

**Truro Select Board Work Session**  
**Tuesday, February 11, 2020**  
**Truro Town Hall Select Board Chambers**

**Board of Selectmen Members Present:** Chair Janet Worthington; Susan Areson, Kristen Reed, Robert Weinstein

**Finance Committee Member Present:** Richard Wood

**Present:** Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer; Assistant Town Manager Kelly Clark; Town Accountant Trudi Brazil

Select Board Chair Janet Worthington called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

**Overview of FY21 Budget**

The Select Board examined the Draft Summary Budget Recap as Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer reviewed items for Town Meeting and those that would be handled through Free Cash transfers. Ms. Palmer reported the sources of revenue and suggested use of the Dennis Gift Fund to cover the short-term debt for the Walsh Property, which must be closed by June to avoid an arbitrage penalty. Even with use of the Dennis Gift Fund, the Budget is not balanced. The Select Board needed to decide on methods to achieve balance by raising and appropriating more money or by making cuts. Town Accountant Trudi Brazil discussed Free Cash transfers that had been made this year to cover debt for Cape Tech, the Transfer Station and the short-term loan for the Walsh Property.

Janet Worthington asked about the status of the Ambulance line in the Capital Budget. Ms. Palmer said even though it is set for Fiscal Year 21, it needs time for Town Meeting approval and a debt exclusion ballot vote. Ms. Palmer discussed doing a Free Cash transfer for satellite phones for the Beach Department to eliminate the need for personnel to take calls at the Beach Office at all times. Ms. Palmer and Assistant Town Manager Kelly Clark explained the Assistant Recreation and Beach Director's role and schedule, especially in the winter months. Although Recreation programs are discretionary, they promote sustainability for families.

Ms. Palmer called attention to other budget concerns. She discussed how the Dennis Gift Fund is separate from the penalty money that goes into Free Cash. She noted an addition of \$85,000 added to the FY21 Budget in the line for the Town Clerk/Treasurer/Treasurer position, in the event that the position needs to be separated into two. Ms. Palmer and the Town Accountant are comfortable about going forward at this point with a budget that is over by \$100,000, but Ms. Palmer proposed overrides for the four firefighter paramedics and potentially for Beach EMTs also.

*The meeting was suspended for a lunch break, and Robert Weinstein left at 12:10 p.m.*


The meeting resumed after lunch with discussion of items that will potentially increase the Budget. There is a municipal single use plastic bottle ban Warrant Article that, if passed, would necessitate provision for hydrating stations, an ice machine at the Public Safety Facility and a cooler for the Beach truck. There would be no change to the operating budget since the money for these provisions can be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund. There is a possibility for some revenue if there was a fee established for use of the ice machine. The Climate Action Committee has made a request for \$10,000 for a consultant to do a baseline study for water salinity and the carbon footprint. There is an Article for zero carbon footprint in 2050 that the Climate Action Committee is expected to present at Annual Town Meeting; however, Ms. Palmer and the Board considered the Water Resources Committee the more appropriate board to conduct the proposed water study. The Truro 400 Committee requests from Truro Connections, Friends of the Library, Sustainable Cape, Truro Treasures, Castle Hill, the Historical Society and Paint the Mayflower were adjusted by \$3,000. The Open Space Committee had recently realized that the Open Space and Recreation Plan, which is required every 6 years, is due for a revision. They have not submitted their budget request and will have to wait until next year.

#### Next Select Board Meetings

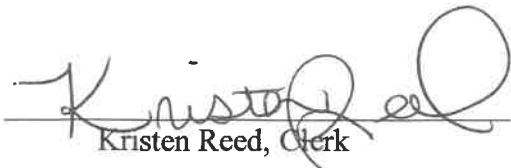
There will be a work session on Thursday, February 13, 2020 to discuss the profile and search for the next Town Manager. The regular meeting for February 25, 2020, with a new Select board member, is scheduled to discuss the closing on the Walsh Property, inspect the Town Meeting Warrant and decide upon use of the Dennis Gift Fund.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.


Respectfully submitted,

  
Mary Rogers,  
Secretary

  
Janet Worthington, Chair

  
Kristen Reed, Clerk

  
Susan Areson

  
Robert Weinstein, Vice-chair

**Public Records Material of 2/11/2020**  
Draft Summary Budget Recap worksheet

