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MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
Monday, September 11, 2017
7:00 PM

APPROVED
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DATE: 10-30-2017

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order in open session at 7:04 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 at the table as well.

Chair Williams noted that the agenda was busy. He then paused for a moment of silence in honor of 9/11 and of the hurricane victims.

Executive Session

The Board moved: To enter into executive session at 7:41 p.m. to discuss strategy sessions with union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the Chair so declares. The Board will return to open session.

A roll call vote was taken: Chair Williams said aye, Selectmen Paolillo and Dash also said aye and the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Return to Open Session

The Board moved: To exit Executive Session and Return to Open Session at 7:18 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: Chair Williams said aye, Selectmen Paolillo and Dash also said aye and the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Belmont Drives Electric** – will be held on Sunday, September 17, at the CMS parking lot from 1-4 pm.

QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS

Ms. Erin Lubien, of Precinct 7, stated that, as an active member of the community, she is concerned about the public discourse in town. There is a loud, negative voice across town and she requested Board support open-mindedness, respectful, positive sentiment in Belmont. She requested that the Board address this issue.

Selectman Dash responded from his perspective as a lawyer and noted that the First Amendment allows people to express themselves but he also supported the idea of people being civil in public

discourse. Selectman Paolillo agreed that the recent behavior is totally unacceptable. The discourse needs to be civil and respectful. The Board needs to deliver a strong message that tearing another person down is not acceptable. Chair Williams added that personal attacks are not useful. He said he too is concerned about this issue and that he will, together with Ms. Marshall, explore a remedy.

The Board discussed issues relating to uncivil discourse.

Ms. Kathy Keohane, Library Trustee Chair, expressed her concerns about the respective roles and charges of elected officials, appointed officials, and volunteers.

ACTION BY CONSENT

Update from Retirement Board (RB) Chair Tom Gibson on Office Space for Two Retirement Board Employees

Mr. Tom Gibson, RB Chair, Mr. Floyd Carman, Town Treasurer and Selectman appointee to the RB, and Mr. Walter Wellman, RB member, appeared before the Board to discuss office space for two Retirement Board employees. Mr. Gibson provided a brief update on the Board's rate on investments.

Mr. Gibson then discussed the turnover in RB office personnel. He introduced the new staff members on the RB. He noted that additional space is needed for the RB to run its day-to-day business. He stated that he has been looking around town for another space, but that space is tight. Renting outside space is expensive, he said, but that option is also being explored.

The Board discussed issues relating to the RB's request for additional space. Ms. Marshall noted that the basement of the Homer Building was an option, but not necessarily a suitable one. Mr. Gibson stated that there is a viable option in Watertown Square. Rent at this site will be upwards of \$1,800 a month.

Chair Williams suggested that Mr. Gibson continue to seek out office options.

The Board asked about the next valuation. Mr. Gibson provided some information.

Executive Session

The Board moved: To enter into executive session at 7:41 p.m. to discuss strategy sessions with union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the Chair so declares. The Board will return to open session.

A roll call vote was taken: Chair Williams said aye, Selectmen Paolillo and Dash also said aye and the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Return to Open Session

The Board moved: To exit Executive Session and Return to Open Session at 7:52 p.m.
A roll call vote was taken: Chair Williams said aye, Selectmen Paolillo and Dash also said aye and the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Utility Petition – National Grid Request to Install Approximately 40 feet of 2-inch Gas Main on Robin wood Road

Ms. Beth Kuhns and Ms. Diana Cuddy, of National Grid, appeared before the Board to discuss a request to install approximately 40 feet of 2-inch gas main on Robin wood Road. Ms. Kuhns explained the request in more detail.

Ms. Marshall stated that the appropriate departments have approved this request.

The Board moved: To approve the installation and maintenance of 40 feet more or less of 2 inch gas main in Robin Wood Road, from the existing 4 inch gas main at house #25 southerly to house #31 in order to provide a new gas service to #31 Robin Wood Road. National Grid must do their restoration patch according to Belmont DPW usual requirements.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Board of Selectmen Role Regarding Easement Preservation

Mr. George Hall, Town Counsel, appeared before the Board to discuss the Board's role regarding the easement the Planning Board's approval of the application by the Belmont Day School. Mr. Duncan's previous letter to the Board concerning the PB's decisions around the Belmont Day School recommended that the BOS take action

Mr. Hall noted that the Board of Selectmen does not have a role in the easement. The Land Management Committee and Cemetery Commission have jurisdiction regarding any use of the property... There is no waiver of the easement in the Planning Board action.
Ms. Marshall will communicate Mr. Hall's statement to Mr. Duncan.

