

**Truro Select Board
Friday, August 21, 2020
Remote Meeting**

Select Board Members Attending: Robert Weinstein, Chair; Kristen Reed Vice-Chair, Susan Areson Clerk, Jan Worthington, and Stephanie Rein

Attending: Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer; Assistant Town Manager Kelly Clark; Town Accountant Trudi Brazil, Town Moderator Monica Kraft

**TRURO SELECT BOARD
WORK SESSION**

Discussion of Town Meeting Warrant and Fiscal Year 2021 Budget

Select Board Chair Robert Weinstein opened the Select Board Meeting at 10:00AM.

Town Manager Palmer stated that the availability for two dates for Town Meeting was limited due to the Town Charter requirement of posting the Town Warrant 14 days prior to Town Meeting and the specialty audio equipment for outdoor use which is only available on September 19th or October 3rd. There has also been a discussion on using a tent.

Select Board Member Rein asked that there be a plan for a continuation to another date for Town Meeting due to any weather-related event. Town Manager Palmer stated that she would defer to the Town Moderator, but the meeting would have to be opened than postponed to a specified date and then staff will have to coordinate a new date. Truro Town Moderator Kraft stated that she didn't believe that it would take a quorum to postpone the meeting.

Select Board Chair Weinstein asked the Board if they were in agreement for the October 3rd date. Select Board Member Areson asked if off-Cape audio equipment companies were researched. Town Manager Palmer responded that the company in mind has worked with three other towns and all three had successful Town meetings. She added that there are other risks involved with off-Cape companies.

Town Manager Palmer asked what time they would like to meet. Select Board Member Rein said she could go with 11:30a, but not much earlier. Select Board Vice-Chair Reed said check-in may take a while and the commencement of the meeting will not start for a while. Select Board Member Areson suggested people arrive at 11am with the goal of meeting at noon. She added that even with a short Warrant, noon to 5pm would probably be safe. Select Board Chair Weinstein asked if everyone was in agreement with 11am. Select Board Member Worthington stated concern about the attendance of the elderly during lunch time and in the sun.

Town Moderator Kraft asked that people be alerted to bring their own food. Select Board Member Rein asked if the mask is required once they are in their paired seats. Moderator Kraft said that they have to be wearing their masks due to the age of the voters. Truro resident Jack Reimer asked if Town Meeting limits exceed the Governor's order. Moderator Kraft explained

that Town government can exceed the limits. Mr. Reimer also asked if this affects the quorum. Town Manager Palmer added that the quorum could be reduced to 10%. She added that they have to advertise the reduction of the quorum. It will be further discussed by the Board on September 8th. Mr. Reimer added that he has read House Bill #4769 to allow for remote participation. Moderator Kraft said the Legislation applies to Representative Town Meetings and Truro is an Open Town Meeting. Mr. Reimer asked if they would allow for a hybrid for remote participation. Town Moderator Kraft responded that a hybrid cannot be done in this circumstance. She added that the Articles being voted on will be pared down Articles. Town Manager Palmer responded that Legislature has not approved remote participation of Town Meeting.

Mr. Reimer asked what the procedure would be for eliminating some of the Articles and holding them at a future date. Town Manager Palmer asked that Mr. Reimer stay on the meeting and he will hear what Legislation allows for. Truro resident Anne Greenbaum stated that she was listening in for the discussion on the Warrant Articles. Select Board Member Worthington asked if temperatures were going to be taken prior to entering the Town Meeting field. Moderator Kraft responded that some towns have done it with the Fire department.

Assistant Town Manager Kelly Clark, in speaking with the Health Agent, stated that it may not make sense to have EMTs check temperatures. She spoke of the numerous complications with using this tool for entry. They have discussed having an EMT ask questions so that people can self-certify. Select Board Member Areson asked about the Town Meeting Planning document. Select Board Chair Weinstein added that it would be helpful at a future meeting to have the moderator discuss the plan. He cited the Town of Chatham as having a detailed seating plan.

Town Moderator Kraft spoke of the Chatham Town Meeting which was abbreviated and less than an hour long. Town Manager Palmer stated that there is a map prepared by the DPW Director for the ballfield. Select Board Chair Weinstein added that it is important to look at the areas outside of the ballfield. Select Board Chair Weinstein spoke of the parking issues with the school. Select Board Member Rein asked about the exit and the entrances. Town Manager Palmer stated that this is a start and they will have two separate check-in areas.

