

2008

TOWN OF BELMONT ANNUAL REPORT



About the 2008 Cover. . . .



At the time of its incorporation in 1859, Belmont could have been called a “Town of Farms” for agriculture predominated in the local economy. When thoughts turned to creating a seal for the newly incorporated municipality, the Town chose engraver Henry Mitchell’s design depicting, in the background, Belmont’s 1882 townscape as it was seen from Wellington Hill (present-day Belmont Hill) and, in the foreground, Pomona, the goddess of fruits and gardens, proudly displaying vegetables and fruits spilling from an overflowing cornucopia. The fresh bounty of local farmers—names such as Frost, Hill, Hittinger, Richardson, and Skahan, among others, are reflected in our street names today—was borne by wagon to Boston markets where it was sought out for its high quality.

Belmont’s farmers were recognized widely for their innovative and scientific approaches to cultivation and animal husbandry. For instance, it was Winthrop Chenery’s perseverance that resulted in the first permanent introduction of Holstein cows to America.

With enhanced rail service, followed by the advent of street car lines, over the years Belmont farms gave way to housing lots, thus diminishing the importance of agriculture in the Town. However, our agricultural legacy is alive today in one remaining working farm—Richardson Farm (Sergi Farm). It also is visible in other ways, such as an historic greenhouse in continuous operation, or the few barns scattered throughout the Town, or a random granite post or a tree here or there still bearing fruit every autumn. Fortunately for our Town and its increasingly urban environment, an agriculture restriction at Richardson Farm assures that future Belmontians always will have a direct link to their Town’s farming roots.

The recent introduction by a group of local volunteers of a Farmers’ Market in the Belmont Center municipal parking lot continues the long agricultural history of our town in a new way. Held every Thursday afternoon from mid-June to mid-October, the market has put Belmont on the map as a source of locally grown or produced foods: fresh produce, meats, cheeses, potted plants, eggs, jams, honey, breads, and baked treats. Some items still originate in Belmont; all arrive from less than seventy-five miles away. In addition, the Market serves an important function as a community gathering place. Long-time residents, young families, and everyone in-between—whether arriving by car, bike, public transportation or on foot, or possibly in a wheelchair or stroller—all enjoy the vibrant outdoor venue, convenient to the Center’s stores and services.



Cover images courtesy of Belmont Farmers’ Market volunteers: Mitchell Roberts, a Chenery Middle School student, with additions by Paul Santos and Victoria Thatcher

Many thanks to Sandra Curro Sala and Frank Curro for their work on the compilation, format, editing, and production of this Annual Report

Copies of the 2008 Belmont Annual Town Report may be found at: www.town.belmont.ma.us
One may view a copy of the Town Report at the Belmont Library or at the Town Clerk’s office.



Printed on recycled paper

**TOWN HALL
BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS 02478**

**TOWN WEBSITE:
www.town.belmont.ma.us**

BELMONT STATISTICS

LOCATION:

Belmont is located in Middlesex County, Massachusetts.
It is 8 miles west of Boston and 4 miles west of Cambridge.

HISTORICAL:

First Settlers	1639
Town Incorporated	1859

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION (TOWN HALL):

Latitude	42° 23' 46"
Longitude	71° 10' 33"

ELEVATION ABOVE SEA LEVEL:

High Point	341.2 feet
Low Point	6.8 feet

AREA DATA:

Total Acreage	2978.95
Area in Square Miles	4.655
Land Surface	2946.4
Water Surface	32.55 acres

POPULATION:

Federal Census, 1970	28,285
Federal Census, 1980	26,100
Federal Census, 1990	24,720
Federal Census, 2000	24,194
Town Census, 1995	25,741
Town Census, 2000	26,000
Town Census, 2003	25,956
Town Census, 2004	25,754
Town Census, 2005	23,973
Town Census, 2006	25,641
Town Census, 2007	25,395
Town Census, 2008	25,493

REAL ESTATE IN FY09:

Real Estate Valuation (total)	\$5,223,072,300.00
Personal Property	\$34,584,870.00
Total Valuation	\$5,257,657,170
FY09 Tax Rate per Thousand	\$11.89

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A Working Vision for Belmont's Future

Adopted by Town Meeting, April 23, 2001

Belmont is a desirable and welcoming community that retains a small-town atmosphere within a larger metropolitan area. Our town provides excellent educational opportunities and high quality town services. We protect the beauty and character of our natural settings and historic buildings. Thriving business centers contribute economic stability while offering places for residents to dine, shop, and socialize. The town government responds to the concerns of the residents, practices sound fiscal management and plans for future generations. We make a commitment to preserving and enhancing our strengths as a community while respecting our differences as individuals.

Our Principles

To preserve and enhance the qualities that we value, we, the Belmont community, make a commitment to:

- Foster and maintain an open and inclusive decision-making process.
- Develop and use our human and financial resources wisely.
- Engage in comprehensive and integrated local and regional planning.

Our Common Goals

Quality of Life

- We will ensure an excellent school system as a cornerstone of our community, providing for the learning needs of all our children and all residents.
- We will manage traffic through and around town to ensure the tranquility of our neighborhoods and the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists.
- We will be an environmentally responsible community and conserve our natural habitats.

Character of Our Town

- We will maintain our libraries, public buildings, infrastructure and recreational facilities as investments in our future and our historic buildings as witnesses to our past.
- We will work with neighborhoods and residents to identify and support retail needs and opportunities.
- We will value cultural enrichment and encourage local talent and creativity.

Sense of Community

- We will welcome newcomers and value diversity, while caring for our neighbors and for the needs of children, youth and seniors.
- We will promote the involvement of all residents in the life of our community, support citizen involvement in our town affairs, and rely on an effective, representative local government.
- We will preserve our small-town community atmosphere.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN



Photo courtesy of Cassie Norton

The Belmont Board of Selectmen pause during a Selectmen's Meeting held in the Belmont Gallery of Art at the Homer Building. From left: Ralph T. Jones; Angelo R. Firenze, Chairman; Daniel C. Leclerc, Vice-Chairman

The April 2008 annual town election brought a new face to the Board of Selectmen, as Ralph Jones was elected to the Board to fill the position vacated by Paul Solomon. Angelo Firenze was elected by the Board as Chairman.

2008 saw the activity of 70 permanent and temporary committees with over 500 volunteer members. One new temporary committee, the Government Structure Review Committee was appointed by the Selectmen in 2008 in order to take a fresh look at the way our town's government and our committees are structured. Volunteering for a committee certainly takes much time and effort and the Selectmen would like to recognize and thank all volunteers for the contributions they make to the town.

Issues related to the Town's real estate are a usual topic of the Board's discussions. On the town side, town land at Woodfall Road reached the point of auction, however, due to the economic downturn, no sale took place. Examination of future usage of the former incinerator site is ongoing. There was no resolution in 2008 for a new library, police station or Wellington School, although several scenarios were considered. On a positive note, the new Senior Center broke ground during 2008 with completion expected sometime in late spring of 2009. In private development, discussions and hearings continue about the Uplands parcel, and a Cushing Square parcel was examined for a major mixed-use redevelopment. At the McLean's property, building has continued and the town has welcomed new residents as they occupy the new townhomes.

Shrinking sources of funding for town programs and services are always on the minds of the Selectmen. A \$2.5 million override for road improvements was defeated in 2008, the Benton Library was closed at the end of the year, turning off street lights was considered, a hiring freeze was implemented, to mention a few items.

Each Selectmen's meeting brings new issues and challenges. At-home viewing of the meetings has been a little bit easier thanks to a new projector that was installed in the Selectmen's meeting room which allows viewers to see exactly what the Selectmen are discussing. Keeping informed of resident concerns that impact the town is vital. With only three Selectmen on the Board, much time and effort is required to keep up with issues. Quite often the Selectmen will need to rely on the expertise that is found among the employees of the town. Knowing that these qualified employees are the "frontline" in helping our residents is very important to the Selectmen.

The Selectmen wish to take a moment to remember those Belmont residents who are fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan and hope for their safe return to Belmont.

As the U.S. economy declines, town officials will, more than ever, continue to examine every dollar in the town budget, while at the same time recognizing that residents will be looking to these same town officials to keep up the services provided. We are all going to be faced with critical decisions as we strive to find the right balance of services and taxes. It will no doubt be a challenging year ahead.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Angelo R. Firenze, Chairman
Daniel C. Leclerc, Vice-Chairman
Ralph T. Jones

TOWN BOARDS AND OFFICIALS

As of March 1, 2009

Alcohol Beverage Licensing Committee

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>	
Carolyn Bunyon		2008
Janice Ellard		2010
Laurence Grosbaum		2008
Andrew Levin, Chair		2009
Salvatore Maniscalco		2008
Maryann Scali		2009

Belmont Center Planning Group

<i>Temporary</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
Vickie Alani, Chair	
Sami Baghdady	
Thayer Donham	
Evelyn Haralampu	
Sara Oaklander	
Roy Papalia	
Mary Power	
Allan Vanderley	
Jay Szklut, Mgt Liaison	
Jeffrey Wheeler, Mgt Liaison	
Thomas Younger, Ex-Officio	

Belmont Emergency Management Agency

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
Alexander Corbett	
Matthew Davison	
Edward Davison	
Ernest Fay	
David Frizzell	
Keith McLean	
Richard Nohl	
Emily Saidnawey	
Leo Saidnawey	
John Steeves	
Cory Taylor	

Belmont Housing Trust

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
Roger Colton	2009
Judith Feins, Chair	2010
Jonathan Jacoby	2010
Gloria Leipzig, Vice Chair	2011
Nancy Marsh, Secretary	2009
Carla Moynihan	2010
Ann Silverman	2010
Ann Verrilli	2011

Belmont Media Center Board of Directors

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
Jonathan Green	2010

Belmont Vision 21 Implementation Committee

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
Timothy Bowman	2011
Kirk Hazlett, Chair	2009
Jonathan Mascia	2010
Sara Oaklander	2010
Jennifer Page	2009
Alfred Rubin	2010
Paul Solomon	2009
Jay Szklut, Mgt Liaison (non-voting)	

Board of Assessors

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Elected</i>
Charles Laverty, Secretary	2010
C. Brendan Noonan, III, Chair	2009
Robert Reardon, Vice Chair	2011

Board of Cemetery Commissioners

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Elected</i>
Alexander Corbett	2011
Charles Johnson, Vice Chair	2010
Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Chair	2009

Board of Health

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Elected</i>
David Alper	2009
Donna David	2011
Robert Eisendrath, Chair	2010

Board of Library Trustees

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Elected</i>
Elaine Alligood	2009
Mary Keenan, Sec'y	2011
Matthew Lowrie	2009
David Rich	2010
Hal Shubin, Chair	2011
Heli Tomford, Vice Chair	2010

Board of Selectmen

<i>Permanent, Elected</i>	
Angelo Firenze, Chair	2009
Ralph Jones	2011
Daniel Leclerc, Vice Chair	2010

Bylaw Review Committee

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Town Moderator</i>
Robert Gallant	2008
Charles Hamann, Chair	2010
Delores Keefe, Ex-Officio	2008
Raymond Miyares	2009
Rebecca Vose	2010

Cable Television Advisory Committee

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
Barry Blesser	2009
Mark Carthy	2010
Jonathan Green	2011
Richard Pew	2009
Gregory Poulos, Chair	2009

Capital Budget Committee

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Town Moderator</i>
Patricia Bruschi, Chair	Ex-Officio
Mark Clark	2011
John Conte	2009
Anne Marie S. Mahoney	2010
Jennifer Fallon, Ex-Officio	
Daniel Leclerc, Ex-Officio	
Ann Rittenburg, Ex-Officio	
Barbara Hagg, Mgt Liaison	

Community Preservation Act Study Committee

<i>Temporary</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
Adam Dash	
John Dieckmann	
Peter Gunness	
Caroline Huang	
Delores Keefe	
Mark Paolillo	
Joseph Scali	

Ann Verrilli
David Webster
Jeffrey Conti, Mgt Liaison

Conservation Commission

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
Nancy Davis	2010
Tino Lichauco	2009
Martha Moore	2010
James Roth	2011
Margaret Velie	2011
David Webster	2009
Miriam Weil, Chair	2010
Glenn Clancy, Mgt Liaison	
Associate Member, Vacancy	2008
Associate Member, Vacancy	2008

Constable

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
David Benoit	2011
William Chemelli	2010
John Ehler	2010
Donna Feeley	2011
Thomas Maguire	2011
Richard Picceri	2010
Philip Richmond	2011

Council on Aging

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
John Bruschi	2009
Diana Dick	2011
Ethel Hamann, Chair	2011
Cornelius Hegarty	2009
Jacob Kantor	2010
Henry Kazarian, Vice Chair	2010
Anne Lougee	2009
Judith Morrison	2011
Angela Santoro Mullin	2011
Joel Semuels	2010
Phyllis Solomon	2010
Ann Verrilli, Liaison, BHA	
Nava Niv-Vogel, Mgt Liaison	

Cultural Council

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
Sarah Freiberg	2009
Rebecca Harrold-Dasilva	2010
Juliet Jenkins	2011
Mary Keith	2010
Patricia Mihelich, Chair	2009
Laura Northridge	2010

Disability Access Commission

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
Nancy Donald, Associate Member	2008
Raymond Glazier	2010
Patricia Livingstone-Espiet,	
Associate Member	2008
Janet MacDonald, Vice Chair	2010
Vacancy	2010
Vacancy	2008
Vacancy	2009
Francis Williams	2009
Carole Williams	2009
Thomas Younger, Mgt Liaison	

Education Scholarship Committee

<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Appointed, Selectmen</i>
Leslie Aitken	2010
Paula Caruso	2011

Robert Sullivan 2009
M. DeLynn Walker 2010
Floyd Carman, Chair/Mgt Liaison

Facilities Energy Management Project Committee

Temporary Appointed, Town Moderator
Elizabeth Allison
Roger Colton, Sec'y
John Conte, Treasurer
Jennifer Fallon, Chair
James Fitzgerald, Vice Chair
Franklin Hundley
Raffi Manjikian
Robert McLaughlin
Karen Pressey
Diane Stafford
Gerry Missal, Mgt Liaison
Timothy Richardson, Mgt Liaison
Paul Solomon, Mgt Liaison

Government Structure Review Committee

Temporary Appointed, Selectmen
Joan Garland
Henry Hall
Ralph Jones
Andrew Levin
Trish Lohmar
Anne Marie S. Mahoney
Robert McLaughlin
Paul Solomon
Rebecca Vose
Thomas Younger, Mgt Liaison

Health Advisory Board

Temporary Appointed, Selectmen
Lisa Gibalerio 2011

Highland Meadow Cemetery Building Committee

Temporary Appointed, Town Moderator
Alexander Corbett
Charles Johnson
Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Chair
Karen Pressey

Historic District Commission

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Paul Bell 2009
Richard Cheek, Co-chair 2010
Peter Gunness 2008
Lisa Harrington 2010
Arleyn Levee 2010
Lydia Phippen Ogilby, Chair emeritus 2010
Richard Pichette 2009
Nancy Richards 2010
Michael Smith, Co-chair 2011
Allan Vanderley 2011

Housing Authority

Permanent Elected
Donald Becker 2009
Sallye Bleiberg 2013
James Murphy 2010
Leo Saidnaway, Chair 2011
Ann Verrilli, Housing Authority 2011

Human Rights Commission

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Lisa Bernt 2011
Janet Cudmore-Boswell 2009

Judith Feins 2009
Rosalind Kabrhel 2009
Moez Rawji 2008
Vacancy 2008
Vacancy 2010
Vacancy 2010
Constance Williams 2011
Fran Yuan 2009
Daniel Leclerc, Mgt Liaison

Information Technology Advisory Committee

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen/School Comm./Lib. Trustees
James Berets, Co-Chair 2010
Daniel Ellard 2010
David Goldberg, Sec'y/Clerk 2008
Jonathan Green 2009
Philip Lawrence, Co-Chair 2009
Matthew McGovern 2010
Karen Polvino 2011
Charles Smart 2010
Vacancy 2008
John Bowe, Mgt Liaison

Insurance Advisory Committee

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Robert Masse 2009
June Roberts, Chair 2010
Robert Watson 2008
Jeffrey Conti, Mgt Liaison (Non-Voting)

