

2018 FEB -8 PM 2: 26

MINUTES  
TOWN OF BELMONT  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Homer Building Gallery  
Tuesday, October 3, 2017  
7:00 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 7:00 p.m. by Chair Jim Williams in the Homer Building Gallery. Selectmen Mark Paolillo (arrived at 7:16 p.m.) and Adam Dash were present. Interim Town Administrator Phyllis Marshall was also present. Mr. Glen Castro, Budget Analyst, was at the table as well.

Chair Williams turned to the first item on the agenda:

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **2017 Designer ShowHouse** – will be held at the Homer House. Tickets can be purchased to tour the newly designed rooms.
- **Veterans Day Observances** – will be held across town throughout November and at the Senior Center on November 8.
- **US Flag Retirement Ceremony** – will be held on Saturday, October 14 at 10:00 a.m. at Clay Pit Pond.
- **Recycling Event** – will be held on Saturday, October 21 from 9am-1pm at the DPW Town Yard.

**QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS**

[There were none.]

**ACTION BY CONSENT**

**Approval of a One Day All-Alcoholic Beverage License Application from the Junior League of Boston for the Show House Kick-Off Event to be held on October 4, 2017 in the auditorium at the Belmont Town Hall from 6 - 9:30 p.m.**

*The Board moved:* To approve the one-day all alcohol license request, details noted above.

The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

**Approval of a One Day All-Alcoholic Beverage License Application from the Junior League of Boston for the Show House Kick-Off Event to be held on October 6, 2017 in the auditorium at the Belmont Town Hall from 6 - 9:30 p.m.**

*The Board moved:* To approve the one-day all alcohol license request, details noted

above.

The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

### **Committee Appointments**

#### *Local Emergency Planning Committee – Wesley Chin, Health Director*

Ms. Marshall noted that, as Health Director, Mr. Wesley Chin will be appointed to this committee.

*The Board moved:* To appoint Mr. Wesley Chin to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (for a three year term).

The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

#### *Human Rights Commission (HRC)*

Ms. Marshall noted that Ms. Sue Boylan expressed an interest in this appointment. The Board briefly discussed this appointment.

*The Board moved:* To appoint Ms. Sue Boylan to the Human Rights Commission (for a three-year term).

The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

### **Designation of the Month of November as Belmont Veterans Month**

Mr. Angelo Firenze, Veteran and former Selectman, appeared before the Board to discuss the designation of the month of November as Belmont Veterans Month. Mr. Firenze noted that the Belmont Veterans Committee is doing major fundraising. The group would like to refurbish the Veterans memorial area at Clay Pit Pond, including flagpole and brick wall repair. In addition to fundraising, the group will apply for CPA funding, and Belmont Savings Bank is offering a matching grant. The refurbishing work will hopefully be complete in time for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World War I. There will be a screening of Veteran interviews on November 5 at 2:00 at the Town Hall. A series of interviews have been compiled and are now in a film version.

Selectman Dash read the Proclamation.

The Board signed the Proclamation and thanked Mr. Firenze for his efforts on this endeavor.

### **Re-Appointment of Town Accountant for a Three-Year Term**

Ms. Chitra Subramanian, Town Accountant, appeared before the Board to discuss her reappointment for a three-year term.

Chair Williams read Ms. Subramanian's accomplishments for the past several years.

The Board acknowledged Ms. Subramanian for her excellent record and service to the town.

*The Board moved:* To approve the reappointment of the Town Accountant, Ms. Chitra Subramanian, for a three-year term to October 31, 2020.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

**Vote to Open and Close the Warrant for 2017 Fall Special Town Meeting (STM), To Be Held November 13, 2017 at 7 pm at the Chenery School**

Ms. Marshall noted that the following articles will be covered at the STM:

- the standard town report
- a revolving funds report
- the funding of modular classrooms at the Burbank
- DPW/Police appropriation for schematic design for short-term solutions
- the request from the Library Trustees to form a Building Committee for fundraising purposes

Chair Williams noted that the debt service for the Burbank modular units does not require a debt exclusion via a town-wide vote. The Board will vote on the STM articles when it meets again on October 16. Selectman Paolillo stated that he would like to know more about the cost estimate for the modular project as well as the town's free cash certification. He also requested to know the remaining amount in the Kendall fund. The Board agreed that it would be helpful to have Mr. Carman, Town Treasurer, at a future meeting to discuss how the modular units will be funded.

