

Joint Meeting with Truro Select Board, Provincetown Select Board, Water and Sewer Board, and the Water Resource Working Group Meeting Minutes

September 30, 2024, Meeting

Truro Community Center 7 Standish Way

Via Zoom Platform (Hybrid)

Truro Select Board Members Present: Robert Weinstein-Vice Chair; Nancy Medoff-Clerk; Stephanie Rein-Member; Susan Girard-Irwin-Member

Provincetown Select Board Members Present: Leslie Sandberg-Acting Chair and Vice Chair; Eric Borg-Member; Austin Miller-Member

Water Sewer Board Present: Robert O'Malley-Chair; Courtney Warren-Vice Chair; Nancy Medoff-Member; Tracey Rose-Member

Water Resource Working Group Present: Jarrod Cabral (DPW Director Truro); Jim Vincent (DPW Director Provincetown); Cody Salisbury (Provincetown Water Superintendent); Daniel Riviello (Provincetown Assistant Town Manager); Kelly Clark (Truro Assistant Town Manager); Emily Beebe (Truro Health and Conservation); Tim Famulare (Provincetown Community Development Director); Thaddeus Soule (Provincetown Town Planner)

Board Members Absent: Susan Areson-Chair (Truro); Dave Abramson-Chair (Provincetown); John Golden-Vice Chair (Provincetown); Larry Black-WSB Member; Jonathan Sinaiko-WSB Member; Steven Fossella-WSB Alternate Member

Others Present: Jennifer Knauer-Professional Mediator; Darrin Tangeman-Truro Town Manager; Alex Morse-Provincetown Town Manager; Joan Holt (Truro Town Resident); Jeff Fischer (Truro Town Resident); Jack Reimer (Truro Town Resident, Truro Planning Board); John Dundas (Truro Resident); Paul Benson (Provincetown Independent); Rich Sullivan (Truro Town Resident)

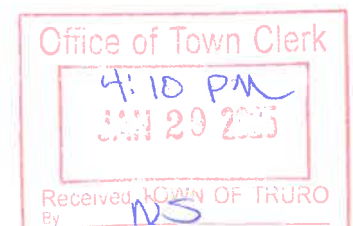
MEETING PURPOSE AND PROCEDURE

Jennifer Knauer opened the meeting at 5:35pm and explained her role as a professional mediator (from Jericho, Vermont). She stated her function was to be an impartial player, manage and pace the conversation, and take notes during the conversation segments of the meeting. She reviewed the agenda for the meeting and the goals for all parties to gather emerging questions and plan next steps.

PRESENTATION

Provincetown Water Superintendent Cody Salisbury share a Power Point Presentation to review the history and current capacity and needs of the Provincetown water system.

Cody Salisbury showed a timeline that outlined the development of the water system beginning in 1892 and updates to the system throughout the 20th century. The first wells were built in Truro on land taken by eminent domain. In 1952, Provincetown was authorized to take more land to establish more wells at South Hollow Road. In 1980-81 they began using the Cape Cod National Seashore wells seasonally, which continued for several decades. In 2013, the wells at the North Union field site came online and the Knowles Crossing Membrane Filtration Facility was finished. Today the system consists of three well sites in Truro: North Union - two independent wells; Knowles Crossing - three wells; and Paul Daley - six



wells. There are 50 miles of water mains for just under 41,000 accounts and a current asset value is \$200 million. The water is regularly tested for different contaminants and bacteria.

The Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) between Provincetown and Truro was first drafted in 1982 and updated in 2010. It established the Water and Sewer Board, on which there are three members from Truro and four from Provincetown with each member entitled to a vote. The IMA also stipulated that Provincetown could only increase the land area utilized or sink more wells in Truro with approval of the Truro Select Board. In the 2000s, a Water System Master Plan was created as well as a Watershed Management Plan.

