

**MINUTES  
TOWN OF BELMONT  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM  
Monday, February 28, 2011  
7:00 PM**

**ACTION BY APPOINTMENT**

**Executive Session – To Discuss Strategy With Respect To Collective Bargaining**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order in open session at 7:04 pm by Chair Jones in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Selectmen Firenze and Paolillo were present. Town Administrator Tom Younger was present.

**QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS**

Mr. Matt Sullivan, Precinct 5 TM member, asked for an update on Cushing Square. Chair Jones replied that the P & S has not been signed and that there is an additional attorney now involved in the process.

**ACTION BY APPOINTMENT (*continued*)**

**One-Day Liquor License – Foundation for Belmont Education (FBE)**

Ms. Christina Ramey, an FBE representative, appeared before the Board to request a one-day liquor license for the FBE's annual Spring dinner to be held on Saturday, March 19, at the Belmont Hill School. Mr. Younger noted that everything was in order.

*The Board moved:* To approve the FBE's liquor license request for the occasion noted above.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

**Town-Wide Survey Results Discussion**

Ms. Barbara Hagg, Town Accountant, appeared before the Board to discuss the results of the town-wide survey. She noted that the survey cost only \$1,500 to administer with aid from the Worcester Research Bureau. There were 257 responses to the on-line survey, which amounted to a 19% response rate (10% was the minimum required response rate). She said the results were overall positive and that the age range of the respondents was varied. The Board then briefly discussed the survey and suggested that the results be available on-line.

## **Residential Snow Removal By-Law Discussion**

Mr. Younger began by noting that the snow ban was still in effect, as many roads throughout town remain narrowed by snow piles. He said that Belmont may want to consider changing its sidewalk clearing by-law. This would require 2/3 vote at Town Meeting. Chair Jones said he is concerned about the elderly population in town, who have difficulty shoveling sidewalks and would have difficulty paying fines for not complying with a clear sidewalks by-law. Selectman Firenze suggested that Belmont implement the new policy to have sidewalks clear, but to do it on a voluntary and trial basis. In other words, without formally obtaining a by-law change via TM. Mr. Younger said he would draft such a policy for next winter and that he would note this change on the web and through other mediums.

## **Open Town Meeting Warrant**

*The Board moved:* To open the Warrant on February 28, and to close the Warrant on March 21.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Mr. Younger noted that the Warrant is being opened one week earlier than usual. The Board discussed the warrant article which pertains to committee appointments. The Board then discussed the means by which the Community Preservation Act Committee will be formulated.

## **Committee Liaison Discussion**

The Board agreed to the following Board member committee liaison assignments:

Chair Jones:	ConCom, COA, Health Board
Selectman Firenze:	Light Board, Board of Assessors, EDAC, Planning Board
Selectman Paolilo:	ZBA, TAC, Library, Recreation, School Committee

Mr. Younger suggested that the Board liaison could help to streamline the process of future committee appointments. Selectman Firenze noted that the Board liaison should receive all meeting minutes and postings of meetings.

Chair Jones noted that the WC Chair suggested he formulate a study group to research if retiree health care costs could be better controlled.

## **Andros Diner Public Hearing**

*The Board moved:* To open the Andros Diner Hearing at 7:45 p.m.  
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Mr. Floyd Carman, Town Treasurer, Mr. Vincent Pepe, an attorney representing the owner(s) of Andros Diner, and Ms. Annette Manetas, restaurant owner, appeared before the Board to discuss the payment plan to address the \$74K in outstanding taxes that are owed. Mr. Carman outlined the payment plan, the main points of which are:

- that Andros Diner make a minimum weekly payment of \$250 to the Treasurer's Office
- 2 that all water, sewer, light, and license fees be kept current
- 3 that the payment plan be reviewed quarterly
- that if numbers 1 and 2 above are not met, the Common Victualler's license will be revoked and immediately terminated.

Selectman Firenze noted that, under this payment plan, it will take six or seven years for the outstanding taxes to be paid. Will this amount only be covering the interest, he asked, will it impact the principle? Mr. Carman replied that some of this would impact the principle. He reiterated that, whether the restaurant remains open or not, the minimum weekly payment must be met or the license is terminated. Mr. Younger suggested that the Board of Health do an inspection prior to opening the restaurant as it has been closed for the past few weeks.

*The Board moved:* To accept the payment plan as outlined by the Town Treasurer and agreed to by the owner of Andros Diner (Ms. Manetas), and to require that, before reopening, the Diner receive a health inspection.  
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

### **Goals and Objectives Monthly Update**

Mr. Younger reviewed several goals and objectives including updates on:

- the smart meter trial
- Emergency 911 Regionalization
- Lexington leasing an Elder van
- Minuteman
- the establishment of the Economic Advisory Committee

The Board then discussed the Retirement Board's decision to grant a 3% COLA to its retirees when there was no COLA adjustment for Social Security.

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

Mr. Younger reported on the following items:

- Governor Patrick is requesting federal emergency snow aid funding.
  - Belmont's snow budget is now \$233K over budget. There are several options for dealing with this: putting it on the tax roll, or requesting a reserve fund transfer, a free cash appropriation, or a federal reimbursement.

- Mr. Clancy is waiting for the storm water report as it relates to the Uplands.
- ConCom will give the Board a Rock Meadow update.

## **ACTION BY CONSENT**

### **Approval of Memorial Day Parade**

*The Board moved:* To approve the Veteran's request to form a committee to organize the annual Memorial Day Parade.  
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

### **Common Victualler's License**

*The Board moved:* To approve the Common Victualler's license request for TCBY and Kashish.  
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

### **Approval of BOS Meeting Minutes 1/31/2011**

*The Board moved:* To approve the minutes noted above.  
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

### **Selectman Firenze Other:**

- He asked about outstanding committee appointments for ConCom, HDC, and the Housing Authority.
  - He asked about the Assistant Town Administrator position, as well as when the Town Administrator's review would be held.

Mr. Younger noted that the Board will meet again on Friday morning March 4 to discuss the points raised above.

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm.

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Thomas G. Younger, Town Administrator