Local Emergency Planning Committee

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Rebecca Orfaly Cadigan 2010
Peter Castanino 2010
Edward Corsino 2009
Edward Davison, Chair 2010
John Farino 2011
David Frizzell 2009
Robert Gad, Recording Sec'y
Andrew Healy 2011
Richard Lane 2011
Robert Martin 2010
Gerry Missal 2009
Donna Moultrup 2011
Leo Saidnaway 2009
Michael Santoro 2009
Vacancy 2010
Vacancy 2007
Vacancy 2009
Vacancy 2011

McLean Land Management Committee

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Harlan Carere 2011
Martha Moore, Ex-Officio 2010
Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Chair 2009
Richard Pichette, Ex-Officio 2009

Minuteman Regional Vocational Tech. HS

Permanent Appointed, Town Moderator
Joseph Scali 2010

Municipal Light Department Advisory Board

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Ashley Brown, Chair 2011

Patricia DiOrio 2010
Robert Forrester 2011
Robert Kenny 2009
Timothy McCarthy 2010
Gretchen McClain 2010

MWRA Advisory Board

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Peter Castanino 2009

Parking Clerk

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Floyd Carman 2008

Permanent Audit Committee

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Floyd Carman, Ex-Officio
Frank Caruso 2009
Ernest Fay, Chair 2009
Angelo Firenze, Ex-Officio
Barbara Hagg, Ex-Officio
Henry Hall 2010
Robert Keefe 2011

Permanent Building Committee

Permanent Appointed, Town Moderator/Selectmen
Patricia Brusch, Chair 2009
Robert Jones 2009
William Lovallo 2010
Robert McLaughlin 2008
Karen Pressey 2008
Stephen Sala 2009
William Shea 2010

Personnel Board

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Theodore Dukas 2010
Joseph Griffin 2009
Eloise McGaw 2010
Richard Waring 2008
Mary Wybieralla 2010
Diane Crimmins, Mgt Liaison

Planning Board

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Sami Baghdady 2009
Jennifer Fallon, Chair 2011
Karl Haglund 2011
Carla Moynihan 2010
Andres Rojas, Vice Chair 2010
Jeffrey Wheeler, Mgt Liaison

Recreation Commission

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
Ann Bere 2010
Laurie Carlson 2011
Neal Fay 2009
Stephanie King, Chair 2011
Elizabeth Lipson 2009
Dennis Rocha 2010
Lee Slap 2010
Vacancy 2008
Vacancy 2009
William McKenney, Mgt Liaison

Registrars of Voters

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen
William Hofmann, Chair 2009
Delores Keefe, Ex-Officio 2010
Robert McGaw 2009

James Staton 2010

Retirement Board

Permanent Elected/Appointed, Selectmen

Thomas Gibson 2009
Peter Palandjian 2011
Rosario Sacco, Chair 2010
Walter Wellman 2008
Barbara Hagg, Ex-Officio

School Committee

Permanent Elected

John Bowe, Chair 2009
Elizabeth Gibson 2009
Laurie Graham 2011
Ann Rittenburg 2011
Rebecca Vose 2009
Leslie Walker 2010

Security Committee

Temporary Appointed, Selectmen

Peter Castanino
Jeffrey Conti
David Frizzell
Jonathan Green
Richard Lane
Kevin Looney
Robert Martin
Lee McCanne
David Petto
Timothy Richardson
Marc Tapper
William Webster

Senior Center Building Committee

Temporary Appointed, Town Moderator

Susan Burgess
Margaret Callanan
Walter Guertin
Cornelius Hegarty, Vice Chair
Mary Ann Johnson
Robert Jones
Paul Laffey
William Lovallo
Janet MacDonald
Karen Pressey, Chair
Penelope Schafer
Phyllis Solomon
Nava Niv-Vogel, Mgt Liaison

Sesquicentennial Anniversary Planning Committee

Temporary Appointed, Selectmen

Richard Betts
Helen Blakelock
Warren Farrell
John Greene
Viktoria Haase, Chair
Delores Keefe
Sandy Kendall
Patricia Mihelich
George Packard
Pamela Price
Ronald Sacca

Sewer/Stormwater Committee

Temporary Appointed, Selectmen

Edward Corsino
James Decoulos
Charles Gore
Ralph Jones, Chair
Cerdric Marsh

Mark McVay
Jay Perkins
William Pisano
Peter Castanino, Ex-Officio, non-voting
Glenn Clancy, Ex-Officio, non-voting

Shade Tree Committee

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen

Nancy Forbes 2009
Ruth Foster 2010
Martha Moore 2009
Andres Rojas 2011
Laura Simmons, Chair 2009
Vacancy 2008
Vacancy 2008
Vacancy 2008
Thomas Walsh, Tree Warden
Peter Castanino, Mgt Liaison

Solid Waste/Recycling Committee

Temporary Appointed, Selectmen

Mary Beekman
Janice Biederman
Joseph Curro
Kristen Galfetti
Douglas Koplou, Chair
Deborah Lockett
Peter Castanino, Mgt Liaison

Traffic Advisory Committee

Permanent Appointed Selectmen

Peter Curro 2008
Mary Jo Frisoli, Chair 2008
Laurence MacDonald 2010
Andrea Masciari 2010
Linda Nickens, Vice Chair 2008
Tommasina Olson 2010
Philip Richmond 2008
Ronald Sacca 2010
Glenn Clancy, Mgt Liaison (Non-Voting)

Tree Warden

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen

Thomas Walsh 2009

Warrant Committee

Permanent Appointed, Town Moderator

Elizabeth Allison 2011
Patricia Bruschi 2011
Margaret Callanan 2011
Philip Curtis, Chair 2009
Roy Epstein 2010
James Heigham 2009
William Hofmann 2010
Michael Libenson 2009
William Lynch 2010
Walter McLaughlin 2011
Noreen Millane 2010
Mark Paolillo 2010
Eric Smith 2011
Michael Widmer 2009
John Bowe, Ex-Officio 2009
Ralph Jones, Ex-Officio
Barbara Hagg, Mgt Liaison

Water Advisory Board

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen

Frank French, Chair 2011
Joseph Greene 2009
William Shea 2010

Wellington School Building Committee

Temporary Appointed, Town Moderator

John Bowe
Patricia Bruschi, Vice Chair
Philip Curtis
Mark Haley, Chair
Mary McHugh
Gerry Missal
Joel Mooney
Gregory Poulos
Karen Pressey, Sec'y
Lucy Pullen

Youth Commission

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen

David Alper, Vice Chair 2008
Ann Bere 2010
Laurie Carlson, Chair 2009
Caroline Lindstrom 2009
Scott Stratford 2008
Vacancy 2008
Vacancy 2008
Vacancy

Zoning Board of Appeals

Permanent Appointed, Selectmen

William Chin, Chair 2012
Martin Cohen, Associate Member 2011
Adam Dash 2011
Joseph DeStefano 2010
Nicholas Iannuzzi 2013
Arthur Kreiger 2012
Vacancy 2008
Vacancy 2010
Jeffrey Wheeler, Mgt Liaison

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS

As of March 1, 2009

AT LARGE MEMBERS

Brownsberger, William N. 6 Stella Rd
Carman, Floyd S. 184 Brighton St
Eisendrath, Robert M. 85 Juniper Rd
Keefe, Delores A. 49 Chilton St
LeClerc, Daniel C. 36 Becket Rd
Shubin, Hal 78 Chilton St
Widmer, Michael 126 Gilbert Rd

PRECINCT ONE

Bishop, Carolyn J. 7 Orchard St
Borelli, John A. 290 School St
Carthy, Mark 21 Stone Rd
Dash, Adam 12 Goden St
Duffy, Martin 76 Lincoln St
Ellet, William C. III 21 Watson Rd
Fallon, Jennifer M. 30 Richardson Rd
Fawcett, Amy 129 Goden St
Freeman, Jack 93 Watson Rd
Freidberg, Karen 43 Douglas Rd
Gavin, Mary 12 Long Ave
Golding, Helen E. 18 Louise Rd
Gouveia, William A. 87 Douglas Rd
Hamann, Charles M. 28 Temple St
Hayes, Jocelyn C. 5 Colonial Ter
Hegarty, Cornelius M. 11 Louise Rd
Heigham, James C. 62 Orchard St
Kendall, Sandra J. 74 Fairmont St
King, Darrell 30 Long Ave
Lind, Katherine A. 68 Fairmont St
Lohmar, Patricia D. 35 Concord Ave
Mahoney, Brian E. 24 Goden St
McCarthy, Theresa F. 82 Lincoln St
McClain, Gretchen 87 School St
McGaw, Eloise See 23 Louise Rd
McGaw, Robert E. 23 Louise Rd
Miller, Kathleen P. 11 Gale Rd
Miranda, Barbara E. 22 Myrtle St
Ogilby, Lydia Phippen 306 Washington St
Paulsen, Frederick S. 90 School St
Pullen, Lucy 83 School St
Reppucci, Nancy Madanian 21 Emerson St
Stafford, Diane E. J. 9 Temple St
Staton, James H. 92 Long Ave
Tomczyk, Stephen 47 Hamilton Rd
Wolf, Paul 21 Edgemoor Rd

PRECINCT TWO

Aitken, Leslie 70 Evergreen Way
Banker, James 79 Scott Rd
Bing, Edward A. 86 Juniper Rd
Brown, W. Sumner 35 Ross Rd
Brusch, M. Patricia 52 Radcliffe Rd
Burke, Rosemary 216 Prospect St
Cooperstein, Florence A. 40 Woodfall Rd
Corbett, Julia 48 Stella Rd
Cushman, Ellen O'Brien 38 Scott Rd
DeNovellis, Vincent 35 Clifton St
DiGiovanni, Anthony 4 Radcliffe Rd
Dreier, Katharine E. 11 Howells Rd
Graves, Jim 593 Pleasant St
Hofmann, William F., III 223 Rutledge Rd
Huang, Caroline Bing-Yen 39 Howells Rd
Jones, Ralph T. 26 Prentiss Ln

Jones, Sherry 26 Prentiss Ln
Lewis, Bradley R. 70 Somerset St
Magni, Peter R. 140 Radcliffe Rd
Malliris, Evanthia K. 618 Pleasant St
Masucci, Sara M. 5 Scott Rd
McAlpin, John B. 59 Winter St
McLaughlin, Robert 81 Wellesley Rd
McSwain, Judith A. 35 Ross Rd
Pew, Elizabeth W. 27 Wellington Ln
Puma, Mary J. 24 Evergreen Way
Robotham, John 19 Scott Rd
Robotham, Suzanne H. 19 Scott Rd
Scali, Joseph A. 19 Prospect St
Scali, Maryann 19 Prospect St
Schwartz, Michael 46 Prospect St
Skolnick, David C. 14 Crestview Rd
Sos, John 8 Clifton St
Valiant, Gayle L. 50 Tyler Rd
Weeks, Julia H. 585 Concord Ave
White, Robie W. 54 Prentiss Ln

PRECINCT THREE

Allen, Anne C. 580 Concord Ave
Allison, Liz 69 Pinehurst Rd
Barton, Julie T. 16 Charles St
Bass, Suzanne 530 Concord Ave
Blake, Thomas K. 23 Centre Ave
Bleiberg, Sallye F. 14 Harris St
Carere, Erica 95 Pinehurst Rd
Chase David R. 14 Waverley Ter
Cohen, Martin L. 21 Dunbarton Rd
D'Andrea, Mark M., Jr. 97 Waverley St
Delise, Robert M. 81 Pinehurst Rd
Dieckmann, John T. 47 Lorimer Rd
Firenze, Angelo R. 1 Clover St
Goodman-Belkadi, Ariane 12 Woodland St
Hartman, Deborah 133 Brookside Ave
Johnson, Susan L. 7 Vernon Rd
Kennedy, Mary K. 11 Lorimer Rd
Kennedy, Robert V. 11 Lorimer Rd
Kerr, Rosalie O. 35 Summit Rd
Knight, Stephen C. 504 Concord Ave
Kruse, Janet M. 13 Grant Ave
Madden, Richard K. 707 Pleasant St
Manjikian, Raffi M. 12 Pearl St
Mayer, John H. 194 Orchard St
McVay, Christine 109 Brookside Ave
Monahan, J. Grant 68 Snake Hill Rd
Moore, Martha 331 Waverley St
Murphy, Maria L. 36 Stanley Rd
Page, Jennifer A. 15 Stanley Rd
Parmett, Karen S. 86 Clark St
Passero, Barbara 31 Grant Ave
Sarno, Judith Ananian 30 Waverley Ter
Stanton, Vincent P. 32 Royal Rd
Sullivan, Michael 30 C St
Tomford, Heli 72 Pinehurst Rd
Vose, Rebecca 48 Clark St

PRECINCT FOUR

Baghdady, Nadim S. 94 Walnut St
Baghdady, Sami S. 14 Loring St
Baghdady, Samir S. 168 White St
Brown, Judith L. 18A Davis St
Chemelli, William J. 11 Ripley Rd
Coté, Marion E. 37 Burnham St
Covert, Steven P. 17 Holt St
Cunningham, Kevin M. 20 Chandler St
D'Angelo, Lorene 22 Burnham St
Dinneen, Patricia M. 17 Chandler St
DiTommaso, Coralie N. 38 Jeanette Ave
Erdos, Gail E. 46 Bartlett Ave
Frizzell, David M. 36 Thayer Rd
Frizzell, Linda A. 36 Thayer Rd
Gates, Lucia E. 11 Agassiz St

Goldman, Matthew 74 Agassiz Ave
Gregson, Kristen L. 6 Moraine St
Kazarian, Henry V. 22 Banks St
Klein, Trey 201 Lexington St
Lawrence, Philip W. 48 Agassiz Ave
MacIsaac, James 25 Ripley Rd
Mahon, Anne 19 Alma Ave
Messenger, William G. 84 Lexington St
Neely, Joseph A. 135 A Sycamore St
O'Brien, Margaret C. 19 Burnham St 2D
Occhino, John 18 Hull St
Occhino, Sandra 18 Hull St
O'Connor, Brigid 20 Walnut St
Pazzanese, James G. 177 Lexington St
Powelstock, David 23 Alma Ave
Rono, Nathaniel A. 28 Loring St
Sacco, Rosario A. 133 White St
Tilke, Nonna 10 Holt St
Tillotson, Geoffrey 4 Ripley Rd
Webster, David M. 18 Holt St
White, Joseph P. 14 Maple Ter

PRECINCT FIVE

Becker, Donald L. 35 Horne Rd
Bliss, Austin C. 48 Alma Ave
Bloore, Suzanne 37 Hastings Rd
Bowman, G. Timothy 74 Horace Rd
Brown, Devin B. 54 Horne Rd
Bown, Martha S. 54 Horne Rd
Carlini, Stephan W. 31 Horne Rd
Coakley, Joanne E. 95 Horace Rd
Connolly, Joseph F. 31 Hammond Rd
Curtis, Philip C. 9 Bay State Rd
Doblin, Lynne J. 3 Francis St
Donham, Thayer 77 Hammond Rd
Ellard, Janice M. 12 Horace Rd
Fay-Richard, Sandra 95 Bay State Rd
Feins, Judith D. 71 Bay State Rd
Firenze, Felix J. 22 Bay State Rd
Gorham, Christopher 95 Hammond Rd
Kassaraba, Ellen 43 Hastings Rd
Keith, Mary M. 40 Alma Ave
Laughlin, Malcolm 19 Holden Rd
Lewis, Tamar A. 11 Wiley Rd
Liebenson, Michael D. 59 Hammond Rd
Olson, Tommasina Anne 10 Bay State Rd
Plunkett, Robert W. 66 Horace Rd
Polcari, Lynne Cook 44 Hastings Rd
Pollock, John W. 383 Common St
Pollock, Lois J. 383 Common St
Rojas, Andres T. 71 Drew Rd
Rundle, Wendy L. 17 Poplar St
Serra-Masciari, Andrea 51 Flett Rd
Smith, William B. 261 Beech St
Steinert, Heidi L. 123 Gilbert Rd
Sullivan, John P. 72 Palfrey Rd
VanDeurse, Gary Brian 48 Alma Ave
Widmer, Jeanne 126 Gilbert Rd
Wrubel, Roger P. 165 Slade St

