

**Truro Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Council on Aging – 7 Standish Way, Truro, MA  
Wednesday, March 8, 2017**

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

**Present:** Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer; Assistant Town Manager Kelly Clark; Town Accountant Trudi Brazil; Town Assessor Cathy Fryxell, Finance Committee Vice-chair Richard Wood

Chair Paul Wisotzky called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

**FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET**

Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer explained items included in the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Recap: the CPA debt for Poor's Hill; an Overlay for tax abatements; Cherry Sheet offsets; State and County assessments; debt exclusion for East Harbor; Receipts Reserved Funds, and State Aid. She reviewed changes to the Budget that had been made. Health Insurance had gone up; the Transfer Station trailer had come out of the Capital Budget; and a staff position at the Council on Aging had been dropped to Step 3 and will be a shared position with the Recreation Department.

Ms. Palmer and the Selectmen discussed the sale of Transfer Station stickers at the Beach Office and personnel at Pamet Harbor. Selectmen wanted to understand the increases for FY 2018. One-time revenue sources had been used to balance the Budgets for the last two years, Ms. Palmer said. This is not an option for the FY18 Budget, and the Town is facing an override decision. Department Heads have budgeted carefully, as requested, cutting back on items where money had been turned back in the past.

The Town needs to have a Budget in place that it can work with as of July 1, 2017, the start of Fiscal Year 2018. This has to be determined whether or not an override passes at Annual Town Meeting and as a ballot question. The Town Manager had suggestions for override items to make this work. She distributed a list of items for the Selectmen to consider. Paul Wisotzky noted that inevitably the Town has to increase the levy capacity through an override or has to cut services.

The Selectmen discussed each potential override item keeping in mind their Goals and Objectives and the impact of cutting services. Items considered for an override were: a DPW truck/sander/plow; a media person for the Town website; Education for Pre-K through Grade 6; Human Services; Youth Sports; days of operation at the Transfer Station; reduction of staff hours at the Beach Office; a new Recreation and Beach Department truck, flooring for the apparatus bay at the Fire Department and an awning for the Community Center.

Town Assessor Cathy Fryxell, Rae Ann Palmer and the Selectmen examined the idea of a residential tax exemption. Cathy Fryxell has been working on a draft formula for exemptions on residential values, but assessment values would need to be updated if this were to be instituted for FY18 or FY19. The topic of a residential tax exemption will be an agenda item at a regular Board of Selectmen's meeting.

Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer and the Board planned meeting schedules and agenda for upcoming meetings on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, and Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. Pre-Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.

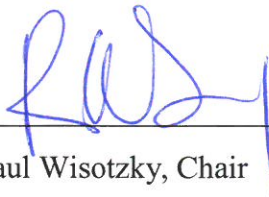
**ADJOURNMENT**

Maureen Burgess moved to adjourn. Robert Weinstein seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.  
The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



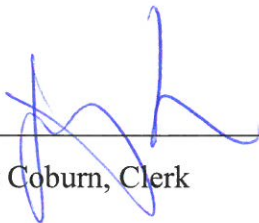
Mary Rogers, Secretary



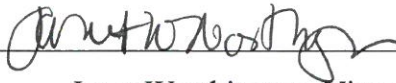
Paul Wisotzky, Chair



Maureen Burgess



Jay Coburn, Clerk



Janet Worthington, Vice-chair



Robert Weinstein

**Public Records Materials for 3/8/17**  
Draft Fiscal Year 2018 Budget materials