

**Truro Board of Selectmen
Meeting, March 22, 2016
Town Hall Meeting Room**

Members Present: Chair Paul Wisotzky; Maureen Burgess, Jay Coburn, Robert Weinstein, Janet Worthington

Present: Town Administrator Rae Ann Palmer

Chair Paul Wisotzky called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and opened the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING

Jessica Elder, representing Eversource Energy, presented their petition to install 45 feet of conduit/cable and 2 new hand holes in the public sidewalk in Knowles Heights Road, Truro to provide electric service to a customer at 1 Bluff Terrace.

There were no questions from the public or the Selectmen, and Paul Wisotzky closed the public hearing at 6:04 p.m.

Robert Weinstein moved to approve Eversource's petition to install approximately 45 feet of conduit/cable and 2 new hand holes in Knowles Heights Road to provide electric service to 1 Bluff Terrace and authorize the Board of Selectmen Clerk to sign. Jay Coburn seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Jay Coburn discussed having a redundant feed to Provincetown and asked Ms. Elder to convey a message to Eversource that the Town is awaiting an update on this.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN ACTION

County Government Reorganization Presentation

Judy Thomas and Marylou Petit from the League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area, presented a brief history of the League's interest in County government. Ms. Thomas reviewed the pro's and con's on the current 3-person Board of County Commissioners. She also gave the advantages and disadvantages for the Princi and McCutcheon proposals to eliminate the Board of County Commissioners. Marylou Petit gave her background in County government, gave its current organization and discussed potential change of choosing representatives by regions rather than by each town, again reviewing the pro's and cons of this. The League agreed that the County Commissioners should be eliminated and a strong executive position instituted. They had not come to a conclusion about the delegates.

Deborah McCutcheon, Truro's representative to the Assembly of Delegates, came forward to correct some of the facts that had been presented. She began a review of the County government, but the Selectmen suggested that she return with Mr. Princi to give a presentation. They will be invited to a future meeting. Ms. McCutcheon submitted a memo that she wrote in 2011 that dealt with the issues now under discussion.

Discussion of Fire Department Budget

Fire Chief Tim Collins and Rae Ann Palmer, Town Administrator, explained a proposal which addresses recruitment and retention issues and would build a stronger fire and rescue service. Chief Collins presented a two days on/four days off schedule for six full time firefighters. The rest of the Fire Department would be retained. There is a budget increase involved that would need a Proposition 2 ½ Override. Jan Worthington and Robert Weinstein expressed support for the proposal. Jay Coburn was interested in a regional effort for Fire and Rescue. That might still be considered, but Rae Ann Palmer said the six positions were still a minimum that the Town needs. Tami Francis and Trudi Brazil in Accounting had helped him develop the schedule, Fire Chief Collins noted with thanks.

Jay Coburn moved to authorize the Town Administrator to provide a Proposition 2 ½ Override to fund the full time positions for six (6) full time Fire and Rescue personnel. Jan Worthington seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Recommendations for Warrant Articles for Annual Town Meeting 2016

Rae Ann Palmer, Town Administrator, requested recommendations from the Selectmen for the Town Meeting Warrant. Town Counsel had made additional comments that needed their consideration, she said. The Board proceeded with the Articles that were ready for their recommendations.

Article 1 - Reports of Multi-Member Bodies, Article 2 - Salary of the Board of Selectmen & Article 3 - Salary of the Moderator

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Articles 1-3 as printed in the Draft Warrant. Maureen Burgess seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Town Administrator requested that Article 15 be considered next.

Article 15 – Easement over Town-owned Land

Truro Conservation Trust members and Mark Robinson, Executive Director of the Compact of Cape Cod Conservation Trusts, came forward for discussion of Article 15. Mark Robinson explained the request for the easement over Town-owned land to connect to conservation trails on land acquired from Edgewood Farm. The Trust needs clear public access to the trails to Great Hill, he said. Rae Ann Palmer reported on Town Counsel's advice on getting approval in General Court.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 15. Maureen Burgess seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Town Administrator Rae Ann Palmer gave an overview of Town Counsel's review of the rest of the Draft Warrant.

Article 4- Amendments to the Current Year Operating Budget

Rae Ann Palmer explained changes through Free Cash transfers totaling \$38,300.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 4 as amended. Robert Weinstein seconded, and the motion carried 5-0

Article 5 – Omnibus Budget Appropriation

This Article explains how the Town will pay for the General Fund Budget and totals \$18,247,676. Town Accountant Trudi Brazil explained the existing Land Bank debt and how it is paid through CPA funds.