PRECINCT SIX

Alper, David B. 1 Oak Ave
Bowe, John J. 20 Elizabeth Rd
Brah, William J. 23 Pine St
Chin, William D. 261 Payson Rd
Clark, Mark 28 Oak Ave
Cobb, Priscilla 64 Pine St
Collins, Michael 290 Payson Rd
Colton, Roger Duane 34 Warwick Rd
Croy, Susanne M. 95 Stults Rd
Dick, Diana H. 124 Oakley Rd
Donner, Tara 47 Payson Rd
Dukas, Theodore 236 Payson Rd
Gibson, Elizabeth 15 Oakley Rd
Haley, Mark X. 8 Pine St

Hilgenberg, Joanna L.	50 Oakley Rd	Kochem, Christine W.	21 Jason Rd
Hirsch, Marcie S.	64 Old Middlesex Rd	Kochem, Robert C.	21 Jason Rd
Johnson, David R.	23 Oak Ave	Lambert, Anne-Marie	79 Chilton St
Kirrane, Julia M.	23 Lawndale St	Leabman, Scott H.	80 Munroe St
Klionsky, Stephen	196 Payson Rd	Massidda, Douglas J.	123 Cross St
Kobayashi, Richard M.	47 Stults Rd	Matson, Douglas	33 Sandrick Rd
Malone, John J.	18 Selwyn Rd	McMurtry, Douglas F.	119 Cross St
Mancini, Zenda	4 Essex Rd	Mercier, Donald H.	96 Cross St
Marsh, Nancy M.	42 Warwick Rd	Montoya, Rudy	44 Statler Rd
Mooney, Jeanne R.	60 Oak Ave	November, Martin T.	39 Dean St
Nager, James L.	28 Raleigh Rd	Oaklander, Sara	88 Farnham St
Oates, Linda N.	302 Payson Rd	Paolillo, Mark	42 Pilgrim Rd
Reardon, Robert P.	73 Van Ness Rd	Pederson Metelmann, Mary.	119 Leonard St
Saper, Brian S.	16 Old Middlesex Rd	Rittenburg, Ann Marie	42 Farnham St
Samuels, Joel M.	18 Bellevue Rd	Roberts, Paul F.	54 Cross St
Singler, Judith R.	53 Selwyn Rd	Rosales, Deborah M.	48 Farnham St
Slap, Laurie R.	95 Long Ave	Rosales, Stephen B.	48 Farnham St
Smith, Eric A.	44 Pequossette Rd	Stratford, Scott D.	97 Alexander Ave
Smith, Michael A.	40 Warwick Rd	Swift, Anne H.	76 Tobey Rd
Solari-Brah, Ellen	23 Pine St	Wasserman, Neil	28 Coolidge Rd
Swinford, Dennis J.	28 Van Ness Rd	Williams, Carole A.	216 Brighton St
Thayer, Philip K.	39 Oak Ave		

PRECINCT SEVEN

Betts, Richard B.	20 Woods Rd
Blatt, Julia	27 Skahan Rd
Brown, Cheryl	18 Exeter St
Callanan, Margaret M.	21 Sargent Rd
Cheloff, Ava	76 Elm St
Cohen, Robert F.	31 Audrey Rd
Coutinho, Paul	23 Woods Rd
Coutinho, Carmen	23 Woods Rd
Crapulli, Michael J.	47 Audrey Rd
DiCocco, Constance H.	214 Grove St
Drevins, Joan A.	61 Betts Rd
Eysenbach, Margaret	219 Washington St
Eysenbach, James M.	219 Washington St
Giallongo, Steven	124 Dalton Rd
Graham, Laurie	27 Grove St
Green, William H.	85 Betts Rd
Grob, Elizabeth	21 Betts Rd
Harris, Garrett J.	21 Hartley Rd
Jacoby, Henry D.	106 Grove St
Jacoby, Martha Hughes	106 Grove St
John, Thomas Douglas	3 Livermore Rd
Lockett, Deborah S.	112 Dalton Rd
Lowrie, Katherine	74 Shaw Rd
Lowrie, Matthew	74 Shaw Rd
MacLeod, Arthur H.	29 Woods Rd
Meier, Shelagh E.	82 Betts Rd
Owens, John C.	10 Anis Rd
Pinkerton, Stephen R.	139 Dalton Rd
Pisano, William C.	253 Washington St
Quirk, Brian C.	48 Audrey Rd
Riley, Timothy M.	133 Dalton Rd
Ruvolo, Donna	36 Choate Rd
Schafer, Penelope H.	161 Lewis Rd
Sorenson, Brett C.	30 Woods Rd
Sullivan, David M.	42 Falmouth St
Titus, Susan R.	26 Livermore Rd

PRECINCT EIGHT

Aalyson, Molly	9 Coolidge Rd
Allen, Monte	88 Farnham St
Baskin, Kathleen	73 Munroe St
Brauer, Carl M.	3 Dean St
Bunyon, Carolyn	50 Albert Ave
Caruso, Paula Curro	164 Claffin St
Corbett, Alexander E., III	114 Alexander Ave
Crowley, Michael J.	215 Channing Rd
Firenze, Marc J.	64 Winn St
Gallant, Robert M.	55 Hill Rd, Apt. 706
Goldenberg, Anne Covino	36 Stearns Rd
Goldman, David	17 Oliver Rd
Griffin, Joseph G.	67 Munroe St
Johnson, Charles R.	384 Pleasant St
Johnson, Mary Ann	384 Pleasant St

TOWN MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

**TOWN OF BELMONT
WARRANT FOR 2008 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
APRIL 28, 2008
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Middlesex, ss.

To either of the Constables in said County:

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are required to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Belmont, qualified as the law requires to vote in elections and Town Affairs, to meet at the Belmont High School Auditorium on MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2008, at 7:30 P.M., and to notify and warn the Town Meeting Members to meet and act at said time and place on the following Articles, viz:

ARTICLE 1: Reports

To hear the report of the Selectmen and other Town Officers. To hear the report of any Committee heretofore appointed and to act thereon.

This article accepts the reports of Town departments appearing in the Annual Town Report and allows the Board of Selectmen and other town officers, boards and committees to report orally to the Town Meeting on appropriate matters not otherwise appearing on the Warrant. This article stays "on the table" throughout the Town Meeting to allow town officials and committees to report when necessary.

Majority vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

ARTICLE 2: Authorization to Represent Town's Legal Interests

To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to bring and defend actions for and against the Town, to submit any such claims to arbitration and to enter into settlement on account of the same in behalf of the Town, as and when they deem it for the best interest of the Town so to do.

This article is traditional and authorizes the Board of Selectmen to represent the Town's legal interests. This authority is clearly identified in the Massachusetts General Laws and the General By-laws of the Town of Belmont.

Majority vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

ARTICLE 3: Authorization to Transfer Balances

To see if the Town will authorize the transfer of certain balances on the Treasurer's books and Accountant's books.

This article authorizes the transfer of balances from various sources necessary to achieve the Town's financial plan for Fiscal Year 2009 (the Budget) as contained in Article 4.

Majority vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

The Warrant Committee and Capital Budget Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 4: Budget Appropriation

To determine what sums of money shall be granted to pay Town expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 and to make the necessary appropriations for the same for the support of schools and for other Town purposes, determine how the same shall be raised, or in any way act thereon.

This article is the appropriation of the Town's Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 budget, commencing on July 1, 2008. Typically, the Budget is broken down into several major categories of expenditures, each requiring a separate vote of Town Meeting.

Majority vote(s) required for passage Yes_____ No_____

The Warrant Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 5: Salaries of Elected Officials

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of each and all the elective officers of the Town, appropriate a sum of money for that purpose, determine how the same shall be raised, or in any way act thereon.

This article fulfills the state law requiring Town Meeting to set the compensation of a town's elected officers. This article also appropriates the funds necessary to meet these compensation levels. For FY 2009, the recommended compensation levels are listed below. Please note that the Town Meeting establishes and appropriates the compensation of all other municipal employees under separate articles (Article 11 and Article 4).

Town Moderator	\$200
Chairman of the Board of Selectmen	\$5,000
Selectman (2)	\$4,500 each
Town Clerk	\$84,299
Town Treasurer	\$84,027
Chairman of the Board of Assessors	\$3,030
Assessor (1)	\$2,424
Assessor (1)	\$2,196

Majority vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

The Warrant Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 6: Non-Contributory Pensions

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to provide non-contributory pensions for eligible employees of any and all of the Town Departments as provided in the applicable provisions of Chapter 32 of the General Laws, determine how the same shall be raised and by whom expended, or in any way act thereon.

This article seeks an appropriation to fund the benefits of retirees of the Town who were employed prior to the establishment of the Massachusetts Contributory Retirement System. The recommended appropriation of \$20,400 covers the pension benefits of one person pursuant to a schedule established by state law.

Majority vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

The Warrant Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 7: Contributory Pensions

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to provide for contributory pensions and expenses in connection therewith in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 32 of the General Laws, determine how the same shall be raised and by whom expended, or in any way act thereon.

This article seeks an appropriation to fund the benefits of retired Town employees (but not school teachers) administered by the Belmont Retirement Board. Massachusetts' cities and towns are not covered under the federal Social Security system, but under a state contributory retirement system. Currently, the Town is on an actuarially funded plan approved by the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC), the state agency in charge of the retirement system. The recommended appropriation of \$4,088,459 funds the costs of the plan for FY 2009.

Majority vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

The Warrant Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 8: Appropriation of "Up Front" Funds for Highway Improvements

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from unappropriated available funds in the Treasury, sums of money for the repair, improvement and construction of highways, said money to be used in conjunction with any money which may be allotted by the Commonwealth for the said purposes, authorize the acceptance of such allotment, determine how the money raised and allotted as aforesaid shall be expended under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, and acts in amendment thereof and in addition thereto, or in any way act thereon.

This article seeks an appropriation to provide "up front" money for state reimbursed highway aid. The state provides highway aid, referred to as Chapter 90, to all cities and towns on a reimbursement basis. This aid is authorized by the Legislature every two or three years through state transportation bond issues. The appropriation of \$403,500 for FY 2009 is the amount projected for Belmont. The Town has used Chapter 90 funds for design purposes in order to "leverage" substantial federal transportation funding for major road projects (i.e., Trapelo Road).

Majority vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

The Warrant Committee and Capital Budget Committee will report orally on this article.

ARTICLE 9: Position Classification and Compensation Plan

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Position Classification and Compensation Plan of the Town previously adopted under the provisions of Article 11 of the General By-Laws of the Town, or in any way act thereon.

This is a standard article appearing in the Warrant. Classification and compensation of all permanent Town (non-school) positions are included in a plan adopted by Town Meeting pursuant to section 108A of Chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The classification and compensation of unionized employees is bargained collectively and inserted into the Plan. In 2000, the Town completed a study of the classification of all Town employees, except for civil service police officers and firefighters. The new Plan was bargained with affected Town unions and implemented. The new Plan is posted on the Town's web site and will be distributed to Town Meeting Members at Town Meeting. The compensation reflects current (FY 2008) rates unless noted. Funds necessary to implement changes associated with the Plan are included within the budget.

Majority vote required for passage Yes _____ No _____

The Warrant Committee will report orally on this article.

ARTICLE 10: Appropriation of Capital Expenditures

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate sums of money to purchase Public Safety Equipment, Computer Equipment (including consulting work), Public Works Equipment and Furnishings and Equipment for Town Facilities, construct public ways, and for Building and Facility and Public Works Construction, Major Maintenance and Alterations (including design work); to determine whether these appropriations shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise and by whom expended, or in any way act thereon.

This is a standard article appearing on the Warrant to appropriate funds to support capital expenditures. While the article is general as to the categories of capital expenditures, the motion shall be explicit. The recommendations of the Capital Budget Committee for FY 2009 capital expenditures will be provided in advance of the Annual Town Meeting.

Majority vote required for passage (two-thirds if borrowing) Yes _____ No _____

The Warrant Committee and the Capital Budget Committee will report orally on this article.

ARTICLE 11: Appropriation for Water and Sewer and Stormwater Services

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the accounts classified as an "Enterprise Fund", pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F½ of the General Laws for water service, and for sewer and stormwater service, determine by whom expended, or in any way act thereon.

This is a standard article appearing on the Warrant to appropriate funds to support the operations of the Town's water and sewer functions. Each of these functions has an enterprise fund that receives revenues from user fees. These funds then are used to fund the utility's operations. These operations are entirely self-supporting from user fees and do not receive any funding from property taxes.

Majority vote required for passage (two-thirds for borrowing) Yes _____ No _____

The Warrant Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 12: Authorization of Expenditure from Revolving Funds

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E½, of the General Laws, to establish and authorize the expenditure from revolving funds by various Town Departments, or in any way act thereon.

This article seeks authorization to establish revolving funds for certain operations of the Town. A revolving fund allows the expenditure of user fees for program expenses without further Town Meeting appropriation. However, the Town Meeting must annually renew the funds. At this time, the Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee are considering the use of revolving funds for the following programs:

Revolving Account	Spending Authority	Revenue Source	Allowed Expenses	Expenditure Limits	Year End Balance
Teen/Youth Events	Youth Commission	Event fees	Teen/youth center events	\$5,000	Available for expenditure next year
Senior Programs	Council on Aging	Course and program fees	Program costs, including trip expenses	\$50,000	Available for expenditure next year
Art Gallery	Belmont Cultural Council	Percentage of art sales	Gallery exhibit and event expenses	\$15,000	Available for expenditure next year

Wetlands Protection	Conservation Commission	Filing fees collected under the Wetlands Protection Act	Administration and enforcement of the Wetlands Protection Act	\$5,000	Available for expenditure next year
Rock Meadow Maintenance	Conservation Commission	Rental fees from garden plots	Restoration and maintenance of Rock Meadow Conservation Area	\$5,000	Available for expenditure next year
Copying/Lost Books	Board of Library Trustees	Lost book fees; printing and copying fees	Replacement of lost books; paper, ink, printer/copier maintenance and replacement	\$10,000	Available for expenditure next year

Majority vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

The Warrant Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 13: Cemetery Balance Transfer

To see if the Town will authorize the transfer of certain balances relative to the Highland Meadow Cemetery on the Treasurer's books and Accountant's books.

This article authorizes the transfer of balances to apply proceeds from the sale of cemetery lots toward the cemetery's perpetual care.

Majority vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

The Warrant Committee and Capital Budget Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 14: Harvard Lawn Fire Station Proceeds

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to apply proceeds received from the sale of the Harvard Lawn Fire Station toward reduction of the debt issue which was voted under Article 7 of the October 24, 2005 Special Town Meeting for the construction of the new Senior Center, or in any way act thereon.

This article seeks to allow the proceeds from the sale of the Harvard Lawn Fire Station (\$615,000) to be applied toward the debt authorized for construction of the new Senior Center, because it is no longer technically possible to apply them to the fire stations construction bond as was originally intended.

Majority vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

The Warrant Committee and Capital Budget Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 15: Street Excavation By-law

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General By-laws of the Town in Article 20, "Public Safety and Property", as follows:

1. *By inserting a new Section 20.4.1 in Section 20.4 of Article 20, by creating subsections of that Section and numbering them as Sections 20.4, 20.4.1 and 20.4.2 and by striking from Section 20.4 (new Section 20.4.2) the words "any such obstructions" and inserting in their place the words "any obstructions described in Sections 20.4 and 20.4.1" so that the amended section will read as follows:*

"20.4 No person shall permit a tree, branch thereof, hedge, bush or shrubbery growing on his/her land to extend over or overhang any street, sidewalk or highway so as to interfere with the free and full use of such street, sidewalk or highway.

20.4.1 No person, other than an authorized agent of the Town, may place or cause to be placed or maintained any permanent or temporary structure or any natural or manmade materials, on any public street, sidewalk or highway in such a manner as to obstruct or otherwise interfere with the free and full use of such public street, sidewalk or highway for the passage of vehicles or pedestrians, except upon written permit or authorization from the Board of Selectmen or its designee, which the Board or its designee may in its discretion issue subject to such terms and conditions, including a bond, as may be deemed necessary and appropriate to protect the public safety.

20.4.2 In addition to other penalties applicable to violation of these By-laws, in the event the Town undertakes to remove any obstructions described in Sections 20.4 and 20.4.1, the Town may charge the landowner for the reasonable cost thereof."