The system currently supports 3,567 billable accounts in Provincetown and 530 in Truro. Provincetown uses 156.2 million gallons and Truro uses 20.5 million gallons of water. User fees fund the entire operation. The Water and Sewer Board determines rates and fees, adapt master planning, and evaluate future demands. The Joint Water Resource Working Group was established to plan for expansion of the current system to meet increased demand, which is not meeting peak demand despite operational redundancies. Each town estimated the amount of additional supply that they require (600,000 for Provincetown; 120,000 for Truro).

During the off-season, sources are able to meet the demand and add water to storage tanks. During the peak season, water must be taken from storage and the system struggles to recover. Cody Salisbury presented a timeline (by 2027-28) and chart of costs (\$250,000 to finish the Master Plan and \$9 million for construction of a new tank) for options that have been identified to expand the system's capacity. Topics of discussion have been planned for the Joint Select Board Meetings to 2027.

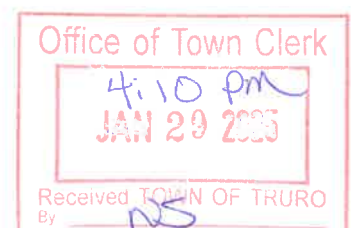
QUESTION AND ANSWER

Truro Select Board Clerk Medoff asked whether the Walsh Project in Truro was included in the estimates for the projection of needed capacity determined by the town. Jarrod Cabral (DPW Director Truro) answered yes, the project was included.

Truro Member Girard-Irwin asked whether the wells located at the North Truro Air Force Base, which have not been used by the current system in eleven years, are monitored to ensure that they are still useful. Cody Salisbury responded that they have continued to replace equipment and test the water. A later question asked if these wells are part of the sampling plan to test for contaminants, but they would become routinely tested if entering the system. She also questioned what hurdles prevented agreement in 2010 and the answer was that Truro would not sell the land but leased the land at North Union Field to Provincetown for a 99-year agreement.

Provincetown Member Miller asked for more context around the North Truro Air Force Base well field, wondering what prevents it from being used to create a redundant source. Cody Salisbury's answer was that the land belongs to the National Seashore, and it is registered to Provincetown for emergency use only. Provincetown has a MOU with the National Seashore and more studies would need to be done to ensure it is a viable and reliable source. The site would meet half of the projected need of both towns.

Provincetown Member Eric Borg mentioned the possibility of building a regional desalination facility. As of right now, this is not being planned for many reasons, including regulations, waste water disposal plans, and difficulty retrofitting the current system.



Provincetown Vice-Chair Sandberg suggested having a conversation with the National Seashore to see if it is an option to help meet the increased need. She also asked where Truro would connect to the Provincetown waste water treatment system, but plans are too preliminary, and it would be a good idea to update the IMA to reflect that need as well.

PENDING QUESTIONS

Moderator Knauer stated that she would begin a list of questions that do not yet have answers or cannot be answered with a quick clarifying question. Some of the comments and questions included were:

Can we speak to the National Seashore to see if we could increase capacity using the existing wells rather than building more wells?

How do we interface projections of mapping usage with known build out figures and known developable land in Truro? What will the demands be with known build out figures? (Clarified - Provincetown has a growth management bylaw and has projected out to 2040.)

Since growth projections are not supported by the existing capacity, where in the process do we ensure the ability to meet the needs of future projects (such as the Walsh Project)?

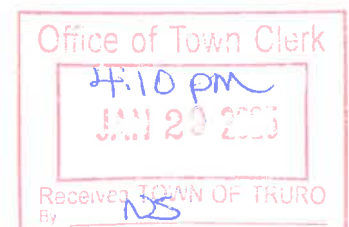
How do we ensure that lack of redundancy and ability to expand capacity is not a negating factor for creating new housing opportunities to address the housing crisis?

If we do not hear about the One Stop Grant or are not given the grant, towns should bring the question of funding to town meeting so a placeholder can ensure the ability to fund expanding the system.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Moderator Knauer reviewed the policies for public comment and informed them of how much time was allowed for each speaker.