The Board thanked Mr. Hall.

Proclamation for SPORT (Special Programs Organized for Recreation Time) Director Susan K. Weiner

Selectman Paolillo read the Proclamation.

Intergovernmental Agreement with Watertown for SPORT (Special Programs Organized for Recreation Time)

Mr. Jay Marcotte, DPW Director, appeared before the Board to discuss the Intergovernmental agreement with Watertown for SPORT (Special Programs Organized for Recreation Time). Ms. Marshall briefly explained that the program had evolved over the years and expanded in

offerings and participation without any formal agreement with Watertown or other towns. This document defines the cost sharing and structure of both towns in the SPORT program.

Selectman Dash noted that the new agreement may require additional staff and hours on the part of Belmont. As the SPORT lead town, he said, Belmont will incur much of the administrative load. Mr. Marcotte explained the nature of the staff hours and how the fees are collected. If other towns participate, they will pay. He explained the role of the Friends of Belmont SPORT and noted that a formal agreement will be created for the Friends, as well.

Ms. Marshall added that the program has grown over the years without this agreement for in-kind and financial participation for Belmont and Watertown. The structure will help Belmont recover some administrative costs of the program.

The Board moved: To approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Watertown for SPORT.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Discussion related to Parking Recommendations

Mr. Glenn Clancy, Director of Community Development, appeared before the Board to discuss various parking recommendations. Mr. Clancy noted that the requests have come from private citizens. He discussed each proposal in turn.

1) Proposed One-Hour parking on Belmont Street between Common Street and the Christ Lutheran Church and Pre-School

Mr. Clancy explained that the parents of the Kendall School and Christ Lutheran Pre-School have no place to park when picking up or dropping off their children. The Cushing Village construction project has impacted the available parking for parents. This is a safety issue, he said, and this request will free up space for parents to safely drop off and pick up children. Currently, there is no turnover on Belmont Street, so this will allow for turnover and free up spaces for parents.

Ms. Connaught-Colbert, Assistant Director of the Kendall School, elaborated on the parking challenges. Commuters and construction workers are parking all day on Belmont Street.

The Board moved: To approve the temporary request for one-hour parking on Belmont Street between Common Street and the Christ Lutheran Church and Pre-School and to revisit this restriction in June, 2018. [2019?]

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

2) Proposed 2-Hour Parking limit at 200/202 Trapelo Road at Barnard Road

Mr. Clancy explained that both the owner and the tenants need parking access in front of the house. Currently there is no turnover at this property. This will allow the owner and tenants to have access to the front of his property.

The Board moved: To approve a temporary 2-hour Parking limit at 200/202 Trapelo Road at Barnard Road and to revisit this restriction in June, 2018. [2019?]
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

3) Proposed No Parking on Acorn Park Drive where a bike lane has been installed

Mr. Clancy explained that bike lanes were installed on Acorn Park Drive, as conditioned by the ZBA. However there needs to be signage saying that parking is no longer allowed there. Cars are currently parking right in the bike lane space.

The Board moved: To approve the No Parking on Acorn Park Drive where a bike lane has been installed.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

4) Chenery Parking

Chair Williams raised the parking issues at Chenery Middle School (CMS) and invited Mr. Bob Singler, Chenery neighbor, to express his concerns on parking. Staff parking is spilling over into the neighborhood streets. Mr. Clancy explained what is being explored to alleviate some of the parking issues. The Traffic Advisory Committee did come up with recommendations, but they were not received favorably. Residents are currently meeting with Mr. McAllister, CMS Principal, to come up with a possible parking solution. Mr. Singler expressed frustration with the process.

Discussion of Special Town Meeting (STM) scheduled for Monday, November 13, 2017

Ms. Marshall noted that the Warrant for Special Town Meeting will be discussed by the Selectmen for November 13, 2017. She reviewed the items likely to be placed on the Warrant:

- Funding modular classrooms at the Burbank
- Modernization Act on the Town Bylaw to identify Revolving Funds

Major Capital Project Working Group (MCPWG), Belmont High School Building Committee (BHSBC) will make reports to Town Meeting Members.

Selectman Paolillo stated that the MCPWG will issue a weighty report, which will include a discussion of funding, solutions, and planning. He said he would like to hear feedback from Town Meeting members on the report. Selectman Dash added that the Library Trustees were told that the Library building committee issue would be revisited at this meeting, as well.

Chair Williams raised a question about the BHSBC report being issued at the STM. The Board then discussed the nature of this STM, e.g., what should be covered? How many items should be on the agenda? The dates of opening and closing the warrant, etc.

