

TOWN OF TRURO
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2006

The Truro Board of Selectmen met for their weekly session on Tuesday, October 24, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Truro Town Hall, 24 Town Hall Road, Truro. In attendance were: Chairman Alfred Gaechter, Vice-Chairman Gary Palmer, Clerk Christopher R. Lucy, Curtis Hartman, Town Administrator Pamela Nolan, Administrative Secretary Julie DuPree, Martha Nagy, Linda Maloney, Trudi Brazil, Susan Kadar, Freddie deSouza, Bruce Boleyn, Shirley Smith, Dick Aiken, Chief Thomas, Deb Camuso, Greg Smith, Joe Duarte, Joel Kimball, Tom Delbanco. Jan Worthington and Assistant Town Administrator Charleen Greenhalgh were absent.

Mr. Gaechter convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes: Mr. Palmer moved to approve the minutes of the regular and Executive Sessions of October 17, 2006, as presented, and that the Executive Session minutes be released. Mr. Hartman seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.

Public Comment: Ms. Kadar updated the board. The CCC has approved the Change of Use for the Tradesman's Park. As Chair of the Housing Authority, she told the BOS that the donated house on Snow's Road, once the processes are finished, will have new owners-- a young couple both brought up in town.

Animal Control/Dog Officer job description: Ms. Nolan reviewed the draft job description for this combined position and asked that the BOS accept it. Mr. deSouza criticized the job performance of the current dog officer. Ms. Nolan told him that no decision has been made as to who will fill the job. It will be advertised after the STM votes to approve it. **Mr. Palmer moved to endorse the job description. Mr. Hartman seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.**

Tax Classification Hearing: Ms. Maloney gave the BOS an overview of the Board of Assessor's recommendations to the BOS regarding tax classification options. **Mr. Palmer moved to endorse the recommendations of the Board of Assessors to not grant an open space discount, to not grant a residential exemption, to not grant a small commercial exemption and to establish a minimum residential factor of "1". Mr. Hartman seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.**

Cape-wide contract with SEMASS: Mr. Smith of the CCC brought the Board up to speed on how the town manages its solid waste and how it may want to do so in the future. He told them about the existing disposal contract and disposal trends. There will be significantly higher tipping fees in the future. Disposal by all the towns in the Commonwealth is over the permitted disposal capacity. The contract with SEMASS will expire in 2015. The options are to work independently or cooperatively to get a new contract with SEMASS before it runs out, wait until it runs out, or look at alternatives such as co-composting and bio-mass technologies. He recommends that the town establish a contract committee to explore options for collective municipal solid waste disposal. **Mr. Gaechter moved to support the formation of a cape-wide committee to study municipal solid waste and to appoint a representative when the committee is formed. Mr. Hartman seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.**

FY2008 budget: Ms. Nolan gave an overview of last week's budget discussion. The Board agreed to request that town departments and committees level fund and keep new projects separate. New projects would be added to the budget as the Town Administrator and Town Accountant saw fit. The goal is to avoid an override. Mr. Simonin told the BOS that the FinCom agreed that they should strive to level fund. They feel it will be more productive if they meet with the BOS during the production of the various budgets. Member of the FinCom plan to sit in on department and committee meetings to get a sense of where they are going.

Chief Thomas: quarterly report and goals: Chief Thomas reported that budget expenditures are on track. He added personnel this summer and is now at full staff. He received the new cruiser in July. Incidents are down 8% over last year, but arrests are up over this time last year. In-service training is on-going and being held in Yarmouth. Five of his officers are attending leadership training in Barnstable. The dispatchers are also attending training. He has been working with the school on security issues. He has been working with the IT Director on getting the wireless internet up. Truro Treasures was a problem-free weekend this year. In November they will be doing their quarterly qualification at the firing range. One of his officers was involved in the incident in Eastham. Their policies are on the website. Internal documents are being done electronically to cut down on paperwork. Mr. Gaechter asked that he include an outreach plan in his next report. Chief Thomas distributed his goals and objectives. Mr. Hartman would also like to see an outreach plan, and noted it would be more helpful to have specific objectives in his next report.

Request for memorial tree in Pamet Park: Shirley Smith requested that she be allowed to plant a tree in Pamet Park in memory of her son Anthony Robert Woodworth Smith. She has a maple tree that can be transplanted. She consulted Howard Irwin and he said it could be transplanted there. **Mr. Gaechter moved to authorize the transplanting of a maple tree to Pamet Park under the supervision of Howard Irwin. Mr. Hartman seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.**

Curb Cut at 37 Great Hollow Road: Mr. Kimball told the Board that he is trying to purchase the property from Delbanco's. There is an alternate route on Quail Way, but that driveway would be longer and an upgrade to the planned residence, so they prefer to use the natural frontage on Great Hollow Road. The town won't lose any parking spaces in the beach parking lot if the lot is reconfigured. He has worked with Mr. Morris on this, and Chief Thomas has signed off on the safety issue. Mr. Palmer noted that the Board had a letter from the Beach Commission opposing this curb cut. He would like to hear from them before approving the curb cut. Mr. Gaechter said he feels that the concerns of the Beach Commission have been answered. **Mr. Gaechter moved to approve the curb cut. Mr. Hartman seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.**

Curb cut across from Rose Road (off Rte. 6): Mr. Peters requested permission to re-open an old driveway. The State has already approved this, and so has the CCNS. **Mr. Gaechter moved to approve the reopening of the existing driveway. Mr. Hartman seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.**

Town Administrator's Report: (action items)

- Reported that Brewster selectman Lewis has requested the Board comment on his proposed extension of the room tax. Mr. Gaechter suggested that they wait until the legislation is written and then comment at that point.
- Received a request from the Massachusetts office of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service for a letter of support for their Cape Cod Water Resources Restoration Project. This project includes Wilder Dike in Truro. Mr. Gaechter said he was not prepared to sign the letter. Mr. Palmer agreed. Mr. Lucy felt that a public hearing was needed if such a project was to go forward. Mr. Gaechter wanted a briefing. No action was taken. Mr. Gaechter said Ms. Nolan could invite them to a meeting.

Selectmen/Liaison Reports: (action items)

Hartman: -Noted that the school needs a letter to MAHighway from the BOS supporting the sign and assuring that it will comply with town regulations. He has drafted a letter. **He moved to send the letter to MAHighway informing them of the town's enthusiasm for the sign and authorizing the Chair to sign it. Mr. Palmer seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous.**

Lucy: -Spoke about his concern with the Natural Heritage Map of Truro. He asked if the meeting had been scheduled. Mr. Gaechter wondered if it was going to be a public meeting. He directed Ms. Nolan to call the local agent for NHESP and see when they are coming, impart the level of concern with the new map, and that they appear in Truro at a public meeting, preferably a night meeting. Mr. Lucy questioned if other municipalities should be invited. Mr. Gaechter questioned if it should be regional.

At 8:18 p.m. Mr. Gaechter moved to convene in Executive Session under the provisions of MGL Chapter 39, Section 23B to consider negotiations and to not reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote: Hartman, aye; Palmer, aye; Gaechter, aye; Lucy, aye. 4-0, unanimous.

Alfred Gaechter, Chairman

Gary Palmer, Vice-Chairman

Christopher R. Lucy, Clerk

Curtis Hartman

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