Maureen Burgess moved to recommend Article 5 as printed. Jay Coburn seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 6 – Transfer of Funds from Free Cash

Rae Ann Palmer explained last year's transfers and recommended \$1.3 million of Free Cash to stabilize the tax rate.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 6 -Sections 1, 2 and 3. Robert Weinstein seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 7 – Community Preservation Act

Because of changes that need to be made in the CPA Articles, the Selectmen planned to make their recommendations at the next meeting on March 29. Maureen Burgess offered a correction for the information on the Highland House Museum. Jim Summers answered a question about the lease agreement from the National Parks Service for Highland House. Rae Ann Palmer had further information from Town Counsel about conditioning for the Highland House Museum based on obtaining the lease for the building.

Article 8 – Authorization to Expend Funds for State Highway Expenses

Rae Ann Palmer explained and read the changes from Town Counsel for this Article.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 8 as redrafted by Town Counsel. Jan Worthington seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 9 – Capital Exclusion

This is for a one-time expenditure for the outfall pipe on Town property at East Harbor, Ms. Palmer said.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 9. Maureen Burgess seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

Article 10 – Transfer of Funds from Stabilization Fund

Rae Ann Palmer planned a transfer of \$50,000 in case of big buy-out. She gave options of how this might work and reminded the Board that the Article requires a two-thirds vote at Annual Town Meeting.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 10 as amended by Town Counsel. Maureen Burgess seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 11 – New Pay Plan for Non-Union Personnel

This represents a 1 ½% pay increase for those not included in the union, Rae Ann Palmer said.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 11. Maureen Burgess seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 12 – COA Revolving Fund

This requires an annual approval at Town Meeting, Town Accountant Trudi Brazil said.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 12. Jan Worthington seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 13 – Capital Project Stabilization Fund

Rae Ann Palmer explained the Article and noted that it would require a two-thirds vote at Town Meeting. She recommended starting saving now for a replacement of the entire Public Safety Facility radio system. Trudi Brazil added that this will allow the Town to avoid borrowing for the large expenditure.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 13. Robert Weinstein seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 14 – Rescind Borrowing Authority for Property in Article 15

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 14 as printed. Maureen Burgess seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 16 – Room Occupancy Tax

This Article is a reauthorization to petition the General Court for permission to charge the Room Tax for people who rent their homes for vacation rentals for a certain period of time. The 4% tax that Truro charges is not the maximum that is allowed, Rae Ann Palmer said. Jay Coburn suggested an addition to the comment for the Article.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 16 as printed. Robert Weinstein seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 17 - General Bylaw on Civil Fingerprinting

Rae Ann Palmer explained the proposal for civil fingerprinting for hawkers, peddlers and ice cream truck vendors and the needed approvals before the bylaw could be implemented. The recommendation for Article 17 was tabled until the March 29th meeting.

Article 18 – Amendment for Pool Inspections

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 18 as printed. Robert Weinstein seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 19 – Amendment to General Bylaws Chapter 6

This is an amendment for abutter notification process by the Historical Review Board.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Article 19 as printed. Maureen Burgess seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 20 – Acquisition of State Property

This is for acquisition of a 4-acre parcel known as the “Clover Leaf” for general municipal purposes including Affordable Housing, Rae Ann Palmer said. There is no monetary exchange for Affordable Housing. Article 20 was tabled till the Town Administrator clarified the language with Town Counsel.

Articles 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 - Charter Amendments

Rae Ann Palmer reviewed each of the Charter amendments in Articles 21 through 29.

Jay Coburn moved to recommend Articles 21 through 29. Robert Weinstein seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Article 30 – Zoning Bylaws

Article 30 will be deferred until March 29 when the Planning Board Chair will attend the BOS meeting.

Article 32 – Petitioned Article on Road Definitions

Rae Ann Palmer said the Petitioned Article will be deferred until the March 29 meeting.

Article 33 – Petitioned Article for Pick-up of Dog Excrement

Rae Ann Palmer questioned enforcement issues of this Article. Board members also discussed the high fines specified. The Selectmen decided to hold their recommendation on this Petitioned Article until March 29, 2016.

Janet Worthington requested that more information on the Override be provided to voters.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following items:

A. Review/Approve and Authorize the Chair to sign:

1. MassDOT Highway Division, Event Notification Form for Ragnar Events LLC, Saturday, May 14th, 2016, 8AM-8PM;

B. Review and Approve Seasonal Alcohol Licenses for the following: Top Mast Café, Beach Point Health and Swim Club, Whitman House Restaurant, Fuller's Package Store, Payomet Performing Arts Center, Highland Links Golf Course, Jams Inc., Blackfish Restaurant, Terra Luna Restaurant and the 2016 Seasonal Renewal Certification for the Alcohol Beverages Control Commission;

C. Review and Approve Application to Serve on the Council on Aging Board – Marla Perkel for a three year unexpired term; and

D. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes: March 8, 2016, Work Session March 15, 2016.