Ms. Sue Bass, TMM, stated that the warrant should be kept open for a week or two to allow the democratic process to occur. The Board discussed whether the warrant for the Special Town Meeting might be open to other articles. The Board will review the Warrant when it meets on September 18.

Discussion of Committee Appointments

Planning Board (PB)

Selectman Paolillo discussed the makeup of the Planning Board, and made a suggestion about the number of associate members. However, Town Counsel indicated that only one associate member can be appointed, under the current bylaw. Selectman Paolillo suggested a change to the bylaw as it relates to the number of associate members and PB members in general. The PB, he said, undertakes a tremendous amount of work and would be served by an expanded membership. A bylaw change could be taken up at the Annual Town Meeting.

The Board discussed this notion, as well as the current applications for membership. Selectman Dash raised concerns about the current Procedures, the current and recent applications before the PB and the complaints expressed to him about the PB, including “micromanagement” of proposed applications for projects. He recommended included Mr. Sanderson as a full member and Mr. Pinkerton as an associate member. Mr. Sanderson, he added, is the most qualified applicant and the Board should make its appointments based on qualifications.

Ms. Liz Allison, PB Chair, was invited to approach the table to discuss her perspective on the qualifications and skills of those who might be appointed. She stated that she supports the re-appointment of Mr. Raffi Manjikian. She explained why she supports him: he is fully prepared for meetings, civil, and has knowledge of the town budget and environmental impacts. She then discussed the value Mr. Pinkerton could offer the PB. As a result of his recent work, on bylaws before ATM, he is “PB ready”. Ms. Allison then responded to some of the points raised by Selectman Dash. She stated that the PB has had the support of Town Meeting in passing major bylaw changes. Complaints, she said, are inevitable.

Mr. Charles Clark, PB member, was invited to speak on the PB’s membership and leadership. The public’s confidence with the PB is fractured, he said. He spoke in support of new leadership and new membership on the PB. The PB needs to focus on South Pleasant Street and Waverley Square.

Chair Williams asked Mr. Clark about the Library in Waverley Square issue. Mr. Clark explained his concerns with the process around that issue, specifically that when the Library in Waverley plan was unveiled, most of the PB had not been a part of the planning process.

The Board then discussed the appointments at hand.

The Board moved: To appoint Mr. Stephen Pinkerton to the PB, as a full member.
The motion passed (2-1).

The Board moved: To appoint Mr. Raffi Manjikian to the PB, as an associate member.
The motion passed (2-1).

Belmont Vision 21 Implementation Committee

The Board moved: To appoint Ms. Erica Zidel and Mr. Juan Montoya to the Belmont Vision 21 Implementation Committee.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Community Preservation Committee

The Board moved: To appoint Mr. Edward Sanderson to the Community Preservation Committee.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC)

This agenda item was postponed.

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)

This agenda item was also postponed.

Discussion of Possible Dates for FY2016 Belmont Financial Discussion

Chair Williams stated that he would like to schedule a financial meeting and he would like to invite key members to discuss the budget. Selectman Paolillo suggested a Saturday morning meeting.

Transit X Discussion

Mr. Mike Stanley, CEO of Transit X, and Ms. Tomi Olsen appeared before the Board to discuss Transit X. Selectman Dash read aloud his disclosure statement concerning this issue. Ms. Olsen stated that this discussion is about planning for the future. Mr. Stanley noted that issues of traffic and congestion are very stressful for all. He showed a presentation concerning an above-road pod transit system. He explained the technology, the funding, the benefits, and the basics of automated transit.

The Board discussed this notion, noting that it is an attractive idea for the future. The Board also agreed that there are many issues related to this idea that will need to be explored and vetted.

Town Administrator's Report

Ms. Marshall reported on the following items:

- **Loading Zone:** The 15 minute zone on Moore Street in in effect

Committee Liaison Reports / Other

Trash Contract

Ms. Marshall explained the proposed schedule for procurement of the trash contract. The Board will need to vote on this issue. The Board discussed meeting on the evening of October 3 to explore the trash option after the September 25, 2017 meeting

Approval of Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2017

June 27, 2017

The Board moved: To approve the meeting minutes of 3-27-17.
The motion passed (2-0-1). Selectman Dash abstained.

The Board moved: To approve the meeting minutes of 6-27-17.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

NEXT MEETINGS

Monday, September 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Selectmen's Meeting Room Town Hall

Monday, September 26, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Selectmen's Meeting Room Town Hall

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 p.m.



Ms. Phyllis Marshall, Interim Town Administrator