2. *By inserting a new Section 20.5.1 in section 20.5 of Article 20, by creating subsections of that section and numbering them as Sections 20.5, 20.5.1 and 20.5.2 and by striking from Section 20.5 (new Section 20.5.2) the words "any such*

written permits or authorization” and inserting in their place the words “any written permits or authorization granted pursuant to Sections 20.5 and 20.5.1 above” so that the amended section will read as follows:

“20.5 No person, other than an authorized agent of the Town, shall break, dig up or construct any sidewalk; walk upon or otherwise alter lots or borders on cemetery grounds or areas of other municipal grounds upon which hedges, shrubs or flowers are grown; in any way damage or write, paint, print, inscribe, display signs or distribute written matter upon any town property; or conduct any parade upon public ways, except upon written permit or authorization from the Board of Selectmen or its designee.

20.5.1 No person, other than an authorized agent of the Town shall break, remove, dig up, or install any pavement, ground, or curbing in or on any public street or highway for any purpose whatsoever, including but not limited to the creation or modification of a driveway curb cut, except upon written permit or authorization from the Board of Selectmen or its designee.

20.5.2 Any written permits or authorization granted pursuant to Sections 20.5 and 20.5.1 above shall be in force for such time and subject to such conditions, including a bond, as the Board of Selectmen or its designee may specify and shall set forth any appropriate safety or security measures to be taken, the manner in which the permitted activity is to be performed or the condition of the affected municipal property upon completion of the authorized activity.”

3. By adding the following new Section 20.7, renumbering existing Sections 20.7 through 20.11 as 20.8, 20.9, 20.10, 20.11 and 20.12, and changing any existing references to Sections 20.7, 20.8, 20.9, 20.10 and 20.11 and subsections thereof, accordingly:

20.7 Excavation Permit: No person, other than an authorized agent of the Town, shall excavate a trench in a public way or otherwise dig below the surface of a public way, and no person shall excavate a trench on any private land, for any purpose, without first obtaining a written permit from the Board of Selectman or its designated agent, and, then, only in accordance with said Board’s written regulations and with the applicable provisions of Chapter 82, Sections 40 through 40D of the General Laws, and chapter 82A of the General Laws; provided, however, in the case of an emergency excavation made by a person engaged in the transmission or distribution of a public utility, written permission may be obtained after commencement of such excavation provided that the Board of Selectmen is satisfied that the perceived emergency was, in fact, a situation, in which immediate action was necessary to maintain or restore an essential utility service to avoid imminent danger to the public health or safety.

20.7.1 Definitions: For purposes of this By-law, the words “excavation” and “emergency” shall have the same meanings as defined in Chapter 82, section 40 of the General Laws The word “trench” shall have the same meaning as defined in Chapter 82A, Section 4 of the General Laws. The word “person” shall include, without limitation, any individual, or any entity such as a partnership, joint venture, trust, corporation, company, association, public utility, or governmental body or agency.

20.7.2 Regulations: The Board of Selectmen may promulgate and, from time to time, amend rules and regulations for the excavation and restoration of public ways, and for the excavation of trenches on private land. Such rules and regulations may include, but shall not be limited to, requirements for plans, insurance, notification of public utilities, traffic control, protection of adjoining properties, clean-up, back-filling, testing, scheduling, workmanship quality, bonds, and permit fees. Such rules and regulations may also designate a Town officer to act as the Board’s agent in issuing permits hereunder.”

4. By renumbering existing Section 20.12 as Section 20.13, by substituting \$300 for \$50 as the penalty for each offense, by extending applicability to new Sections 20.4.1, 20.5.1 and 20.7 and by adding the Director of Public Works as an “Enforcing person” so that Section 20.13 will read as follows:

20.13 In addition to the provisions for enforcement described above, the provisions of Sections 20.1, 20.2, 20.4.1, 20.5.1, 20.7, 20.9 and 20.12 of this Article 20 may also be enforced by non-criminal disposition as provided in Chapter 40, Section 21D of the General Laws (“Section 21D”). The penalty for such violation shall be \$300 for each offense. Each day or part thereof shall constitute a separate offense.

“Enforcing person” as used in this Section 20.13 shall mean any police officer of the Town, the Director of Public Works and any other Town employee designated by the Board of Selectmen as an enforcing person.

An enforcing person taking cognizance of a violation of this Article or any rule or regulation adopted hereunder shall give the offender a written notice to appear before the clerk of the district court having jurisdiction thereof for the non-criminal disposition thereof in accordance with the provisions of Section 21D. The provisions of Section 21D are incorporated herein by this reference.”

, or take any action relative thereto.

This article amends the General By-laws, authorizing the Selectmen to issue street opening permits, and to create and enforce regulations governing street openings.

Majority vote required for passage

Yes _____ No _____

ARTICLE 16: MWRA Sewer/Stormwater Infiltration/Inflow Loan Program

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to allow the Office of Community Development to participate in the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority's Infiltration/Inflow Local Financial Assistance Program for the purpose of investigating and evaluating the sanitary sewer and storm drain system and for the remaining work necessary to complete a GIS based mapping and interactive model of the sanitary sewer and storm drain system; said sum to be raised by borrowing under the program, or in any way act thereon.

This article seeks to borrow funds at 0% interest from the MWRA through their Infiltration/Inflow Local Financial Assistance Program. The funds would be repaid from sewer user fees.

Two-thirds vote required for passage

Yes _____ No _____

The Warrant Committee and Capital Budget Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 17: DEP Sewer/Stormwater Loan Program

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to allow the Town of Belmont to participate in the Department of Environmental Protection – State Revolving Fund Loan Program for the purpose of performing improvements to the sanitary sewer and storm drain; said sum to be raised by borrowing under the program, or in any way act thereon.

This article seeks to borrow funds at 2% interest from the DEP through their State Revolving Fund Loan Program. The funds would be repaid from sewer user fees.

Two-thirds vote required for passage

Yes _____ No _____

The Warrant Committee and Capital Budget Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 18: Amendments to OPEB Trust Fund Enabling Legislation

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file a home rule petition with the General Court as set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

AN ACT AMENDING CHAPTER 97 OF THE ACTS OF 2007 RELATIVE TO THE TOWN OF BELMONT OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TRUST FUND.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 97 of the Acts of 2007, entitled, "An Act Authorizing the Town of Belmont to Establish an Other Postemployment Benefits Fund," is hereby amended by deleting the text of section two of said act in its entirety, and inserting in place thereof the following:-

- (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the town of Belmont may appropriate funds in order to offset the anticipated cost of premium payments for or direct payments for OPEB benefits to be made to retired employees of the town and to any eligible surviving spouse of or dependents of deceased employees of the town. The Town Treasurer shall transfer funds to a special trust fund to be known as the Belmont Other Post Employment Benefits Trust Fund (the "Trust Fund") as such funds become available. The Trust Fund shall be irrevocable as required by GASB 43 and 45.
- (b) Beginning in fiscal year 2008 the Trust Fund shall be credited with all amounts appropriated or other wise made available by the town for purposes of meeting the current and future costs of OPEB costs payable by the tow, and with all amounts contributed or otherwise made available by employees of the town for the purpose of meeting future OPEB costs payable by the town. Any interest or other income earned by such fund shall be added to and become a part of the fund. Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, any amounts expended from such fund shall be expended only for the costs payable by the town for OPEB benefits.
- (c) The Belmont contributory retirement board shall be the custodian of such fund and may employ an outside custodial service to hold the monies in the fund. The Belmont contributory retirement board may invest and re-invest the monies held in the fund not required for current disbursement in accordance with the investment powers granted retirement boards under G.L. c. 32, §23(2)(g) and in accordance with the regulations of the public employees retirement administration commission and with any applicable general law. All monies held in the Trust Fund shall be segregated from other funds held by the Belmont retirement board and by the town. Trust Fund monies shall not be subject to the claims of the town's general creditors. The Trust Fund shall be subject to the public employee retirement commission's triennial audit and the town's contributory retirement system annual audit.

(b) to transfer the care, custody, management, and control of a parcel of land identified as Lot 12-211A, also known as 16 Trapelo Road, as shown on a Plan entitled "Cushing Square, Belmont, MA 02478, Lot Compilation Plan," dated March 3, 2008, made by R. J. O'Connell & Associates, Inc.: on file with the Town Clerk, from the Board of Selectmen currently held for fire station and general municipal purposes to the Board of Selectmen to be held for the purpose of conveyance; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey said parcel, in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Procurement Act, General Laws Chapter 30B, Section 16, provided however that said conveyance shall be conditioned on the Town's acquiring by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise a public parking easement for at least 50 parking spaces within the Cushing Square Overlay Zoning District, which the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to acquire in the name of the Town and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all actions necessary to accomplish this vote;

or to act in relation thereto.

This article seeks to allow changes to a public street and parking lot in Cushing Square to facilitate potential development. The article would close off part of Horne Road, allowing the land to revert back to the owners of the abutting parcels. It would also allow the Selectmen to sell the land currently being used as the municipal parking lot in Cushing Square, provided that the Town is guaranteed an equivalent amount of public parking will be made available.

Two-thirds vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

The Warrant Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 21: Amendments to Quarterly Tax Billing Legislation

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court to enact special legislation making certain amendments to c.195 of the Acts of 2004, relative to tax billing in the Town of Belmont, as set forth below; and further, to authorize the General Court to make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court. The Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments that shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition, or take any other action relative thereto.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE FURTHER MODIFICATION OF THE FORM OF PROPERTY TAX BILLING IN THE TOWN OF BELMONT.

Section 1. Section 1(c) of chapter 195 of the Acts of 2004 is hereby amended by deleting, in the last sentence, the words:- city or.

Section 2. Section 1(g) of chapter 195 of the Acts of 2004 is hereby amended by inserting, after the words, "November 1" the following:- or 30 days after the mailing, which is later.

Section 3. Section 1(g) of chapter 195 of the Acts of 2004 is further amended by inserting at the conclusion of the section the following:- A real estate tax bill sent out for fiscal year 2009 or any subsequent period pursuant to this act shall contain a statement that there exists a delinquency if any tax, betterment assessment or apportionment thereof, water rate, annual sewer use, or other charge which may constitute a lien is overdue more than 90 days.

Section 4. Section 1 of chapter 195 of the Acts of 2004 is hereby further amended by inserting the following two new paragraphs at the conclusion of the section:- (i) Bills for taxes assessed under section seventy-five or section seventy-six shall be sent out seasonably upon commitment, and shall be due and payable on May first or thirty days after the date on which the said bills are mailed, whichever is later. (j) If any installment, tax, betterment assessment or apportionment thereof, water rate or annual sewer use or other charge added to such tax, as reduced by any abatement, is not timely paid, it shall be delinquent, and interest at the rate of fourteen percent per annum computed from the due date shall be paid. For purposes of this section, amounts not timely received shall be deemed unpaid. The commissioner of revenue may issue guidelines as appropriate for the implementation of this section.

Section 5. The amendments made to c.195 of the Acts of 2004 by this act shall apply to any payments made under c.195 during fiscal year 2009 and thereafter.

Section 6. This act shall take effect upon passage.

or take any other action relative thereto.

This article would authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court to make amendments to Chapter 195 of the Acts of 2004 which was approved by Town Meeting on April 28, 2003. The amendments are technical changes recommended by Town Counsel which will bring the language more into line with other communities that collect taxes on quarterly basis.

Majority vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

ARTICLE 22: Zoning By-Law: Clarifying Amendment

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 4.3.5 of the Zoning By-Laws, "Accessory Buildings", by deleting the last phrase of subparagraph a) 1, "General Requirements", "may be built within five feet of the side and rear line of the lot and to within

five feet of the principal building to which it is accessory” and replacing it with “shall be set back at least five feet from the side line and real line of the lot and five feet from the principal building to which is it accessory” as follows:

4.3.5 Accessory Buildings

a) *General Requirements*

1. *Except as provided in subsection c.2 below, a private one-story garage for not more than three automobiles, a noncommercial greenhouse, or a tool shed used for the storage of tools, yard and household equipment, or other similar accessory buildings, shall be set back at least five feet from the side line and rear line of the lot and five feet from the principal building to which it is accessory.*

This article amends the Zoning By-law to clarify that an accessory structure must have a setback of a least 5 feet and provides consistency with the rest of the Zoning By-Law.

Two-thirds vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

ARTICLE 23: Zoning By-Law: Banks by Special Permit

To see if the Town will vote to amend certain sections of the Zoning By-Laws of the Town as follows:

- a. *In Section 1.4, “Definitions and Abbreviations”, after “Family Day Care Home” and before “Floodplain” insert a new definition “Financial Institution” as follows:*

“Financial Institution - *an establishment open to the public and engaged in deposit banking, and that performs closely related functions such as making loans, investments, and fiduciary activities.”*

- b. *In Section 3.3, after “Office” and before “Manufacturing or fabrication of products...” insert a new use category, “Financial Institution” as follows:*

USES	DISTRICTS							
	SR-A,B,C,D	GR	AH	LB I	LB II	LB III	GB	PL
Financial Institution	N	N	N	SP	SP	SP	SP	N

This article amends the Zoning By-law by giving the Zoning Board of Appeals the ability to limit the number of new banks in Belmont.

Two-thirds vote required for passage Yes_____ No_____

ARTICLE 24: Zoning By-Law: Window Signs and Displays

To see if the Town will vote to amend certain sections of the Zoning By-Laws of the Town as follows:

- a. *In Section 1.4, “Definitions and Abbreviations”, after “Sign, Temporary” and before “Special Permit Granting Authority (SPGA)” insert the following new definitions “Sign, Window” as follows –*

“Sign, Window – *A sign posted, painted, placed or affixed in or on a window exposed to public view and is visible from the exterior of the building or a sign that is located within three feet of the glass of a window exposed to public view and visible from the exterior of the building.”*

- b. *In Section 1.4, “Definitions and Abbreviations”, after “Wetlands” and before “Wireless Telecommunications Facility” insert the following new definition “Window Display” as follows:*

“Window Display – *Any arrangement or presentation of merchandise placed within three feet of a window but not including any pricing, dollar amount or signage intended to augment the display of the merchandise. Signs associated with a window display are considered a window sign for the purposes of this by-law.”*

- c. *In Section 5.2.3, “General Requirements”, delete the existing paragraph (c) and insert a with new paragraph (c) as follows:*

“c) Window Signs shall be permitted, provided that the aggregate area of such signs does not exceed 20% of the area of the window glass. Removable signs temporarily affixed to the window or associated with a window display are permitted, provided that the aggregate area of the window covered by the signs, including permanent signs, does not exceed 50%.”

This article amends the Zoning By-law by changing the definition of window signs to include signage that is not actually affixed to the window.

Two-thirds vote required for passage

Yes_____ No_____

ARTICLE 25: Roads Stabilization Fund

To see if the town will vote, pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 5B of the Massachusetts General Laws, to establish a special purpose stabilization fund for road, street, and sidewalk capital projects and maintenance; and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2.5 million for said fund; subject to the approval of same by the voters in a subsequent special election, or to do or act thereon.

This article would allow the creation of a new special purpose stabilization fund for the reconstruction of the Town's roadways. This fund would be created to hold \$2.5 million in additional tax revenue from a Proposition 2 1/2 override, if authorized by the voters specifically for this purpose in a June 2008 special Town election. In the fund, balances are carried over from year to year and interest income remains in the fund. The Selectmen must vote annually to appropriate money to the fund.

Two-thirds vote required for passage

Yes_____ No_____

The Warrant Committee and Capital Budget Committee will report orally on this Article.

ARTICLE 26: Home Rule Petition - Authorization for the Town of Belmont to Hold a Referendum on a License for the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages at a Private Club

To see if the Town will vote to authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of a special law in the following form, provided the General Court may only make clerical or editorial changes of form to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition:

HOME RULE PETITION FOR BELMONT

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF BELMONT TO PLACE A CERTAIN QUESTION RELATIVE TO THE GRANTING OF A CLUB LICENSE FOR THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN THE TOWN OF BELMONT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding sections 11, 11A and 17 of chapter 138 of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the board of selectmen of the town of Belmont shall cause to be placed on the official ballot at a regular or special town election the following question:

"Shall the licensing authority in the town of Belmont be authorized to grant a club license to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 1272 for the sale of all alcoholic beverages pursuant to section 12 of said chapter 138?"
(b) The town shall include below the ballot question a fair and concise summary of the ballot question.

(c) If a majority of the votes cast in answer to the question is the affirmative, the town shall be taken to have authorized the issuance of a club license to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 1272 for the sale of all alcoholic beverages pursuant to section 12 of said chapter 138. The license shall be subject to all of said chapter 138 except said section 17. Once issued, the licensing authority shall not approve the transfer of such license to any other person, organization, corporation or location.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

or in any way act thereon.