Ms. Anne Marie Mahoney, Chair of the Capital Budget Committee, explained that the Kendall fund money has been used in the past and is intended to fund *design*, not construction. The Board discussed the process by which a building committee is formed as it relates to the DPW/Police Station short-term plans. Ms. Mahoney noted that members of the Permanent Building Committee will likely be involved with the building committees of these short-term projects.

Chair Williams noted that another article might be placed on the STM warrant which relates to antique dealership licensing and background checks.

*The Board moved:* To approve opening the STM Warrant on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. and to close the Warrant on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

**Discussion Regarding Committee Appointments / Term Limits**

Selectman Dash stated that when he was researching ways to improve the Committee Appointment process in Belmont, he explored term limits as a concept, as various towns do have term limits. Weston, which is similar to Belmont, does not have term limits for appointed members but does limit the Chair to one year. Selectman Paolillo raised the topic of limiting membership after two terms have been served. Perhaps, he suggested, this is something various boards could consider and reflect upon. He added that he has received feedback from residents

that the selection process is not as open as it could be.

The Board discussed issues relating to term limits for committee members, Chairs of committees, and the process by which appointees would need to reapply after two terms have been served, etc.

Chair Williams raised the topic of recall privileges. He noted that this option is not available to the Board.

The Board then discussed the recent Planning Board scenario. The Board agreed that it handled that situation in a reasonable and creative way.

Selectman Paolillo raised the topic of interviewing applicants at Board meetings. This could make the overall appointment process more transparent.

### **Town Administrator's Report**

Ms. Marshall reported on the following items:

- **Watertown Inter-municipal Agreement for the SPORT program has been Approved**
- **Board Calendar** was distributed

**Documentation Postings on Website:** Documents will now be placed online so that residents can follow along as the Board of Selectmen meet on agenda items.

### **Other**

#### *Trash Contract Summary*

Chair Williams stated that he has received public feedback on the Board's decision for new trash contract. Ms. Marshall summarized that the Board voted to proceed with automated collection using 64-gallon containers with some accommodations allowed for residents who request it. Overflow bags will be available (for a fee) for large events. The community will receive education on the equipment, the overflow bags, etc. She then explained the RFP process. There will be no change proposed in the dual stream recycling system. The bulky pick-up items will be limited to one item per week, at no charge. "White bulk" (items with Freon, etc.) will still need to be collected separately.

Chair Williams noted that PAYT will not be voted on, in the future, without a full community dialogue.

Mr. Don Mercier, a Town Meeting Member, from the audience, shared some of his concerns about recycling, the automated trash collection (street parking), and the related fees. He offered some opinion on the bid process. He requested that both collection methods be considered.

Chair Williams stated that the Board has voted on this issue and that other options will not be considered at this point. The bid that is being requested is for curbside recycling services to remain the same. He noted that the 64-gallon automation for trash collection was voted for 2-1

last week.

Ms. Amanda Mojica, PTA Green Alliance, stated that the policy of submitting questions to the Town Administrator's Office by noon is not clearly spelled out anywhere. Chair Williams stated that this needs to be done ahead of time. Selectman Dash stated that it had been the Board's longstanding policy to let residents ask a question at the beginning of the agenda. Selectman Paolillo said that he understands the former policy can take time away from a busy agenda, but that residents need to have some access to the Board. Ms. Marshall added that the Board can have a policy that questions raised will not be addressed at the meeting in which they are raised, but scheduled for another time.

Ms. Mojica's question was about PAYT. It was her understanding PAYT was supposed to be discussed tonight but it was not on the agenda. She expressed frustration that she had no means to ask why it was not on the agenda.

Chair Williams stated that he and Ms. Marshall will work to make the policy more clear.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

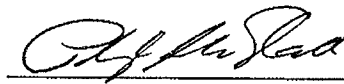
July 28, 2017

*The Board moved:* To approve the meeting minutes of 7-28-17.  
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

### **NEXT MEETINGS**

Monday, October 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Selectmen's Meeting Room Town Hall

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.



Ms. Phyllis Marshall, Interim Town Administrator