

2018 FEB -7 AM 9:16

MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
Monday, October 30, 2017
6:00 PM

APPROVED
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DATE: 02-05-18

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order in open session at 6:03 p.m. by Chair Jim Williams in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Selectmen Mark Paolillo and Adam Dash were present. Interim Town Administrator Phyllis Marshall was also present. Mr. Glen Castro, Budget Analyst, was in attendance as well.

Members of the Warrant Committee in attendance: WC Chair Epstein, Members: Lubien, Alcott, Helgen, Slap, Dionne, Weis, and Doyle (she arrived at 6:58 p.m.)

Powers & Sullivan: Mr. Craig Peacock, CPA

Others: Ms. Chitra Subramanian, Town Accountant, Mr. Floyd Carman, Town Treasurer, and Ms. Anne Marie Mahoney, Chair of the Capital Budget Committee and of the Major Capital Projects Working Group

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Third Annual Veterans' Breakfast BHSBC Community Meeting**
- **League of Women Voters STM Warrant Briefing Special Town Meeting**

ACTION BY CONSENT

Review and Discussion of Belmont 2016 Financial Statements

Mr. Craig Peacock, CPA, of Powers & Sullivan, and Ms. Chitra Subramanian, Town Accountant, appeared before the Board to discuss the Town's 2016 financial statements. Chair Williams began by noting that the Board of Selectmen is responsible for the financial statements of the town. Mr. Peacock agreed and explained the role that Powers & Sullivan has in the creation of the financial statements. The numbers are reviewed and reconciled with the Town Accountant's office. Belmont has received an "unmodified assessment" each year -- this is the highest ranking a town can receive. He explained that the report is thoroughly reviewed and vetted through the annual audit. "Material weaknesses and significant deficiencies" are *not* noted in Belmont and would raise concerns if they were for any town. .

Chair Williams discussed the "Statement of Net Position". He noted that the Light Department has a separate audit for the calendar year whereas the Town a fiscal year ends June 30. Various balances, receivables, and payables were reviewed as well as depreciation schedules. Chair Williams raised the issues of pension funding, long-term bond issues, restricted and unrestricted cash, and the Town's liabilities.

Ms. Subramanian reviewed the Fiduciary Position funds. She noted that Segal is in the process of conducting an OPEB valuation in compliance with PERAC requirements and a separate analysis for budgeting.

Comments regarding debt service, and its impact on the tax burden were offered by Mr. Carman and Mr. Williams and

OPEB obligation are calculated, the unfunded liability, and planning for the future. In answer to a question from Selectmen Paolillo, it was noted that, when looking at a town's municipal fiscal health, the rating agencies will look at stabilization fund levels, measures and policies of the Town to replenish funds, policies that address maintaining funds, and management's involvement in the budgetary process.

The Board thanked Mr. Peacock and Ms. Subramanian.

Status of Joey's Park Rodent Mitigation

Dr. David Alper, Board of Health, Mr. Wes Chin, Health Department Director, and Mr. Jay Marcotte, Director of Public Works, appeared before the Board to discuss the mitigation efforts at Joey's Park. Mr. Chin said that he has been working with the DPW to address the matter. Rat sightings throughout town have been reported and the Health Department is responding to these reports. Mr. Marcotte noted that a pest control company has treated the Joey's Park area with a non-toxic gel. Also, 40 traps were set and rats have been caught. This treatment will continue for 3-4 weeks. Town Field will also be treated. All the parks will be evaluated. Trash barrels have been removed, to control food available for rats and discourage rats from these locations.

Dr. Alper explained that several approaches were evaluated, and a "user-friendly" tact was selected. However, the rats are not just in the parks. The main concentration is not around Cushing Village. The rats will seek out food sources and will use the sewer system to travel. Education is needed for residents with regard to securing their trash, their compost piles, etc. He suggested that people contact the Health Department if rats are sighted.

The Board discussed issues relating to the rats in Belmont: mitigation efforts, education, outreach, and the budgetary impact of these efforts.

The Board took a five-minute break.

Approval of a One Day Liquor License Application for Belmont Gallery of Art for an event scheduled for November 3, 2017 in the Homer Art Gallery, 19 Moore Street, from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Chair Williams said that all the departments have approved this application.

The Board moved: To approve the One Day Liquor License Application for Belmont Gallery of Art for an event scheduled for November 3, 2017 in the Homer Art Gallery. The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Vote to Accept a Donation from the Payson Park Church to the Belmont Fire Department in the amount of \$50.00

The Board moved: To accept the donation from the Payson Park Church to the Belmont Fire Department in the amount of \$50.00.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Discussion and Vote on Process to Fill Planning Board (PB) Vacancies and Vote on Associate Appointment

Mr. Chuck Clark, Chair of the PB, appeared before the Board to discuss the process of filling the PB vacancies. Mr. Clark said he is recommending that Mr. Ed Sanderson be appointed as an associate member. He then reviewed Mr. Sanderson's resume, experience, and qualifications.

Chair Williams stated the process, going forward, with regard to the additional PB vacancies, e.g., reviewing additional applications, etc. Mr. Clark reviewed some of the work that is before the PB.

