

## Select Board Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2023, Budget Task Force Meeting

Via GoToMeeting Platform

Select Board Members Present: Kristen Reed-Chair, Robert Weinstein-Vice Chair, John Dundas-Clerk, Sue Areson-Member

Select Board Members Absent: Stephanie Rein-Member

Others Present: Darrin Tangeman-Town Manager, Kelly Clark-Assistant Town Manager, Barbara Carboni-Town Planner/Land Use Counsel, Tricia Ford-Library Director, Alex Lessin-Finance Director, Trudi Brazil-Town Accountant, Stephanie Costigan-Truro School Superintendent, Robert Panessiti-Finance Committee (FinCom) Chair, Rich Wood-Finance Committee (FinCom) Vice Chair, Lori Meads-Finance Committee (FinCom) Clerk, Raphael Richter-Finance Committee (FinCom)

Chair Reed called the meeting to order at 8:30 am and introduced Members and Town staff present. Chair Reed then recognized FinCom Chair Panessiti. A quorum of FinCom members present, FinCom Chair Panessiti introduced the FinCom members and announced the FinCom meeting open.

Chair Reed led the discussions and reviews of the FY2024 Budget for the following departments: Planning Department and Library.

### Planning Department

Chair Reed recognized Town Planner/Land Use Counsel Carboni who presented an organizational overview of the Planning Department, the narrative summary, and the budget highlights for the Planning Department's FY2024 budget. Town Planner/Land Use Counsel Carboni also presented a proposal for the hiring of a full-time housing coordinator along with the justification to carry out the goals and objectives of the Housing Production Plan.

Members and Town staff discussed salaries; the hiring of an additional staff member for a Town housing coordinator; examples of other Cape Cod towns which had the same need for housing coordinators along with metrics analysis of the information (i.e. type of housing units produced) for that role; the sharing of a Regionalized housing coordinator (i.e. Wellfleet) with Truro rather than an exclusive and dedicated Town housing coordinator; a proposed salary of \$70,000-\$82,000 that may require a higher salary as other Cape Cod towns offer salaries of \$80,000-\$90,000+ for a Town housing coordinator; political concerns regarding housing advocates versus obstructionists who are opposed to additional housing; the lack of physical land available for housing that would limit the capabilities of a Town housing coordinator to make a difference, other management and compliance functions the Town housing coordinator would perform; incremental increases versus overrides for new Town hires (i.e. fire and police department); the creation of a mechanism for a part-time Town housing coordinator with collaboration with another Cape Cod community to increase efficiency; the total cost for a Town housing coordinator could be more in the range of \$110,000-\$115,000 for salary and benefits; is there Town housing coordinator already in mind or would the Town use an outside agency to conduct a search for qualified candidates as the entire process could take 3-6 months; the cost associated with not

advertising the position as full-time; and the upcoming retirement in June 2023 of shared CPA between Wellfleet and Truro.

Chair Reed thanked Town Planner/Land Use Counsel Carboni for her work and Town Planner/Land Use Counsel Carboni thanked the Members upon her departure from the meeting.

### **Library**

Chair Reed recognized Library Director Ford who presented an organizational overview of the Library, the narrative summary, and the budget highlights for the FY2024 Budget.

Members and Town staff discussed specific sources and dollar amounts for capital improvement project requests which were not in the presentation shared live with the public; suggestion to close the library on Mondays and Tuesdays to accommodate the public's access to the library on the weekends; keeping the library open 7 days a week; the status of the library's previous 5-star designation rating among the 9,000 libraries in the United States; the library's website upgrade; the library's critical role that it plays in the community; and the space planning study's results which would result in a \$2M spend to solve all of the issues.

Chair Reed thanked Library Director Ford who thanked the Members upon her departure.

Chair Reed thanked all the participants and presenters. Chair Reed announced that the next Budget Task Force meeting would be held on January 31, 2023, at 8:30 am. Budgets scheduled to present are Truro Central School, Fire & Rescue, Emergency Management, and Administration.

With no longer a quorum present of Select Board Members or FinCom Members, Chair Reed adjourned the meeting at 10:29 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Alexander O. Powers  
Board/Committee/Commission Support Staff



Darrin K. Tangeman Under the Authority of the Truro Select Board

### **Public Records Material Attachment**

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