This article requests a special act of the Legislature authorizing Belmont to place on a future election ballot a question authorizing the Board of Selectmen to grant a club license to the VFW for the sale of alcoholic beverages to members and guests only.

Majority vote required for passage

Yes_____ No_____

ARTICLE 27: Water Pipeline Easement

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, and to accept on behalf of the Town, for a public water utility line or lines, an easement interest or interests in all or a portion of the parcels of land generally shown on a sketch plan entitled "Water Line Easement," consisting of 11 sheets, dated August 13, 2003, prepared by Design Consultants, Inc., a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be appropriate; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out these acquisitions, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article seeks to allow the Town to acquire an easement on the McLean property for a water pipeline.

Majority vote required for passage

Yes _____ No _____

The Warrant Committee will report orally on this Article.

Given under our hands this 31st day of March, 2008.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN


Angelo R. Firenze, Chair


Paul Solomon




Dan Leclerc

Full transcripts may be obtained for a fee from the Selectmen's Office or the Town Clerk's Office. All requests must be in writing.

**TRANSCRIPT
TOWN OF BELMONT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Monday, April 28, 2008**

[The First Session of the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Belmont was called to order in the Auditorium of the Belmont High School on Monday, April 28, 2008 by Town Moderator, Michael Widmer]

ARTICLE 1

MOVED: That the reports of the Selectmen, other Town officials, departments and committees for 2007 be accepted.

The motion was unanimously approved.

MOVED: Motion that Article 1 be laid on the table.

ARTICLE 2

MOVED: To authorize the Board of Selectmen to represent the Town's legal interests as and when they deem it for the Town's best interest.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 13

MOVED: To transfer \$530,000 from the sale of cemetery lots to the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 14

MOVED: To apply \$615,000 received from the sale of the Harvard Lawn Fire Station toward the debt authorized for

construction of the new Senior Center.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 16

MOVED: To appropriate \$375,429.68 to allow the Office of Community Development to participate in the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Infiltration/Inflow Local Financial Assistance Program for investigating and evaluating the sanitary sewer and storm drain system and for remaining work necessary to complete a GIS mapping and interactive model of those systems.

The motion was unanimously approved by 2/3 vote.

ARTICLE 17

MOVED: Motion to appropriate \$11,608,000 to allow the Town of Belmont to participate in the Department of Environmental Protection-State Revolving Fund Loan Program to improve the sanitary sewers and storm drains.

The motion was unanimously approved by 2/3 vote.

ARTICLE 19

MOVED: To authorize the Board of Health and Board of Selectmen to share the cost of providing nursing services with the Town of Lexington, pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 4A of the Massachusetts General Laws.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 15

MOVED: To dispense with reading proposed amendments to Article 20, "Public Safety and Property" of the General By-Laws of the Town.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 15

MOVED: To amend the General By-Laws of the Town in Article 20 "Public Safety and Property."

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 18

MOVED: To dismiss.

Unanimously dismissed.

ARTICLE 21

MOVED: To dispense with reading the proposed special law.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 21

MOVED: To authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for enactment of a special law as set forth in Article 21 of the Warrant for this meeting.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 26

MOVED: To dispense with reading the proposed special law.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 26

MOVED: To authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for enactment of a special law as set forth in Article 26 of the Warrant for this meeting.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 27

MOVED: To authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire an easement on the McLean property for a water pipeline.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 25

MOVED: That the Town establish a Special Purpose Stabilization Fund, and to raise and appropriate \$2.5 million for reconstruction of the Town's roadways, pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 5B of the Massachusetts General Laws.

The motion was unanimously approved by 2/3 vote.

ARTICLE 9

MOVED: To dispense with reading the amendments to the Position Classification and Compensation Plan as stated in a document entitled "Proposed Position Classification and Compensation Plan."

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 9

MOVED: To amend the Position and Compensation Plan.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 6

MOVED: To appropriate \$20,400 to provide non-contributory pensions for eligible employees of Town departments, as provided in applicable sections of Chapter 32 of the General Laws.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 7

MOVED: To appropriate \$4,088,459 to provide contributory pensions and expenses in accordance with applicable provisions of Chapter 32 of the General Laws.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 8

MOVED: To appropriate \$401,161 for repair, improvement and construction of highways within the Town, to be offset by state reimbursed highway aid, as provided by Chapter 90 of the General Laws.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 12

MOVED: To establish revolving funds for certain operations of the Town, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2 of the General Laws.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 11

MOVED: To appropriate \$4,964,193 from the "Enterprise Fund," pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F 1/2 of the General Laws for sewer and stormwater service.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 11

MOVED: To appropriate the sum of \$6,881,317 from the "Sewer and Stormwater Enterprise Fund."

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 5

MOVED: Motion to appropriate and set the compensation of the Town's elected officers for the financial year commencing July 1, 2008.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 10

MOVED: To appropriate \$2,174,000 for capital expenditures as recommended by the Capital Budget Committee for FY2009.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Unanimously approved.

The Annual Town Meeting of April 28, 2008 was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

Full transcripts may be obtained for a fee from the Selectmen's Office or the Town Clerk's Office. All requests must be in writing.

**TRANSCRIPT
TOWN OF BELMONT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Wednesday, April 30, 2008**

[The Second Session of the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Belmont was called to order in the Auditorium of the Belmont High School on Wednesday, April 30, 2008 by Town Moderator, Michael Widmer]

ARTICLE 1

MOVED: To remove the Article 1 from the table.

The motion was unanimously approved.

MOVED: To place Article 1 on the table.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 10

MOVED: An amendment (by Ms. Burke)

Amendment was unanimously rejected.

ARTICLE 4

MOVED: Appropriation for the Budget.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 3

MOVED: To transfer \$4,561,561.40 to meet Town expenses.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 22

MOVED: To dispense with reading the proposed amendment Section 4.3.5 "Accessory Buildings" of the Zoning By-Law.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 22

MOVED: To amend Section 4.3.5 "Accessory Buildings" of the Zoning By-Law.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 24

MOVED: To dispense with reading the proposed amendments to Section 1.4 "Definitions and Abbreviations" and Section 5.2.3 "General Requirements" of the Zoning By-Law.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 23

MOVED: To dispense with reading the proposed amendments to Section 1.4 "Definitions and Abbreviations" and Section 3.3 of the Zoning By-Law.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 23

MOVED: To amend Section 1.4 "Definitions and Abbreviations" and Section 3.3 of the Zoning By-Law.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 20

MOVED: To discontinue a portion of Horne Road as a public way, with the land reverting back to the owners of abutting parcels, and to allow the Selectmen to sell the land currently being used as a parking lot.

The motion was unanimously approved.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Unanimously approved.

[The Second Session of the Annual Town Meeting of April 30, 2008 was adjourned at 11:51 p.m.]

Full transcripts may be obtained for a fee from the Selectmen's Office or the Town Clerk's Office. All requests must be in writing.

**TRANSCRIPT
TOWN OF BELMONT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Monday, May 5, 2008**

[The Third Session of the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Belmont was called to order in the Auditorium of the Belmont High School on Monday, May 5, 2008 by Town Moderator, Michael Widmer]

ARTICLE 20

MOVED: That the Town discontinue a portion of Horne Road as a public way for all purposes for a distance of approximately 125 feet on the southerly side of the way and approximately 150 feet on the northerly side of the way and shown as "the Discontinued Section of Horne Road" on a Plan entitled "Cushing Square, Belmont, MA 02478, Lot Compilation Plan," dated May 3, 2008 [sic], made by R.J. O'Connell & Associates, Inc.; a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, subject to the reservation of pedestrian access in said way; and further authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise a pedestrian access easement and a utility easement over the discontinued portion of Horne Road in a location and width to be determined by the Board of Selectmen; provided that the petitioner of the request to discontinue Horne Road shall provide satisfactory security to the Board of Selectmen indemnifying the Town for all damages arising from said discontinuance as required under General Laws, Chapter 82, Section 24, and provided further that said discontinuance shall become effective only upon the conveyance of the parcel of land identified as Lot 12-211A pursuant to the vote of the Town Meeting under this Article 20.

Approved by two-thirds vote.

MOTION: to dismiss Article 20.

Motion failed.

MOVED: That the Town transfer the care, custody, management, and control of a parcel of land identified as Lot 12-211A, also shown as 116 Trapelo Road, as shown on a Plan entitled, "Cushing Square, Belmont, MA 02478, Lot Compilation Plan," dated March 3, 2008, made by R.J. O'Connell & Associates, Inc.; on file with the Town Clerk, from the Board of Selectmen currently held for fire station and general municipal purposes to the Board of Selectmen to be held for the purpose of conveyance; and authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey said parcel, in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Procurement Act, General Laws, Chapter 30B, Section 16, provided, however that said conveyance shall be conditioned on: (a) the Town's acquiring by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise a public parking easement for at least 50 parking spaces within the Cushing Square Overlay Zoning District, which the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to acquire in the name of the Town, and (b) design and site plan approval of the Planning Board for any improvement of said land, and (c) issuance of any and all special permits which may be required for development of said parcel in accordance with the requirements of the Zoning By-Law applicable to the Cushing Square Overlay District or otherwise, and (d) the expiration of all applicable appeal periods and on or termination of any pending appeal; and further authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all actions necessary to accomplish this vote.

Approved by two-thirds vote.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Unanimously approved.

The Annual Town Meeting of April 28, 2008 was adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Angelo R. Firenze, Chair

Daniel C. Leclerc, Vice Chair

Ralph T. Jones

Full transcripts may be obtained for a fee from the Selectmen's Office or the Town Clerk's Office. All requests must be in writing.

**TRANSCRIPT
TOWN OF BELMONT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2008**

[The First Session of the Special Town Meeting of the Town of Belmont was called to order in the Auditorium of the Belmont High School on Monday, December 1, 2008 by Town Moderator, Michael Widmer]

ARTICLE 1

MOVED: That Article 1 be laid on the table.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 2

MOVED: To transfer unexpended sums from the FY '09 budget.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 3

MOVED: To raise and appropriate \$149,000 for the Street Lighting Program.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ARTICLE 4

MOVED: To amend the Town of Belmont Zoning Map to expand the General Business (GB) District by changing from Single Residence C (SG) to General Business (GB) the property shown on Assessor's Map 38, Parcels 10, 12A and 12B.

The motion was approved by two-thirds vote.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Unanimously approved.

The Special Town Meeting of December 1, 2008 was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

ELECTION RESULTS

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY RESULTS, FEBRUARY 5, 2008

	PRECINCT 1	PRECINCT 2	PRECINCT 3	PRECINCT 4	PRECINCT 5	PRECINCT 6	PRECINCT 7	PRECINCT 8	ELECTION SUMMARY
PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE									
DEMOCRAT									
Times counted	978	864	775	736	791	1024	795	877	6840
Unused Votes	2	0	0	2	2	2	0	1	9
Write-in votes	0	1	2	1	2	0	0	2	8
JOHN R EDWARDS	6	7	10	10	7	16	5	12	73
HILLARY CLINTON	372	370	360	385	347	465	371	450	3120
JOSEPH R BIDEN, JR	3	0	3	0	2	0	1	3	12
CHRISTOPHER J DODD	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	5
MIKE GRAVEL	0	0	3	3	1	2	0	1	10
BARACK OBAMA	589	479	390	329	426	529	411	399	3552
DENNIS J KUCINICH	1	1	1	1	0	4	3	2	13
BILL RICHARDSON	2	1	1	2	2	0	0	2	10
NO PREF	3	4	5	3	2	4	3	4	28
STATE COMMITTEE MAN									
Times counted	978	864	775	736	791	1024	795	877	6840
Unused Votes	275	251	225	212	225	320	224	280	2012
Write-in votes	2	0	4	1	1	5	2	3	18
STEVEN A TOLMAN	701	613	546	523	565	699	569	594	4810
STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN									
Times counted	978	864	775	736	791	1024	795	877	6840
Unused Votes	860	772	675	626	677	886	693	776	5965
Write-in votes	118	92	100	110	114	138	102	101	875
GROUP									
Times counted	978	864	775	736	791	1024	795	877	6840
Unused Votes	653	579	480	453	469	652	473	584	4343
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GROUP 1	325	285	295	283	322	372	322	293	2497
TOWN COMMITTEE									
Times counted	34230	30240	27125	25760	27685	35840	27825	30695	239400
Unused Votes	19987	18042	15194	14288	14947	20478	15012	18505	136453
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ANNE PAULSEN	677	553	506	451	506	660	486	530	4369
FREDERICK PAULSEN	562	425	394	354	416	523	400	409	3483
WILLIAM BROWNSBERGE	618	539	465	429	472	611	466	515	4115
TIMOTHY RILEY	403	324	332	333	364	421	384	341	2902
PATRICIA LOHMAR	360	318	312	319	344	400	349	321	2723
STEPHEN KLIONSKY	384	318	321	307	347	447	359	323	2806
GRETCHEN McCLAIN	429	340	338	326	375	440	380	337	2965
JACK FREEMAN	398	327	317	317	353	404	349	329	2794
THEODORE DUKAS	389	329	331	318	355	462	365	336	2885
KATHLEEN MILLER	438	343	335	335	358	436	364	347	2956
CARL BRAUER	387	348	321	308	351	420	351	380	2866
JOSEPH DeCOURCEY	340	310	303	299	339	389	345	313	2638
JOHN HAYES	370	310	308	312	344	403	345	321	2713
JAMES STATON	426	361	340	320	361	446	349	353	2956
RICHARD WARING	357	319	323	320	353	406	345	331	2754
SALLYE BLEIBERG	389	343	369	331	371	441	369	340	2953
CHARLES LAVERTY, III	383	335	340	316	354	425	354	354	2861
HELEN BAKEMAN	350	306	318	333	345	398	355	314	2719
DIANA DICK	358	310	312	312	345	412	353	316	2718
JEANNE MOONEY	428	364	356	345	400	478	369	355	3095
RICHARD MADDEN	348	324	334	315	350	402	343	323	2739
JENNIFER PAGE	364	334	366	320	348	424	357	332	2845
NEIL WASSERMAN	385	338	325	309	352	416	351	357	2833
CORNELIUS HEGARTY	410	322	315	314	345	416	349	340	2811
JENNIFER FALLON	474	369	354	334	374	464	376	356	3101
JOHN HERZOG	396	330	330	320	343	431	354	326	2830
DOROTHY HERZOG	389	335	330	323	353	429	366	330	2855
MARY POWER	419	394	347	323	366	438	365	367	3019
MARTIN COHEN	355	328	342	318	348	409	354	327	2781
ROGER COLTON	366	315	311	307	354	427	342	317	2739
MARTHA MOORE	385	362	361	346	367	420	360	336	2937
JULIANNE GIGGIE	379	308	317	312	347	403	354	331	2751
RUTH MALENKA	371	368	323	310	344	405	347	332	2800
E. PANNIER GROB	380	323	319	317	345	426	378	327	2815
CHARLES GAGNON	376	326	316	319	349	430	380	324	2820

