

Select Board Work Session Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2024, Meeting (Hybrid)

Via Zoom Platform

Select Board Members Present: Kristen Reed-Chair, Susan Areson-Vice Chair, John Dundas-Clerk, Robert Weinstein-Member (joined remotely), Stephanie Rein-Member (joined remotely)

Select Board Members Absent:

Others Present: Darrin Tangeman-Town Manager (joined remotely), Kelly Clark-Assistant Town Manager, Jarrod Cabral-DPW Director, Robert Panessiti-Finance Committee Chair (joined remotely); Anne Greenbaum-Vice Chair of the Planning Board

Chair Reed called the meeting to order at 11:00 am and read the information for the public to access the meeting on Channel 8 and participate. Chair Reed noted that there would be no public comment or votes taken during this work session. Chair Reed introduced the Members and Town staff present.

Discussion

1. Review and Discussion of Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles and Discussion About Possible Articles for Annual Town Meeting Warrant

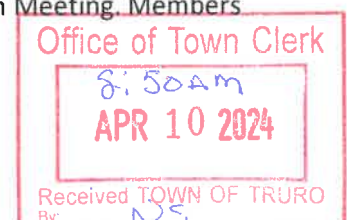
Chair Reed and the Members discussed the order of the discussion for today's meeting.

Chair Reed led the discussion with the Members and DPW Director Cabral regarding the four DPW Warrant articles. Members shared their individual views on the DPW Warrant articles.

Note: Chair Reed asked Assistant Town Manager Clark whether or not Finance Committee Chair Panessiti can speak at this work session as the work session does not allow for public comment. Members verbally stated that they unanimously supported allowing Finance Committee Chair Panessiti to speak at this work session. Chair Reed welcomed Finance Committee Chair Panessiti to the work session and invited him to speak on the work session's topics as a representative of the Finance Committee.

Highlighted topics discussed among Members, Town staff, and Finance Committee Chair Panessiti included: concern whether the proposed DPW facility cost (\$35M) and location would pass by the voters and whether the Warrant article should be delayed; the potential of an increase in property taxes due to the increase of the cost of the proposed DPW facility; the consequences if the DPW facility project continues to be delayed; concerns whether OSHA would close down the current DPW facility if inspected for safety; reducing the cost of the DPW project by reducing the square footage of the proposed DPW facility; the effect of demographic and wealth shifts in Truro over the last 20 years; the significant increase of property values over the last several years in Truro and the impact on the needs of the community; and the adverse effect of misinformation in the community.

The Members engaged in an exercise on how to address the views of those who are not convinced about the need for a \$35M DPW facility project and that it will not pass at the Town Meeting. Members



explored how to reduce the cost of the DPW facility. The Members discussed the creation of a DPW Facility Building Committee from members of the community and the consensus to leave the article on the Warrant. The topic of creating the charge for the DPW Facility Building Committee will be put on the agenda of a future Select Board meeting. DPW Director Cabral noted that there were currently 9 applicants for the DPW Facility Building Committee and that he had recently spoken to two other individuals who were interested in applying.

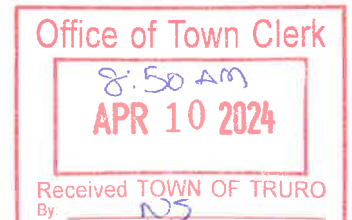
Chair Reed then reviewed the articles that would remain on the Special Town Meeting Warrant: Article 2: Authorization of Use of 340 Route 6 for Public Works Facility and Article 3: Borrowing Authorization for the Engineering and Construction of Public Works Facility.

The Members also discussed that Article 4: Borrowing Authorization for the Engineering of Public Works Facility should be postponed indefinitely. Members unanimously agreed on this postponement.

Member Weinstein then commented that he had concerns regarding Article 2 and its inclusion on the Warrant. A discussion ensued among the Members, Town Manager Tangeman, and Assistant Town Manager Clark and it was decided to further discuss Member Weinstein's concerns in executive session and with the participation of KP Law for a legal opinion.