Moderator Knauer recognized the following individuals who made public comments: Joan Holt (via Zoom) who wanted to make sure those discussing and planning the system do not ignore the impact of climate change, including drought, storms surges, and sea level rise; Jeff Fischer who suggested using the Air Force Base wells during peak-season and supplementing them during the off-season with the water in storage to restore the aquifer and he also was concerned about how close any new wells would be to the Walsh property; Jack Reimer asked what the preferred site for a new source well would be and also wanted to let the boards know there are residents in Truro who may want to connect to the water system and wondered whether they had considered the need to build out private water supplies; John Dundas who wanted to know the life cycle of the current storage towers - to which an answer of at least 30 more years was given - as well as what they plan to do with effluence created and whether we are considering possible PFAS in the waste water; Paul Benson who asked whether proposed sites were included in the forecasted capacity estimates, to which the answer was yes; Rich Sullivan who asked when the 99 year lease went into effect to know when it will expire, to which an answer of 2013 was given, and whether they have considered the Herring River Project or the breakthroughs at Ballston Beach that impact private dwellings and wells causing more residents to want to connect to the Provincetown system.



MOTIONS AND VOTES

Moderator Knauer asked the Select Board members if there were any premade motions or votes needed. The Select Boards were asked to approve the general plan as presented in the power point.

Provincetown Vice-Chair Sandberg made a motion for the Provincetown Select Board to approve the process outlined this evening with all of the questions that were raised as part of the process going forward.

Provincetown Member Miller seconded the motion.

Provincetown Roll Call Vote:

Vice-Chair Sandberg - Aye

Member Miller - Aye

Member Borg - Aye

So voted, 3-0-0, motion carries

Truro Vice-Chair Weinstein made a motion for the Truro Select Board to approve the process outlined this evening with all of the questions that were raised as part of the process going forward.

Truro Member Girard-Irwin seconded the motion, and clarified that public comments were also included.

Truro Roll Call Vote:

Member Rein - Aye

Clerk Medoff - Aye

Member Girard-Irwin - Aye

Vic- Chair Weinstein - Aye

So voted, 4-0-0, motion carries.

There was a brief discussion of potential dates for the next meeting of the Joint Select Board meeting.

Provincetown Vice-Chair Sandberg made a motion for the next meeting to be February 24, 2025 at 5:30pm in Provincetown.

Provincetown Member Miller seconded the motion.

Provincetown Roll Call Vote:

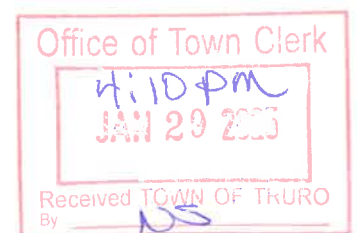
Vice-Chair Sandberg - Aye

Member Miller - Aye

Member Borg - Aye

So voted, 3-0-0, motion carries

Truro Vice-Chair Weinstein made a motion for the next meeting to be February 24, 2025 at 5:30pm in Provincetown.



Truro Roll Call Vote:

Member Rein - Aye

Clerk Medoff - Aye

Member Girard-Irwin - Aye

Vice-Chair Weinstein - Aye

So voted, 4-0-0, motion carries.

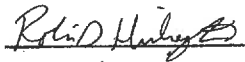
Provincetown Vice-Chair Sandberg made a motion to adjourn at 7:30 pm.

Provincetown voted unanimously to adjourn.

Truro Vice-Chair Weinstein made a motion to adjourn at 7:30pm.

By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

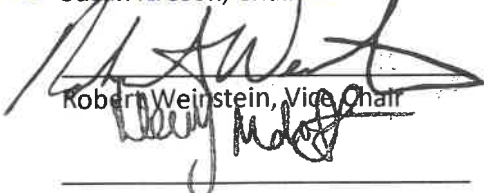
Respectfully submitted,



Robin D. Huibregtse
Board Support/CPC Coordinator



Susan Areson, Chair




Robert Weinstein, Vice Chair



Nancy Medoff, Clerk



Stephanie Rein, Member



Susan Girard-Irwin, Member

Public Records Material Attachment

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