The Board acknowledged the work of the PB members who recently resigned.

The Board moved: To appoint Mr. Ed Sanderson to the Planning Board, as an Associate Member.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Mr. David High, 75 Lorimer Road, approached the table. Mr. Clark summarized the special permit application for a home expansion. It had been withdrawn because of appointments needed to fill the Planning Board. With the appointment of members, Mr. High will resubmit his application. He then offered his comments about the building and demolition permitting process and bylaw.

The Board agreed that the PB applications will be accepted until November 9.

Bartlett Avenue Discussion

Mr. Glenn Clancy, Director of Community Development, and Ms. Kate Bowen, Bartlett Ave. resident, appeared before the Board. Ms. Bowen noted that a petition was delivered to the Board of Selectmen which requests sidewalks, curbing, and a grass buffer safety zone on Bartlett Ave. She noted that Bartlett is a part of the bus/safe routes to school and an entryway to the PQ Park. The road has been paved recently – and, as a result, cars are driving more quickly.

Selectman Dash showed a few photos from his walking tour of Bartlett Ave. The photos illustrate some of the issues Ms. Bowen raised. Chair Williams asked Mr. Clancy several questions about the re-paving of Bartlett and the trees concerning Bartlett Ave. Mr. Clancy explained the process by which trees are removed. He stated that Bartlett was repaved according to the policy established by the Board in 2007. Chair Williams asked if the heavy pedestrian traffic warrants any additional work on curbing. Mr. Clancy said that the Bartlett residents' concerns are not unique and that work on Bartlett is constrained by the 2007 policy. There are

similar concerns at Baker and Sycamore.

Mr. Clancy said that he reviewed the roads that have been recently repaved and he noted that 25 of these roads have issues that are similar to Bartlett. He looked at school routes first as well as bus stops. He identified streets that are walking routes and that have grass shoulders.

He explained the evaluation process and identified six roads that would require immediate attention. Bartlett Ave. is more traversed and has more roads intersecting with it than Baker Street. What is needed, is a policy on curbing – where and what type can be installed on roads.

The Board discussed issues relating to sidewalks, grass shoulders, curb treatments, etc. Mr. Clancy then discussed the potential time frame and the budgetary impact of addressing the questions and changes to Bartlett Ave. and Baker St.

The Board moved: To approve the installation of sidewalk and curbing on both sides of Bartlett Ave during 2018, subject to evaluation of funding sources, engineering, and timing.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Selectman Paolillo requested that Mr. Clancy provide his thoughts on a curbing/sidewalk policy, which the Board will take under consideration in devising a policy.

Committee Liaison Reports / Other

Community Path Group

Selectman Paolillo noted that the feasibility study phase is coming to an end. The last community engagement meeting is on 11/2/18. The Community Path Implementation Advisory Committee would like to come before the Board to present their report on the community path route.

Belmont High School Building Committee (BHSBC)

Selectman Dash noted that there will be combined meetings with the BHSBC, the Board, and the School Committee:

- Thursday, November 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the Chenery
- Thursday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m. TBD
- Thursday, November 30 at 6:30 p.m. TBD

Selectmen Office Hours

Chair Williams raised an issue that was brought to his attention at his recent Office Hours. Selectman Dash noted that he too has concerns that residents have brought to him. He added that the Chair of the WC has made a request to the Board regarding attending the WC meetings.

Chair Williams then stated that he will review the WC agendas and then decide if he will attend or not. He said he has not seen anything on the recent agendas that has required him to be there. He said as an ex-officio member, he does not have to attend the meetings. He said he will attend when the WC is dealing with the budget. He listed the items that he is focusing on, e.g., Planning Board, Town Administrator search, etc.

Selectman Paolillo spoke to the two-way communication process with the Warrant Committee.

Chair Williams then spoke to areas he believes the WC should focus on, e.g., long term fiscal planning, etc. He stated that he is not attending this Wednesday. Selectman Dash noted that someone would need to be formally designated to attend WC meetings in order to vote.

Selectman Dash was designated by the Chair to attend this Wednesday's WC meeting. He added that a written policy is needed concerning "audience comments" at Selectmen's meeting. Ms. Marshall stated the current policy: residents can send concerns to the TA's office by noon on the day of the meeting.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- **August 7, 2017** – Regular Meeting, as amended by Selectman Dash

The Board moved: To approve the meeting minutes of 8-7-17.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

- **August 21, 2017** – Regular Meeting

The Board moved: To approve the meeting minutes of 8-21-17.
The motion passed (2-0-1).

- **September 11, 2017** – Regular Meeting, as amended by Selectman Dash, and Executive Session

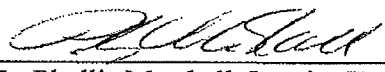
The Board moved: To approve the meeting minutes of 9-11-17 with Executive Session of 9-11-17.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

NEXT MEETINGS

Monday, November 6, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Beech Street Center

Monday, November 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Chenery Middle School (Pre Special Town Meeting

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.


Ms. Phyllis Marshall, Interim Town Administrator