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Chamber rescues crier

Town Meeting voted Tuesday to cut the town crier's \$1,584 salary out of the budget but the chamber of commerce came to the rescue with a promise that it will pay the crier's salary.

Marty King, Provincetown's town crier for the last nine summers, said last week he would work for free if his salary were cut. But when Nancy McNulty, a chamber member, announced the chamber will pay the crier's salary, Town Meeting voters applauded.

King has a lot of fun strolling the streets ringing his bell and announcing what's going on to crowds of tourists. But his job is important and has been a

fixture in Provincetown since the nineteenth century.

The town began paying the crier in the 1940's. King's willingness to go back to crying for no salary shows his dedication to the job and the tradition it represents.

The chamber has not yet met to officially approve paying King's salary. But it has informally agreed to pay him.

"I think we've all agreed that we want to support the town crier with money from the chamber of commerce if the town is not going to do so," said Ruth Rogers, treasurer of the chamber.