Chair Reed and the Members then reviewed and discussed the status of the articles again for the Special Town Meeting Warrant:

- Article 1: Borrowing Authorization for Truro Central School HVAC and Roof Repairs (Article is a question mark and is indefinitely postponed.)
- Article 2: Authorization of Use of 340 Rote 6 for Public Works Facility (Article is a question mark.)
- Article 3: Borrowing Authorization for the Engineering and Construction of Public Works Facility (Article stays on the Warrant but may have amendments.)
- Article 4: Borrowing Authorization for the Engineering of Public Works Facility (Article is indefinitely postponed.)
- Article 5: Adoption of Walsh Property Community Planning Committee (Article stays on the Warrant.)
- Article 6: Establish an Ad Hoc Walsh Property Advisory Committee (Article stays on the Warrant)
- Article 7: Adoption of Local Comprehensive Plan (Article stays on the Warrant.)
- Article 8: Advisory Vote on Implementation of a Senior Pass Pilot Program (Assistant Town Manager Clark noted that the motion for this article would have to be edited to correctly reflect that the budget is for FY2026, and the 2025 Annual Town Meeting and the article stays on the Warrant.)
- Article 9: Amend General Bylaws to Add New Chapter IX Stormwater Management by Drainage, Erosion and Sediment Control (Assistant Town Manager Clark noted that the Board of Health would like to revise the Article, so Members agreed that the Article is a question mark.)
- Article 10: Amend General Bylaws Chapter IV Public Safety to Add New Section 8 Curb Cuts (Article stays on the Warrant.)
- Article 11: Amend Zoning Bylaw §30.8(B) Special Permits (Members agreed to give Planning Board Vice Chair Greenbaum the opportunity to speak on this matter. Planning Board Vice Chair Greenbaum noted that the Planning Board still supported this article and the Select Board unanimously agreed to keep the article on the Warrant.)



- Article 12: Amend Zoning Bylaw §40.1 Duplex Houses and Apartments; and §30.2 Use Table (Planning Board Vice Chair Greenbaum said that the Planning Board supported the article and the Select Board unanimously agreed to keep the article on the Warrant.)

Chair Reed noted that all of the petitioned articles will remain on the Warrant:

- Article 13: Article to Continue Community Involvement in the Walsh Design and Development Process-Petitioned Article
- Article 14: DPW Campus Design and Development Project for Town Hall Hill-Petitioned Article

At Vice Chair Areson's request, Town staff discussed the logistical challenges associated with a Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting. Town Manager Tangeman noted that this was a complicated process and that staff is exploring several courses of action to make these two meetings successful, yet the Town staff was not prepared to brief this evening. Assistant Town Manager Clark added that traffic management on Route 6, addressing concerns of the vulnerable population so they can participate in the process, technical requirements, start times, and the need for Town Clerk Verde to validate the two separate voter rolls for each meeting.

Chair Reed, the Members, and the Town staff also discussed how to address the issue of capacity for the Town meeting, the topic of not allowing the non-resident taxpayers to speak at Town meetings, and the concerns associated with clearing the site between the meetings so that voters can be verified by the Town Clerk for participation for the respective meetings.

Chair Reed and Members then discussed conducting the Special Town Meeting on one day and the Annual Town Meeting on the following consecutive day. Assistant Town Manager Clark noted that Town staff had prepared for the two meetings to be conducted over two days. Chair Reed reiterated that not only the public should have a say on this matter but so did Town Moderator Paul Wisotzky.

Chair Reed adjourned the meeting at 1:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Alexander O. Powers
Board/Committee/Commission Support Staff



Kristen Reed, Chair



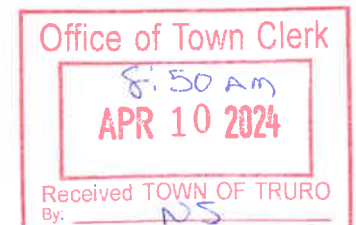
Susan Areson, Vice Chair



John Dundas, Clerk



Stephanie Rein, Member





Robert Weinstein, Member

Public Records Material Attachments

Legal Notice

In-Person Early Voting Guidelines