	PRECINCT 1	PRECINCT 2	PRECINCT 3	PRECINCT 4	PRECINCT 5	PRECINCT 6	PRECINCT 7	PRECINCT 8	ELECTION SUMMARY
PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE									
REPUBLICAN									
Times counted	344	500	265	256	339	322	247	486	2759
Unused Votes	0	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	5
Write-in votes	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
JOHN McCAIN	95	113	103	76	100	124	72	146	829
FRED THOMPSON	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	6
TOM TANCREDO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
DUNCAN HUNTER	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
MIKE HUCKABEE	8	3	4	6	5	6	4	2	38
MITT ROMNEY	235	373	148	163	225	180	156	319	1799
RON PAUL	4	8	5	8	7	8	11	11	62
RUDY GIULIANI	0	2	1	0	1	2	1	1	8
NO PREF	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	2	7
STATE COMMITTEE MAN									
Times counted	344	500	265	256	339	322	247	486	2759
Unused Votes	175	254	133	120	169	157	119	242	1369
Write-in votes	1	3	4	4	2	2	0	2	18
ROBERT A SEMONIA	168	243	128	132	168	163	128	242	1372
STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN									
Times counted	344	500	265	256	339	322	247	486	2759
Unused Votes	293	434	224	219	296	286	216	414	2382
Write-in votes	51	66	41	37	43	36	31	72	377
GROUP									
Times counted	344	500	265	256	339	322	247	486	2759
Unused Votes	264	403	191	193	258	227	182	391	2109
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GROUP 1	80	97	74	63	81	95	65	95	650
TOWN COMMITTEE									
Times counted	12040	17500	9275	8960	11865	11270	8645	17010	96565
Unused Votes	7480	11451	5546	5771	7357	6816	5418	11184	61023
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WILLIAM DUNHAM, JR	97	120	94	89	112	106	77	114	809
M. PATRICIA BRUSCH	118	186	98	77	115	114	81	132	921
WILLIAM MONAHAN	172	203	125	112	159	153	112	252	1288
EDITH MONAHAN	137	164	104	91	134	125	90	206	1051
MARC FIRENZE	156	208	125	101	150	141	95	217	1193
M.E. LIBBY FIRENZE	165	213	136	103	146	145	107	208	1223
BRENDA DZIERZESKI	89	116	83	68	95	102	72	119	744
WALTER FLEWELLING	163	196	119	100	144	151	105	209	1187
MARLENE FLEWELLING	148	169	104	94	133	130	94	183	1055
LAURA WUORINEN	87	118	84	70	95	98	72	110	734
WALTER ALMOND	105	140	93	76	119	110	77	129	849
ANGELO FIRENZE	179	238	147	112	153	171	111	224	1335
JAMES ELLARD	100	121	92	75	126	114	74	124	826
CERDRIC MARSH	95	114	88	76	102	116	78	115	784
TOMMASINA OLSON	107	131	95	78	143	118	84	124	880
STANLEY M DZIERZESKI	91	113	84	71	99	101	74	116	749
STANLEY J DZIERZESKI	91	110	83	71	98	100	71	115	739
SUSAN SMART	106	165	100	79	99	111	75	134	869
GUY CARBONE	111	157	92	88	117	108	77	137	887
KENNETH CHASE	101	120	93	76	106	113	80	118	807
JANICE ELLARD	101	123	94	76	142	111	76	126	849
WILLIAM HOFMANN, III	116	184	103	77	109	117	77	155	938
ELIZABETH MAHONEY	141	153	108	87	116	129	90	144	968
ALAN RAYEN	133	122	89	78	106	115	81	137	861
ROBERT GRAY, III	95	113	85	72	97	102	84	106	754
JEFFREY SPELLER	90	121	81	67	96	100	69	104	728
RICHARD BETTS	176	221	134	111	155	164	139	216	1316
DANIEL LEONE	95	118	82	77	101	102	74	132	781
MARY ZAMMITTI	96	114	86	78	112	105	73	112	776
DOROTHY BOYLE	117	131	88	78	102	109	74	122	821
TAGGART ROMNEY	190	326	150	142	178	170	139	288	1583
JENNIFER ROMNEY	188	306	144	142	180	169	134	270	1533
ANN ROMNEY	214	337	154	144	197	183	150	298	1677
MITT ROMNEY	225	346	161	151	211	191	152	317	1754
ANGELO FIRENZE	165	232	131	102	161	160	109	213	1273

	PRECINCT 1	PRECINCT 2	PRECINCT 3	PRECINCT 4	PRECINCT 5	PRECINCT 6	PRECINCT 7	PRECINCT 8	ELECTION SUMMARY
PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE									
GREEN-RAINBOW									
Times counted	1	0	1	3	0	3	9	0	17
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
JARED BALL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RALPH NADER	1	0	1	3	0	1	5	0	11
ELAINE BROWN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KAT SWIFT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CYNTHIA McKINNEY	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
KENT MESPLAY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NO PREF	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
STATE COMMITTEE MAN									
Times counted	1	0	1	3	0	3	9	0	17
Unused Votes	1	0	1	3	0	3	8	0	16
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN									
Times counted	1	0	1	3	0	3	9	0	17
Unused Votes	1	0	1	3	0	3	8	0	16
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
TOWN COMMITTEE									
Times counted	10	0	10	30	0	30	90	0	170
Unused Votes	10	0	10	30	0	30	80	0	160
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	10
PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE									
WORKING FAMILIES									
Times counted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NO PREF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STATE COMMITTEE MAN									
Times counted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN									
Times counted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOWN COMMITTEE									
Times counted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION, APRIL 7, 2008

	PRECINCT 1	PRECINCT 2	PRECINCT 3	PRECINCT 4	PRECINCT 5	PRECINCT 6	PRECINCT 7	PRECINCT 8	ELECTION SUMMARY
MODERATOR									
Times counted	305	213	217	136	212	247	146	281	1757
Unused Votes	62	44	37	33	42	60	35	77	390
Write-in votes	3	0	1	0	2	4	1	3	14
MICHAEL J WIDMER	240	169	179	103	168	183	110	201	1353
SELECTMAN									
Times counted	305	213	217	136	212	247	146	281	1757
Unused Votes	72	43	52	33	55	60	37	81	433
Write-in votes	3	3	0	1	1	2	2	4	16
RALPH T JONES	230	167	165	102	156	185	107	196	1308
TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR									
Times counted	305	213	217	136	212	247	146	281	1757
Unused Votes	93	59	56	31	61	81	40	71	492
Write-in votes	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	5
FLOYD S CARMAN	211	154	161	105	149	165	105	210	1260
BOARD OF ASSESSORS									
Times counted	305	213	217	136	212	247	146	281	1757
Unused Votes	96	68	63	37	60	81	47	95	547
Write-in votes	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	6
ROBERT P REARDON	206	145	154	99	152	165	98	185	1204
CEMETERY COMMISSIONER									
Times counted	305	213	217	136	212	247	146	281	1757
Unused Votes	83	56	46	27	54	85	41	70	462
Write-in votes	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	7
A.E. CORBETT, III	219	155	171	109	158	161	105	210	1288
BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBER									
Times counted	305	213	217	136	212	247	146	281	1757
Unused Votes	107	67	70	33	66	97	49	98	587
Write-in votes	1	1	0	0	6	1	1	0	10
DONNA SUE DAVID	197	145	147	103	140	149	96	183	1160
HOUSING AUTHORITY MEMBER									
Times counted	305	213	217	136	212	247	146	281	1757
Unused Votes	100	70	60	42	67	87	45	99	570
Write-in votes	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	4
SALLYE F BLEIBERG	204	143	157	94	144	159	101	181	1183
TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC									
Times counted	610	426	434	272	424	494	292	562	3514
Unused Votes	209	146	158	94	144	185	103	201	1240
Write-in votes	3	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	8
MARY E KEENAN	213	145	146	93	144	164	100	191	1196
HAL SHUBIN	185	135	130	83	136	143	89	169	1070
TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC									
Times counted	305	213	217	136	212	247	146	281	1757
Unused Votes	110	77	77	44	76	103	51	112	650
Write-in votes	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3
DAVID S RICH	194	136	140	92	135	143	95	169	1104
MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL									
Times counted	610	426	434	272	424	494	292	562	3514
Unused Votes	212	153	151	96	145	168	101	204	1230
Write-in votes	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	6
LAURIE A GRAHAM	202	137	146	90	141	169	102	181	1168
ANN M RITTENBURG	195	136	137	86	137	154	88	177	1110
PCT 1 TOWN MTG MBRS (12)									
Times counted	3660								3660
Unused Votes	1481								1481
Write-in votes	3								3
BISHOP, CAROLYN J	174								174
DUFFY, MARTIN E	153								153
FALLON, JENNIFER M	194								194
HAMANN, CHARLES M	169								169
HEGARTY, CORNELIUS M	177								177
LIND, KATHERINE A	198								198
McCARTHY, THERESA F	158								158
McGAW, ELOISE SEE	170								170
MILLER, KATHLEEN P	167								167
MIRANDA, BARBARA E	178								178
PAULSEN, FREDERICK S	191								191
WOLF, PAUL	133								133
STEWART, MARK R	114								114
PCT 2 TOWN MTG MBRS (12)									
Times counted		2556							2556
Unused Votes		1157							1157
Write-in votes		2							2
BING, EDWARD A		109							109
BRUSCH, M. PATRICIA		129							129
CUSHMAN, E. O'BRIEN		125							125
JONES, RALPH T		117							117
SCHWARTZ, MICHAEL D		90							90
TINKHAM, MARY M		113							113
WEEKS, JULIA H		135							135
CORBETT, JULIA F		97							97
DIGIOVANNI, ANTHONY		103							103
MASUCCI, SARA M		79							79
McALPIN, JOHN B		102							102
McLAUGHLIN, ROBERT E		102							102
ROBOTHAM, JOHN		96							96
PCT 3 TOWN MTG MBRS (12)									
Times counted			2604						2604
Unused Votes			1030						1030
Write-in votes			20						20
ALLEN, ANNE C			128						128
ALLISON, LIZ			126						126
BARTON, JULIE T			120						120
BASS, SUZANNE R			140						140
BLEIBERG, SALLYE F			137						137
CHASE, DAVID R			120						120
COHEN, MARTIN L			129						129
D'ANDREA, JR MARK M			134						134
McVAY, CHRISTINE M			124						124
MOORE, MARTHA C			132						132
PAGE, JENNIFER A			131						131
VOSE, REBECCA S			133						133

PCT 4 TOWN MTG MBRS (12)			
Times counted		1632	1632
Unused Votes		953	953
Write-in votes		76	76
BROWN, JUDITH L		79	79
CHEMELLI, WILLIAM J		88	88
COTE, MARION E		93	93
FRIZZELL, DAVID M		92	92
FRIZZELL, LINDA A		88	88
MAHON, ANNE B		83	83
BAGHDADY, NADIM S		80	80
TILKE, NONNA (write-in)		16	16
O'CONNOR, BRIGID (write-in)		14	14
D'ANGELO, LORENE E. (write-in)		14	14
POWELSTOCK, DAVID (write-in))		13	13
RONO, NATHANIEL A (write-in)			
PCT 5 TOWN MTG MBRS (12)			
Times counted		2544	2544
Unused Votes		1106	1106
Write-in votes		101	101
BECKER, DONALD L		144	144
COAKLEY, JOANNE E		131	131
DOBLIN, LYNNE J		139	139
POLCARI, LYNNE COOK		142	142
POLLOCK, LOIS J		135	135
WIDMER, JEANNE		133	133
WIDMER, MICHAEL J		133	133
FAY-RICHARD, SANDRA		119	119
RUNDLE, WENDY L		125	125
SULLIVAN, JOHN P		136	136
BROWN, MARTHA (write-in)		34	34
GORHAM, CHRISTOPHER (write-in)		29	29
PCT 6 TOWN MTG MBRS (12)			
Times counted		2964	2964
Unused Votes		1236	1236
Write-in votes		13	13
ALPER, DAVID B		126	126
CHIN, WILLIAM D		137	137
DUKAS, THEODORE		122	122
EPSTEIN, ROY J		122	122
HILGENBERG, JOANNA L		144	144
JOHNSON, DAVID R		148	148
KOBAYASHI, RICHARD M		124	124
MARSH, NANCY M		134	134
MOONEY, JEANNE R		142	142
OATES, LINDA N		141	141
SMITH, MICHAEL A		124	124
SOLARI-BRAH, ELLEN		125	125
DONNER, TARA		126	126
PCT 7 TOWN MTG MBRS (12)			
Times counted		1752	1752
Unused Votes		726	726
Write-in votes		13	13
BETTS, RICHARD B		111	111
BLATT, JULIA R		84	84
CALLANAN, MARGARET M		85	85
CHELOFF, AVA H		74	74
EYSENBACH, M. O'BRIEN		80	80
GROB, E. PANNIER		86	86
JACOBY, HENRY D		84	84
JACOBY, M. HUGHES		80	80
RILEY, TIMOTHY M		89	89
SORENSEN, BRETT C		79	79
COUTINHO, CARMEN		78	78
RUVOLO, DONNA		83	83
PCT 8 TOWN MTG MBRS (12)			
Times counted		3372	3372
Unused Votes		1627	1627
Write-in votes		198	198
ALLEN, MONTE		157	157
CORBETT, III A.E.		186	186
FIRENZE, MARC J		151	151
GOLDENBERG, A. COVINO		139	139
KOCHEM, ROBERT		157	157
MASSIDDA, DOUGLAS J		151	151
MATSON, DOUGLAS M		143	143
ROSALES, STEPHEN B		146	146
STRATFORD, SCOTT D		169	169
AALYSON, MOLLY		148	148
BUNYON, CAROLYN A (write-in)		54	54
MONTOYA, RUDY (write-in)		27	27
PCT 1 TOWN MTG MBR			
Times counted	305		305
Unused Votes	67		67
Write-in votes	1		1
ELLET, BILL	159		159
ROWE, RICHARD R	78		78
PCT 3 TOWN MTG MBR			
Times counted		217	217
Unused Votes		156	156
Write-in votes		61	61
KERR, ROSALIE (WRITE-IN)		54	54
PCT 4 TOWN MTG MBR			
Times counted		136	136
Unused Votes		120	120
Write-in votes		16	16
GREGSON, KRISTEN (WRITE-IN)		2	2
PCT 5 TOWN MTG MBR			
Times counted		212	212
Unused Votes		129	129
Write-in votes		83	83
KASSARABA, ELLEN (write-in)		50	50
PCT 7 TOWN MTG MBR			
Times counted		146	146
Unused Votes		58	58
Write-in votes		2	2
PINKERTON, STEPHEN R		86	86

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION, JUNE 9, 2008

“Shall the Town of Belmont be allowed to assess an additional \$2,500,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding a stabilization fund for road, street, and sidewalk capital projects and maintenance for the fiscal year beginning July 2, 2008?”

	PRECINCT 1	PRECINCT 2	PRECINCT 3	PRECINCT 4	PRECINCT 5	PRECINCT 6	PRECINCT 7	PRECINCT 8	SUMMARY
ARTICLE									
Times counted	817	725	485	384	562	708	435	757	4873
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
YES	430	337	241	128	257	420	154	302	2269
NO	387	388	244	256	305	288	279	455	2602

STATE PRIMARY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2008

	ELECTION RESULTS FOR STATE PRIMARY				BELMONT MASSACHUSETTS				9/16/2008
DEMOCRATIC PARTY BALLOT	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Precinct 4	Precinct 5	Precinct 6	Precinct 7	Precinct 8	Total
SENATOR IN CONGRESS									
Times counted	413	344	300	276	297	441	250	404	2725
Unused Votes	3	3	1	2	2	1	0	3	15
Write-in votes	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
JOHN F KERRY	289	227	199	178	186	316	167	246	1808
EDWARD J O'REILLY	121	114	98	96	109	124	83	155	900
REP. IN CONGRESS									
Times counted	413	344	300	276	297	441	250	404	2725
Unused Votes	93	82	81	49	73	93	46	105	622
Write-in votes	2	0	5	0	7	1	3	9	27
EDWARD J MARKEY	318	262	214	227	217	347	201	290	2076
COUNCILLOR									
Times counted	413	344	300	276	297	441	250	404	2725
Unused Votes	113	99	84	52	55	117	50	91	661
Write-in votes	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	5
M.M. PETITTO DEVANEY	186	141	128	124	128	202	110	173	1192
JOHN J DOYLE	80	72	73	81	101	102	70	108	687
THOMAS L WALSH	34	31	15	19	12	19	20	30	180
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT									
Times counted	413	344	300	276	297	441	250	404	2725
Unused Votes	77	77	60	55	66	95	52	91	573
Write-in votes	2	1	0	4	4	2	1	3	17
STEVEN A TOLMAN	334	266	240	217	227	344	197	310	2135
REP. IN GENERAL COURT									
Times counted	413	344	300	276	297	441	250	404	2725
Unused Votes	81	97	74	59	72	106	67	119	675
Write-in votes	4	3	3	4	5	5	2	5	31
WILLIAM BROWNSBERGER	328	244	223	213	220	330	181	280	2019
REGISTER OF PROBATE									
Times counted	413	344	300	276	297	441	250	404	2725
Unused Votes	184	165	134	114	131	196	110	182	1216
Write-in votes	62	55	27	15	26	65	23	60	333
JOHN R BUONOMO	167	124	139	147	140	180	117	162	1176

