in slope. The purpose is to avoid extensive regrading of lots.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to amend Section VI.B.2.c.2 of the Zoning Bylaw by deleting the words "and not over twenty (20) percent in slope."

John May of the Planning Board made an oral report of a favorable recommendation by the Planning Board.

ARTICLE 39. To see if the Town will vote to establish a Boxford Cable Television Advisory Committee to be appointed by the Selectmen, to investigate the possibility of installing cable television service in the Town of Boxford, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by majority voice vote, to establish a Boxford Cable Television Advisory Committee to be appointed by the Selectmen, to investigate the possibility of installing cable television service in the Town of Boxford.

ARTICLE 40. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a suitable sum of money to be added to the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action thereon.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to pass over the article.

ARTICLE 41. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to dissolve the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Registered voters attending the meeting were 192. Counters and checkers for the meeting were appointed by Town Clerk Frank H. Weatherby.

A true record.

ATTEST:

Frank H. Weatherby
Town Clerk

BUDGET APPROVED FOR 1983-1984

GENEAL GOVERNMENT

Selectmen	\$	25,900
Clerical		6,760
Advertising		800
Selectmen Contingency		1,600
Town Report		6,000
Town Clerk-Salary		2,100
Town Clerk-Clerical		4,327
Town Clerk-All Other		1,430
Registrars		2,025
Elections		1,725
Town Counsel		12,000
Planning Board		2,850
Appeals Board		1,000
Recreation Committee		1,300
Child Guidance		2,697
Council on Aging		3,176
Conservation Commission		475
Board of Health		17,397
Historic District commission		50

TOTAL

\$ 93,612

FINANCE

Accountant	\$	21,854
Assessors		29,671
Finance Committee		800
Tax Collector		16,564
Treasurer		8,935
Interest on Loans		11,000

TOTAL

88,824

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police-Salary	\$	162,000
Police-All Other		49,862
Police-Reserve		2,827
Police-Overtime		21,360
Fire		39,161
Communications-Salary		59,918
Communications-All Other		14,243
Dog Officer		2,200
Parking Clerk		50
Ambulance Service		10,150

TOTAL

359,771

EDUCATION

Library Operating Expense	\$	79,783
Library Bond Repayment		52,208
Elementary Schools		1,167,630
Masconomet Regional		1,536,590
North Shore Vocational		29,500

TOTAL

2,865,711

TOWN MAINTENANCE

DPW-Salaries	\$ 113,059
DPW-Material	110,815
DPW-All Other	86,528
Town Forest	100
Cemeteries	1,250
Memorial Day	950
Moth Suppression	1,500

TOTAL

314,202

INSPECTORS

Animal	\$ 820
Building	5,544
Electrical	3,000
Gas	400

TOTAL

9,764

INSURANCE

Health and Life	\$ 48,000
General Insurance	72,125
Veteran's Benefits	1,500
Retirement Pension	1,250

TOTAL

122,875

GRAND TOTAL TOWN BUDGET

\$3,854,759

RAISE AND APPROPRIATE

Article 18	\$ 6,149.14
Article 22	146,000.00
Article 28	8,500.00
Article 32	600.00

TOTAL

\$ 161,249.14

TOTAL TO BE RAISED AND APPROPRIATED

\$4,016,008.14

APPROPRIATIONS

Article 7	\$ 2,687.00
Article 8	175.00
Article 9	33,550.00

TOTAL TO BE APPROPRIATED

\$ 36,412.00

TRANSFERS

Article 1	\$ 337.00
Article 5	48,000.00
Article 10	110,000.00
Article 11	10,100.00
Article 15	5,000.00
Article 16	500.00
Article 18	1,750.86
Article 19	6,300.00
Article 20	32,000.00
Article 24	5,000.00
Article 26	10,770.00
Article 29	7,600.00
Article 30	2,200.00
Article 31	1,500.00
Article 33	500.00

TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED

\$ 241,557.86