

Town Meeting - February 1, 1773

In January of 1773, an unusual meeting was called to “hear and take under mature Consideration” a letter received from the Select Men of Boston setting forth grievances against the King. After appointing a committee to determine the appropriate response, Town Meeting voted, on February 1, 1773 to support the report which stated:

- The men of Sudbury had the right to state their opinions and grievances;
- “That the Acts of the British Parliament, and Measures pursued by the Administration in England, which have taken place in these Colonies, and especially in this Province within these few years; are Sufficiently Alarming to awaken our Attention and Sufficiently Grievous to justify complaint”;
- That there was no point in listing all the grievances;
- “That nothing short of a radical redress of our Grievances, will restore that Harmony, and Good understanding between Great Britian and these Colonies which it is our sincere desire, might always subsist between us”;
- That they had a right to instruct their representatives and they then instructed John Noyes, as their representative on “this Critical Day, when our invaluable rights and Privilidges are so openly invaded... to invariably adhere to, and steadfastly maintain...all our Charter Rights and privilidges and that you do not consent to give them, or any of them up, on any pretense whatever”;
- “That you make use of all your Influence, that some effectual

method be devised and pursued for the restoration of our Violated Rights and a redress of all our Grievances”;

- And that you ask the Governor for funds to hire an agent to present our grievances to the King in person.

(Throughout this presentation, the spelling is as it appeared in the original records. Spelling was flexible in the 1700's!)