REPUBLICAN PARTY BALLOT	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Precinct 4	Precinct 5	Precinct 6	Precinct 7	Precinct 8	Total
SENATOR IN CONGRESS									
Times counted	30	47	24	32	42	19	18	59	271
Unused Votes	2	3	0	3	1	0	0	2	11
Write-in votes	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	5
JEFFREY K BEATTY	28	42	24	28	40	19	18	56	255
REP. IN CONGRESS									
Times counted	30	47	24	32	42	19	18	59	271
Unused Votes	3	3	2	4	1	2	1	6	22
Write-in votes	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	4
JOHN CUNNINGHAM	27	43	22	28	40	17	17	51	245
COUNCILLOR									
Times counted	30	47	24	32	42	19	18	59	271
Unused Votes	24	42	22	28	31	16	13	52	228
Write-in votes	6	5	2	4	11	3	5	7	43
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT									
Times counted	30	47	24	32	42	19	18	59	271
Unused Votes	26	40	20	28	32	15	13	51	225
Write-in votes	4	7	4	4	10	4	5	8	46
REP. IN GENERAL COURT									
Times counted	30	47	24	32	42	19	18	59	271
Unused Votes	26	40	21	29	32	16	13	51	228
Write-in votes	4	7	3	3	10	3	5	8	43
REGISTER OF PROBATE									
Times counted	30	47	24	32	42	19	18	59	271
Unused Votes	25	38	21	28	30	11	12	47	212
Write-in votes	5	9	3	4	12	8	6	12	59

GREEN RAINBOW PARTY BALLOT	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Precinct 4	Precinct 5	Precinct 6	Precinct 7	Precinct 8	Total
SENATOR IN CONGRESS									
Times counted	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
REP. IN CONGRESS									
Times counted	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
COUNCILLOR									
Times counted	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT									
Times counted	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
REP. IN GENERAL COURT									
Times counted	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
REGISTER OF PROBATE									
Times counted	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2

WORKING FAMILIES PARTY	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Precinct 4	Precinct 5	Precinct 6	Precinct 7	Precinct 8	Total
SENATOR IN CONGRESS									
Times counted	1	2	0	1	5	1	2	1	13
Unused Votes	1	2	0	1	3	1	2	1	11
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
REP. IN CONGRESS									
Times counted	1	2	0	1	5	1	2	1	13
Unused Votes	1	2	0	1	4	1	2	1	12
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
COUNCILLOR									
Times counted	1	2	0	1	5	1	2	1	13
Unused Votes	1	2	0	1	5	1	0	1	11
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT									
Times counted	1	2	0	1	5	1	2	1	13
Unused Votes	1	2	0	1	3	1	2	1	11
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
REP. IN GENERAL COURT									
Times counted	1	2	0	1	5	1	2	1	13
Unused Votes	1	2	0	1	5	1	2	1	13
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
REGISTER OF PROBATE									
Times counted	1	2	0	1	5	1	2	1	13
Unused Votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in votes	1	2	0	1	5	1	2	1	13

GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 4, 2008

	<u>PRECINCT 1</u>	<u>PRECINCT 2</u>	<u>PRECINCT 3</u>	<u>PRECINCT 4</u>	<u>PRECINCT 5</u>	<u>PRECINCT 6</u>	<u>PRECINCT 7</u>	<u>PRECINCT 8</u>	<u>ELECTION SUMMARY</u>
PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT									
Times counted	1809	1901	1524	1492	1669	1776	1656	1884	13711
Unused Votes	6	5	6	14	8	14	8	14	75
Write-in votes	3	12	9	12	6	6	7	9	64
BALDWIN & CASTLE	3	4	1	5	0	2	4	6	25
BARR & ROOT	12	9	10	11	14	4	12	8	80
MCCAIN & PALIN	476	653	413	387	498	434	417	690	3968
MCKINNEY & CLEMENTE	3	2	1	3	5	4	6	5	29
NADER & GONZALEZ	10	9	9	19	11	14	22	22	116
OBAMA & BIDEN	1296	1207	1075	1041	1127	1298	1180	1130	9354
SENATOR IN CONGRESS									
Times counted	1809	1901	1524	1492	1669	1776	1656	1884	13711
Unused Votes	60	50	43	32	47	51	41	63	387
Write-in votes	3	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	9
JOHN F KERRY	1237	1166	1068	1051	1125	1277	1148	1129	9201
JEFFREY K BEATTY	469	648	360	359	451	407	406	640	3740
ROBERT J UNDERWOOD	40	36	52	49	44	40	61	52	374
REP. IN CONGRESS									
Times counted	1809	1901	1524	1492	1669	1776	1656	1884	13711
Unused Votes	122	107	103	93	108	95	82	133	843
Write-in votes	2	2	3	0	1	2	3	2	15
EDWARD J MARKEY	1271	1231	1098	1085	1166	1342	1211	1211	9615
JOHN CUNNINGHAM	414	561	320	314	394	337	360	538	3238
COUNCILLOR									
Times counted	1809	1901	1524	1492	1669	1776	1656	1884	13711
Unused Votes	686	763	497	419	549	592	476	733	4715
Write-in votes	15	16	13	20	11	24	21	20	140
M.M.PETITTO DEVANEY	1108	1122	1014	1053	1109	1160	1159	1131	8856
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT									
Times counted	1809	1901	1524	1492	1669	1776	1656	1884	13711
Unused Votes	456	530	355	306	423	376	347	534	3327
Write-in votes	10	14	11	12	14	15	14	17	107
STEVEN A TOLMAN	1343	1357	1158	1174	1232	1385	1295	1333	10277
REP. IN GENERAL COURT									
Times counted	1809	1901	1524	1492	1669	1776	1656	1884	13711
Unused Votes	506	601	415	390	481	450	441	621	3905
Write-in votes	17	20	12	22	11	18	18	25	143
WILLIAM BROWNSBERGER	1286	1280	1097	1080	1177	1308	1197	1238	9663
REGISTER OF PROBATE									
Times counted	1809	1901	1524	1492	1669	1776	1656	1884	13711
Unused Votes	705	799	537	436	585	631	490	756	4939
Write-in votes	8	8	8	15	8	14	11	16	88
TARA DeCRISTOFARO	1096	1094	979	1041	1076	1131	1155	1112	8684
QUESTION 1									
Times counted	1809	1901	1524	1492	1669	1776	1656	1884	13711
Unused Votes	47	47	40	57	28	34	30	58	341
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
YES	463	614	403	405	432	410	418	547	3692
NO	1299	1240	1081	1030	1209	1332	1208	1279	9678
QUESTION 2									
Times counted	1809	1901	1524	1492	1669	1776	1656	1884	13711
Unused Votes	46	51	40	33	28	46	30	52	326
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
YES	1183	1197	1021	975	1127	1174	1189	1055	8921
NO	580	653	463	484	514	556	437	777	4464
QUESTION 3									
Times counted	1809	1901	1524	1492	1669	1776	1656	1884	13711
Unused Votes	54	78	48	56	44	60	53	70	463
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
YES	1110	1142	931	884	1074	1189	1056	1056	8442
NO	645	681	545	552	551	527	547	758	4806
QUESTION 4									
Times counted	1809	1901	1524	1492	1669	1776	1656	1884	13711
Unused Votes	242	292	224	212	235	232	181	351	1969
Write-in votes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
YES	1268	1241	1066	1065	1206	1312	1247	1197	9602
NO	299	368	234	215	228	232	228	336	2140

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

The Board of Registrars conducted five elections in Belmont during calendar 2008: the Presidential Primary February 5th ; the local Election April 7th ; the roads Override Election June 9th ; the State Primary September 16th and the General Election November 4th . The total number of voters in the November Presidential General Election was 16,086, more than 85% of the registered voters in town. Voters waited patiently and our dedicated precinct workers kept pace with the vigorous voting activity, reporting their numbers without incident. Large numbers of residents exercised their rights by registering to vote in the last weeks before the deadline. In addition to those voting in person, an additional 2500 absentee ballots were processed throughout the year. For each election, the Registrars assisted in-person the voters who reside at Belmont Manor Nursing Center. All polling places are on Town property.

There were several caucuses held during the year to fill vacancies by Town Meeting Members who relocated out of Belmont.

The Registrars participated with the Belmont League of Women Voters in voter registration days at Belmont High School in January, February and October. In addition, for the first time, the Town Clerk's office held Saturday hours for in-person absentee voting October 18th from 9 a.m. to Noon, though only a handful of residents took advantage.

We wish to thank all the personnel in the Town Clerk's office for their assistance with election issues. The Town also owes gratitude to the many individuals who work the long hours at the polls to make the elections run smoothly.

Respectfully submitted,
William F. Hofmann, III, Chairman

BY-LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

The By-Law Review Committee was established under Article 25 of the General By-Laws. The principal function of the By-Law Review Committee is to review proposals for General By-Law changes. It is not charged with the task of proposing substantive changes on its own. If requested by the Selectmen or another Town Board or officer, the Committee will assist in drafting amendments or additions to the General By-Laws that are proposed for inclusion in the Warrant for any Town Meeting. The Committee is also charged with the duty of reporting to the Town Meeting any recommendations it considers appropriate on any article in a Town Meeting Warrant that proposes an amendment or addition to the General By-Laws.

In 2008 prior to the Annual Town Meeting, the Committee reviewed proposed changes to Article 20 (Public Safety and Property) of the General By-Laws. These changes, initiated by the Department of Public Works, established new rules for curb cuts and street excavations. The Committee made changes to the form of the proposed new or revised sections of Article 20 in order to have them conform to the existing format of that Article. The Committee also recommended substantive changes to the enforcement section of Article 20 (section 20.13), which were included in the changes adopted by Town Meeting. The Committee had no other official business in 2008.

Bob Gallant continued his invaluable voluntary service to the Town of keeping up to date the General By-Laws as appearing on the Town's website.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles M. Hamann, Chairman

CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT BOARD

The Belmont, Mass. Contributory Retirement Board respectfully submits its report for the year ending December 31, 2008.

During 2008 eleven (11) employees were granted retirement allowances. Eleven (11) retirees died in 2008, four survivors were granted a benefit.

There is one Non-Contributory Retiree receiving a monthly retirement allowance.

During 2008 the Retirement Board Members and staff attended educational seminars and workshops. The Board held monthly meetings and special meetings when necessary. They met with the Town Administrator and the Warrant Committee. On a regular basis they met with their Investment Consultant, Managers and Actuarial Consultant and the Massachusetts Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission.

In 2008 the Retirement Board voted to grant a 3% Cost of Living to eligible retirees, calculated on their allowance up to \$12,000, a maximum of \$360 annually.

Board Member Walter Wellman was re-elected to a three year term on the Retirement Board.

Buck Consultants performed a January 1, 2008 actuarial of the Retirement System. The Retirement Board worked with the Town and Warrant Committee. The Public Employee Retirement Administration (PERAC) approved the Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2010.

The Retirement Board voted a commitment of \$2,000,000.00 to HarbourVest Partners, Dover Street VII Fund. They also committed \$500,000 to the Pension Reserves Investment Trust 2009 Vintage Year Alternative Investment Program.

The Retirement Board offers information on Social Security and its impact on pensions received from the public retirement system. Social Security payments are reduced by a formula based on the amount of a public pension received.

The Retirement Administrator met with active employees as needed to provide information regarding available retirement options and the value of their pension. Provided education to all interested members and retirees, and participated in the Town's Annual Benefits Fair.

On December 31, 2007 there were	425	Members (active and inactive)
During 2008 there were	11	Employees who retired
During 2008 there were	50	New Employees
During 2008 there were	17	Withdrawals and Transfers
On December 31, 2008 there were	447	Members (active and inactive)
On December 31, 2007 there were	340	Retired Members
During 2008 there were	11	New Retirees
During 2008 there were	4	New Survivors
During 2008 there were	11	Retiree deaths
On December 31, 2008 there were	344	Retired Members

Respectfully submitted,
Rosario A. Sacco, Chairman

POSITION CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN

July 1, 2009 (FY 10)

Title Changes through March 3, 2009

MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE FY 10 - 0% Range Movement

Position	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Min Salary</u>	<u>Mid Salary</u>	<u>Max Salary</u>
Assistant Town Clerk	13	\$55,501	\$66,601	\$77,701
Assistant Town Accountant	13	\$55,501	\$66,601	\$77,701
DPW Business Manager	13	\$55,501	\$66,601	\$77,701
Assistant Health Director	14	\$58,348	\$70,018	\$81,688
Public Safety Operations Manager	14	\$58,348	\$70,018	\$81,688
Highway Operations Manager	15	\$61,196	\$73,435	\$85,674
Information Systems Manager	15	\$61,196	\$73,435	\$85,674
Planning Coordinator	15	\$61,196	\$73,435	\$85,674
Cemetery Superintendent	16	\$64,016	\$76,820	\$89,623
Council on Aging Director	16	\$64,016	\$76,820	\$89,623
Recreation Director	16	\$64,016	\$76,820	\$89,623
Assistant Fire Chief	17	\$66,864	\$80,237	\$93,610
Assistant Police Chief	17	\$66,864	\$80,237	\$93,610
Assistant Town Administrator	17	\$66,864	\$80,237	\$93,610
Assessing Administrator	18	\$69,711	\$83,654	\$97,595
Health Director	18	\$69,711	\$83,654	\$97,595
Library Director	18	\$69,711	\$83,654	\$97,595
Manager, Buildings and Facilities	18	\$69,711	\$83,654	\$97,595
Highway Division Director	19	\$72,559	\$87,071	\$101,583
Economic Development and Planning Mgr	19	\$72,559	\$87,071	\$101,583
Human Resource Director	20	\$75,384	\$90,487	\$105,569
Town Accountant	20	\$75,384	\$90,487	\$105,569
Water Superintendent	21	\$78,254	\$93,904	\$109,555
Director of Community Development	22	\$81,074	\$97,290	\$113,504
DPW Director*	22	\$81,074	\$97,290	\$113,504
Fire Chief*	22	\$81,074	\$97,290	\$113,504
General Manager, Light Department*	22	\$81,074	\$97,290	\$113,504
Police Chief*	22	\$81,074	\$97,290	\$113,504

*Base Rate (not including educational incentives, differentials and holiday pay)

NON-UNION STAFF SCHEDULE FY 10 - 0% Range Movement

Position	Classification	Min Salary	Mid Salary	Max Salary	Schedule
Office Assistant	3	\$23,694	\$28,432	\$33,171	A
Library Assistant	4	\$26,185	\$31,422	\$36,659	A
Administrative Secretary	5	\$28,483	\$33,757	\$39,507	A
Accounting/Computer Technician	7	\$33,661	\$40,393	\$47,023	A
COA Volunteer Coordinator	7	\$33,661	\$40,393	\$47,023	A
Animal Control Officer	8	\$41,289	\$49,548	\$57,805	B
Technical Assistant	8	\$41,289	\$49,548	\$57,805	B
Human Resources Assistant	9	\$38,621	\$46,343	\$54,068	A
Senior Center Coordinator	9	\$38,621	\$46,343	\$54,068	A
Public Health Nurse	9	\$38,621	\$46,343	\$54,068	A
Sanitarian	9	\$44,137	\$52,965	\$61,792	B
Tobacco Control Program Coordinator	9	\$38,621	\$46,343	\$54,068	A
Youth Services Coordinator	9	\$38,621	\$46,343	\$54,068	A
Administrative Coordinator Selectmen's	10	\$41,088	\$49,306	\$57,523	A
Information Technology Specialist	10	\$46,958	\$56,349	\$65,742	B
Outreach Worker	10	\$41,088	\$49,306	\$57,523	A
Public Safety Communications Supervisor	11	\$49,806	\$59,767	\$69,727	B
GIS Coordinator	12	\$52,648	\$63,184	\$73,714	B

NON-UNION PROFESSIONAL LIBRARIANS SCHEDULE FY 10 -0% range movement

Position	Classification	Min Salary	Max Salary	Schedule
Pre-Professional Children's Librarian	9	\$38,620	\$46,343	A
Pre-Professional Reference Librarian	9	\$38,620	\$46,343	A

NON-UNION PUBLIC SAFETY SCHEDULE FY 10 -0% range movement

Position	Classification	Min Salary	Mid Salary	Max Salary	Schedule
Parking Control Officer	3	\$23,694.01	\$28,432.08	\$33,171.37	A
Reserve Public Safety Dispatcher	7	\$18.50	\$20.35	\$22.20	A
Crossing Guard	1	\$10.29	\$12.33	\$14.39	