Select Board Chair Weinstein noted that Chatham set up their meeting for 600 people and only 200 people attended. Town Manager Palmer added that they should be prepared for many to attend so that it is set up in advance. Town Moderator Kraft said there will not be a Pre-Town meeting as in the past; instead there is a virtual public hearing on the Budget. Select Board Areson said that the Board should be ready to answer questions about any Articles being removed.

Town Manager Palmer stated that the Select Board controls the Warrant with the exception of Articles from other town Boards and Committees. She explained that Town Counsel recommends that the Petitioned Articles be placed on the next Special or Regular Town Meeting in advance of the Town Meeting, then at Town Meeting the Moderator can call or make a motion

to pass over certain Articles. Town Manager Palmer stated that these would be the Zoning Articles and the Petitioned Articles, that Town Meeting would have to vote to approve. She added that the Planning Board could vote in advance to hold the articles and then could take them off the Warrant. Town Meeting has to approve moving the Articles to either the next or Special Town Meeting. A list was sent to the Board with the Articles that were most important to include to continue Town Government and set the Tax rate.

Town Manager Palmer went through the Articles that will be voted on. For the many Petitioned Articles, the Board can vote to agree to not have the petitioners have to get new signatures. Moderator Kraft asked if Articles could be voted on in a Consent Agenda for items that are not debatable, like the salary of the Select Board. She added that Articles 2, 3, 17, 18 and 19 look like they would fall under a Consent Agenda. Select Board Worthington asked about Free Cash. Town Manager Palmer said that they will be discussing that during the budget. She added that people will want to discuss Articles 21 and 22.

Select Board Member Areson said that there shouldn't be a Consent Agenda as people may not be aware what a Consent Agenda and felt every Article should be gone through individually. Select Board Member Areson didn't see the advantage for proforma items and didn't see that it saved much time. Select Board Chair Weinstein reviewed the Articles that could be postponed. Select Board Member Areson asked for clarification on the postponement of the Petitioned Articles. Town Manager Palmer stated that for the Petitioned Articles the Select Board needs to vote in advance that they will put them on the next Warrant without the Petitioners getting the signatures again and it still needs to be voted on Town Meeting floor to pass them over.

Select Board Vice-Chair Reed agreed that the Petitioned Articles should be postponed until the spring Town Meeting for a proper discussion. Anne Greenbaum, Chair of the Planning Board, stated that the Planning Board will add to their next Agenda to vote on the Articles currently on the Warrant.

Town Manager Palmer noted that she and the Town Accountant have been working on the budget. The budget is about \$200K less than Fiscal Year 2020. She explained that most of the cuts are in the Capital Budget. She spoke of the improvements made to the buildings for Covid safety protocol. Town Manager Palmer stated that the Free Cash transfers are still recommended. She added that the Housing Authority is looking into a rental assistance program if there are excess free cash funds.

Town Accountant Brazil explained that Free Cash is made up of ending balances from the previous year's appropriations. Truro has one million dollars in appropriated funds that were not expended for various reasons having to do with Covid 19, which are also combined with any excess collections. The excess collections go into an area called local estimated receipts when the estimate is less than the actual the overage combines into free cash. She explained further about the Department of Revenue's certification. Town Manager Palmer stated that a discretionary spending freeze was placed in March when Town Hall was shut down. She added

that they still won't know what the meals tax and rooms tax is going to be until the end of October.

Select Board Areson asked that the expenses for the Covid 19 pandemic be available to the citizens. The Town Moderator Kraft explained to the Board that she will send the Chatham videos to the Board for them to watch. It was confirmed that the Budget Hearing was scheduled for September 3rd.

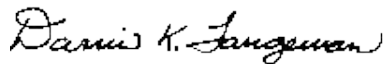
Adjournment

Select Board Chair Weinstein asked for a motion to adjourn. Select Board Member Areson moved to adjourn the Work Session. Select Board Vice-Chair Reed seconded the Motion. Motion Passes 5-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:09a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Tudor, Executive Assistant



Darrin Tangeman, Town Manager
Under the Authority of the Truro Select Board

Public Records material of 08/21/2020

1. Warrant List
2. Map of Truro Central School Ballfield