Jay Coburn moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Maureen Burgess seconded, and the motion carried 5-0 with an abstention by Jay Coburn for the Work Session minutes of March 15, 2016.

SELECTMEN AND LIAISON AND TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

Robert Weinstein had attended the Transportation Department's Planning Organization (MPO) meeting in Barnstable and discussed bicycle improvements for Route 6 and the Flex Bus shuttle in Truro. He also attended the most recent Planning Board public hearing on Affordable Accessory Dwelling Unit (AADU) bylaws. He commended Jay Norton, whom he has been keeping apprised of MPO meeting matters.

Maureen Burgess reported on a School Committee meeting and attempted to schedule an anticipated joint meeting with them. She reviewed the enrollment in the school system and gave a progress report on the playground replacement project. In April, public awareness for autism will be highlighted by displays of blue lights, she said. Her information from a National Seashore Advisory Committee meeting included the milestone 100th Anniversary of the National

Park System this year and a reduction in the number of the Highland Center buildings to be demolished. New Chief Ranger Leslie Reynolds had displayed the new shark flag to be put into use this summer. Ms. Burgess reported that drones are not allowed in the National Seashore with the exception of their use in an erosion study.

Paul Wisotzky reported on a Housing Authority meeting and his Selectmen's Hours. He noted the resignation from Peter Romanelli of the Conservation Commission and thanked him for his service. He named the Town boards with vacancies and urged people to apply for the positions.

Janet Worthington held Selectmen's Hours and attended the Planning Board public hearing on AADUs. She expressed her hope that the bylaw will be ready for a Fall Special Town Meeting. She had attended a Harbor Committee meeting and noted the vacancies on the Conservation Commission. She had also attended a Transportation meeting that dealt with Shuttle pass options and routes for the bus.

Jay Coburn said he was disappointed that the AADU bylaw was not yet ready to go forward.

Rae Ann Palmer said she and Jay Norton would be meeting with the DOT about the bike accommodations on Route 6. Interviews for seven candidates for the Assistant Town Administrator will take place this month. The Ballston Beach report has been submitted, she said. She has been very busy with Budget and Town Meeting preparations.

NEXT MEETING

Rae Ann Palmer and the Board planned the agenda for the March 29, 2016 meeting which included the remaining recommendations for the Town Meeting Warrant. That meeting will begin at 4 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

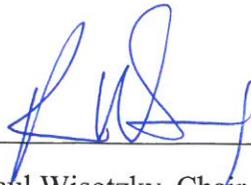
Jay Coburn moved to adjourn. Maureen Burgess seconded, and the motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

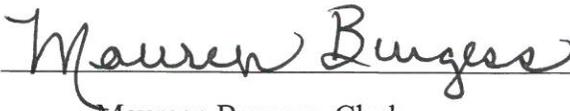


Mary Rogers

Recording Secretary



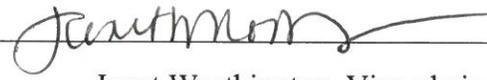
Paul Wisotzky, Chair



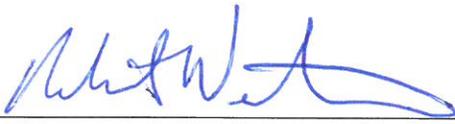
Maureen Burgess, Clerk



Jay Coburn



Janet Worthington, Vice-chair



Robert Weinstein

Public Records Material for 3/22/16

- 1.) Eversource Energy application
- 2.) Fire Department schedule proposal
- 3.) Draft Warrant for Annual Town Meeting 2016
- 4.) MassDOT Highway Division, Event Notification Form for Ragnar Events LLC, Saturday, May 14th, 2016, 8AM-8PM
- 5.) Seasonal Alcohol Licenses for: Top Mast Café, Beach Point Health and Swim Club, Whitman House Restaurant, Fuller's Package Store, Payomet Performing Arts Center, Highland Links Golf Course, Jams Inc., Blackfish Restaurant, Terra Luna Restaurant and the 2016 Seasonal Renewal Certification for the Alcohol Beverages Control Commission
- 6.) Application to Serve on the Council on Aging Board – Marla Perkel for a three year unexpired term