UNION ADMINISTRATIVE AND CLERICAL SCHEDULE (SEIU) FY 10 -3.5%

Position	Classification	Min Salary	Max Salary	Schedule
Office Assistant	3	\$25,308.37	\$30,375.80	A
Clerk I --Assessors	4	\$27,970.12	\$33,560.80	A
Library Assistant I	4	\$27,970.12	\$33,560.80	A
Administrative Secretary	5	\$35,007.44	\$42,016.00	B
Administrative Secretary	5	\$30,631.51	\$36,764.00	A
Clerk II - Accounts Payable	5	\$35,007.44	\$42,016.00	B
Clerk II--Billing	5	\$30,631.51	\$36,764.00	A
Clerk II - Cashier	5	\$30,631.51	\$36,764.00	A
Clerk II--Dispatch	5	\$30,631.51	\$36,764.00	A
Clerk II--Excise	5	\$30,631.51	\$36,764.00	A
Clerk II--Parking	5	\$30,631.51	\$36,764.00	A
Library Assistant II	5	\$30,631.51	\$36,764.00	A
Library Assistant II--Technical Services	5	\$30,631.51	\$36,764.00	A
Administrative Assistant I	6	\$33,292.90	\$39,949.00	A
Administrative Assistant I	6	\$38,048.92	\$45,656.00	B
Clerk II--Real Estate	6	\$38,048.92	\$45,656.00	B
Recreation Program Coordinator	6	\$33,292.90	\$39,949.00	A
Administrative Assistant II	7	\$41,090.40	\$49,316.80	B
Administrative Assistant II	7	\$35,954.28	\$43,152.20	A
Assessment Technician	7	\$35,954.28	\$43,152.20	A
Administrative Assistant III	8	\$38,590.37	\$46,319.00	A
Administrative Assistant III	8	\$44,103.28	\$52,936.00	B
Billing Supervisor	8	\$44,103.28	\$52,936.00	B
Circulation Supervisor	8	\$38,590.37	\$46,319.00	A
Office Supervisor	8	\$38,590.37	\$46,319.00	A
Payroll Coordinator	8	\$38,590.37	\$46,319.00	A
Social Worker	8	\$38,590.37	\$46,319.00	A
Transportation Coordinator	8	\$38,590.37	\$46,319.00	A
Recreation Program Supervisor	9	\$41,251.76	\$49,504.00	A
Administrative Coordinator - Bldg Services	10	\$43,888.21	\$52,670.80	A
Office Manager - CommDevelop	10	\$50,158.16	\$60,195.20	B
Assistant Director/COA Prog Coord	11	\$46,549.59	\$55,855.80	A

Foreman	12	\$56,241.12	\$67,496.00	B
Inspection & Enforcement Officer	12	\$56,241.12	\$67,496.00	B
Assistant Assessing Administrator	13	\$51,872.37	\$62,244.00	A
Assistant Town Treasurer/Collector	13	\$51,872.37	\$62,244.00	A
Grounds Superintendent	13	\$59,282.60	\$71,136.00	B
Meter Supervisor	13	\$59,282.60	\$71,136.00	B
Operations Foreman	13	\$59,282.60	\$71,136.00	B
Resident Engineer	13	\$59,282.60	\$71,136.00	B
Shop Foreman	13	\$59,282.60	\$71,136.00	B
Waterworks Construction Supervisor	13	\$59,282.60	\$71,136.00	B
Electrical Insp./Chief Substation Operator	15	\$65,366.08	\$78,436.00	B
Assistant Water Superintendent	16	\$68,378.96	\$82,056.00	B
Line Superintendent	16	\$68,378.96	\$82,056.00	B
Engineer/Operations Manager	18	\$74,461.92	\$89,356.80	B

UNION LABORER SCHEDULE (AFSCME) FY 10 -3.5%

Position	Classification	Min Salary	Max Salary	Schedule
Custodian	3	\$28,912.00	\$34,715.20	B
Laborer	3	\$28,912.00	\$34,715.20	B
Building Services Custodian	4	\$31,948.80	\$38,396.80	B
Driver	4	\$31,948.80	\$38,396.80	B
Meter Reader/Laborer	4	\$31,948.80	\$38,396.80	B
HMEO	5	\$35,006.40	\$42,036.80	B
HMEO/Garage Attendant	5	\$35,006.40	\$42,036.80	B
Maintenance Craftsperson	6	\$38,043.20	\$45,697.60	B
SHMEO/Laborer	6	\$38,043.20	\$45,697.60	B
Stockkeeper/Department Service Worker	6	\$38,043.20	\$45,697.60	B
Lead Custodian	7	\$41,080.00	\$49,337.60	B
Lead Custodian/Maintenance Worker	7	\$41,080.00	\$49,337.60	B
Mason	7	\$41,080.00	\$49,337.60	B
Mechanic	9	\$47,132.80	\$56,617.60	B
Working Foreman	10	\$50,169.60	\$60,236.80	B

UNION PROFESSIONAL LIBRARIANS SCHEDULE (Professional Librarians Assn.) FY 10 -3.5%

Position	Classification	Min Salary	Max Salary	Schedule
Children's Librarian	10	\$43,888.00	\$52,699.40	A
Reference Librarian	10	\$43,888.00	\$52,699.40	A
Young Adult/Reference Librarian	10	\$43,888.00	\$52,699.40	A
Library Generalist	11	\$46,549.36	\$55,895.32	A
Chief of Children's Services	13	\$51,872.60	\$62,286.64	A
Technology Librarian	13	\$51,872.60	\$62,286.64	A
Coordinator of Public Services	14	\$54,533.96	\$65,482.56	A
Coordinator of Technical Services	14	\$54,533.96	\$65,482.56	A

UNION FIRE SCHEDULE (IAFF, Local 1637) FY 10 -3.5%

Position	Base Min	Base Max	Schedule
Firefighter	\$790.18	\$1,008.50	E
Lieutenant	\$1,114.14	\$1,216.68	E
Captain	\$1,387.02	\$1,447.85	E

UNION PATROLMAN SCHEDULE (BPPA)FY 10 - 3.5%

Position	Base Min	Base Max	Schedule
Police Officer	\$837.99	\$1,019.56	D

UNION POLICE SUPERIORS SCHEDULE FY 10 - 3.5%

Position	Base Min	Base Max	Schedule
Police Sergeant	\$1,144.57	\$1,302.64	D
Police Lieutenant	\$1,339.13	\$1,524.10	D
Police Captain	\$1,566.86	\$1,783.18	D

UNION PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH SCHEDULE (IAFF, Local 1637) FY 10 - 3.5%

Position	Base Min	Base Max	Schedule
Public Safety Dispatcher	\$733.48	\$914.24	C

A=35 hr wk
 B=40 hr wk
 C=37.5 hr wk
 D=37 hr wk
 E=42 hr wk

GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Board of Selectmen appointed the Government Structure Review Committee (“the Committee”) on March 31, 2008. It is a temporary committee, with the following members: Joan Garland, Henry Hall, Ralph Jones, Andrew Levin (vice chair), Trish Lohmar, Anne Marie Mahoney, Robert McLaughlin, Paul Solomon (chair), and Rebecca Vose. Tom Younger, Town Administrator, acts as consultant to the Committee. The Committee’s goal is to make recommendations which will increase the efficiency of Town government and enhance the participation of citizens in Town government. The Committee’s mandate includes eliciting input from the public, and making recommendations for changes, which will include the mechanisms for accomplishing the changes.

The Committee has met twice monthly (except in the summer) since May 1, 2008 and held a public meeting on September 25, 2008. The Committee presented preliminary recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on January 26, 2009; has scheduled a second public meeting for February 26, 2009; and will present final recommendations to the Board of Selectmen before the Annual Town Meeting in April 2009. The Committee is not anticipating Town Meeting action on its recommendations at that time.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Solomon, Chairman

SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members of the Sesquicentennial Planning Committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen in 2006 have continued to meet to organize a town wide celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the incorporation of Belmont which took place in 1859.

A schedule of events has been organized and preparations are ongoing to oversee the monthly activities that will take place throughout the 2009 calendar year. These plans have relied on the participation of many clubs and organizations who have agreed to partner with the Committee to host a variety of programs that will be offered in various locations and appeal to a wide range of interests. The list includes a concert at the High School, youth activities on the Underwood Playground, a multimedia presentation at the Library, art and floral arrangements at the Homer Gallery and a dramatic performance at the Town Hall.

The 2009 schedule of events was submitted for publication in the Belmont Electric Light Department calendar, the Town Planner, the Belmont Citizen Herald and by the Belmont Media Center.

The Committee has also designed several Belmont themed products which can be purchased to support the planned activities. A commemorative plate was produced which depicts the “New Town of Belmont” 1859-2009 as captured by artist Winslow Homer. Holiday ornaments bearing the Sesquicentennial logo were ordered and are now available.

The Belmont 150 web site is nearing completion and will be ready to post articles, facts, photographs and information related to the history of Belmont and the upcoming 2009 celebration.

When Belmont was first incorporated, local churches were contacted and invited to participate in the ringing of their church bells at 3:15 pm on the afternoon of March 18, 1859 which was the actual day and time the bill was signed. The news of the incorporation reached here from the State House in Boston soon after that.

A collection of 150 Facts for 150 Years was prepared and awaits presentation and display in the Town Hall, the Belmont Public Schools, and the Clafin Room at the library. This information is laid out in chronological order and records interesting historic facts and trivia from the early beginnings of the area in the 1600’s up to the present day. A limited printing of a sample booklet containing this information was quickly sold out.

The goal of the Sesquicentennial Planning Committee is to present the history of Belmont in ways that will both educate and entertain and to encourage all members of the community to identify with, and take pride in, the town in which they live. The success of the 2009 celebration will largely depend on community participation and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Viktoria Haase, Chairman



TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk respectfully submits the following report of activities for the year ending December 31, 2008.

Five elections were held in Belmont during calendar 2008: the Presidential Primary February 5th; the local Election April 7th; the Roads Override Election June 9th; the State Primary September 16th and the General Election November 4th. Belmont residents continue to be active voters, with more than 85% of the 16,086 registered voters casting a ballot in the November General Election; 2500 absentee ballots were processed throughout the year. Voters waited patiently and our dedicated precinct workers kept pace with the vigorous voting activity, reporting their numbers without incident. All polling places are on Town property.

The Town Clerk participated with the Belmont League of Women Voters in voter registration days at Belmont High School in January, February and October. In addition, for the first time the Town Clerk's office held Saturday hours for in-person absentee voting October 18th from 9 a.m. to Noon.

The Annual Town Meeting was convened April 28th; a Special Town Meeting held December 1, 2008. Five caucuses were held throughout the year to fill vacant Town Meeting seats due to resignations in the following Precincts: 1,2,3,5 and 6. The Town Clerk participated in three meetings of the Middlesex Town/City Clerks in Westford, Sturbridge and Falmouth, choosing to bypass the conference at Jiminy Peak in Hancock because of the expense and distance.

Long time Belmont employee, Mary Ellen Barker, retired to Cape Cod in April; Ellen O'Brien Cushman assumed her duties as Assistant Town Clerk effective July 1st. The Town Clerk's Office continues to benefit from the generosity of our volunteers who expertly lend a hand preparing the "In" and "Out" Books used for elections as well as opening and collating the 11,000 returned census forms.

<u>Vital Statistics</u>	<u>2008</u>
Births	296
Deaths	186
Marriages License Issued	103

Revenue of the Town Clerk's Office for 2008 follow:

Dog Licenses (1304 issued)	\$11,229
Cat Licenses (730 issued)	\$ 5,532
Sporting Licenses	\$ 697
Marriage Intentions	\$ 2,675
Business Licenses	\$ 4,295
Fuel/ Gas Permits	\$ 2,330
Certifications:	
Birth	\$ 3,259
Death	\$10,925
Marriage	\$ 4,530
Other	\$ 1,854
Labels	\$ 550
Violations, Non-Criminal	\$ 5,900
Business Certificates	\$ 3,630
Residents & By-Laws	\$ 1,850
Maps & Raffles	\$ 105
Zoning	\$ 300
Passports	\$ 1,180

Town Clerk Revenue 2008 \$60,839

Collected for DPW Recycling Stickers	\$ 1,740
Collected/Sent to Commonwealth	
For Sporting Licenses/Stamps	\$ 2,522
Total Collected	\$65,102

We sincerely appreciate area veterinarians' cooperation and effort to keep the rabies certificates up to date for Belmont's animals. The database customized by the Information Technology Department staff has been extremely helpful in tracking and returning lost pets and identifying unlicensed animals. John Maguranis, the Animal Control Officer, has attentively enforced the licensing By-Law and educated owners of their responsibilities.

The Town Clerk's office processes U.S. Passport Applications by appointment for the convenience of residents and the revenue for the Town. Those who have used the service remark on the ease of making the appointment at Town Hall and confidence in dealing with an experienced agent.

All fees for Town Clerk services were increased for 2009 after many years without change. Business licenses for Common Victualler, Class I and Class II Motor Vehicle Sales, Livery, Taxi, Movie Theater, Junk, Laundromat and Antiques Resale are processed through the Town Clerk's office in coordination with the Board of Selectmen.

The Town Clerk's office also serves as a retail sales center for the Historic Society, the Sesquicentennial Committee and the Friends of the Council on Aging selling plates, books, ornaments, flags, etc. to assist with their fundraising activities.

Respectfully submitted,
Delores A. Keefe, Town Clerk

TOWN HISTORIAN

Requests for historical information continue to come to the attention of your Town Historian. While each and every telephone call or request would take up too much space in an annual report, I have listed some of the more interesting ones.

The year started off with a call from Verna Napoli trying to find a copy of her Belmont High School 1948 yearbook. Her copy had been lost in a fire. She had checked with the School Department and other town departments to no avail and thought I might be able to help.

I did inform her that the Belmont Historical Society has a good collection of high school yearbooks on file in the Claflin Room in the library and I am sure they have one for 1948. While she could not keep it she could at least find the information she was looking for.

Next was a call from a person living in Florida who said her sister was born in a Belmont Hospital in 1966. She wanted to know where it was and when did it close. I informed her that as far as I know there never was a hospital in Belmont and certainly not in 1966.

Victoria Thatcher of 591 School Street was looking for information on the "Victory Gardens" in Belmont for a blog she is working on. She especially was interested in when they started. I sent her two copies of my Historical Society newsletter which gave some information on the subject.

We have to have at least one mystery each year. Dorothy Freeman called to say that at one time the late Julia Troy, a lifelong resident of the town, said that her father, Martin Troy, had the first police badge which had been mounted on a plaque. At every Memorial Day parade, the badge as worn by the senior police officer then put back on the plaque. Do any of my readers have any information about this badge?

Last year I received a letter from Jill Sinclair from Paris, France, looking for information on the Fresh Pond Farm which was on the banks of Fresh Pond in Cambridge and Belmont. She is a landscape historian, currently under contract with the MIT Press to produce an illustrated local history on Fresh Pond. Despite its importance as the property of iceman Frederic Tudor, she had been unable to locate any images of the farm. All she had found was a brief cryptic note in the files of the Cambridge Historical Commission reporting a house from "the Tudor complex – Mansard – moved to Belmont side of Blanchard Street (sic) demolished 1973."

My research showed that this house was moved to 126 Blanchard Road in 1893 on land of Timothy J. Mannix and was the Mannix homestead until it was sold in 1969. It was demolished in April of 1973.

I sent Ms. Sinclair several pictures of the house being demolished, information on a hotel that was on the banks of the pond along with miscellaneous information.

Then on March 5, 2009, an email from Jill Sinclair arrived stating, "I am delighted to let you know that my book on the history of Fresh Pond will be published next month by the MIT Press. A friend is kindly hosting a launch party on April 17th and I very much hope that you will be able to join us for the evening. The party gives me the chance to thank those who helped in many different ways with the production of the book."

The above highlights along with the many phone calls and inquiries on local historical subjects, makes this position so interesting, I am honored to serve as your Town Historian.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard B. Betts, Town Historian

FINANCE

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board of Assessors submits the following report of its activities for the year ending December 31, 2008.

The Assessors held regular bi-monthly meetings, and met on a weekly basis during the busy tax-billing periods, and at other such times, as requested, had conferences and meetings with taxpayers, interested citizens and various Town Boards, Officials and the Board of Selectmen.

Members of the Board and office staff attended schools, classes and conferences sponsored by the Department of Revenue, International Association of Assessing Officers, Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers and the Middlesex County Assessors Association, in an effort to maintain their proficiency in the administration of the office and the appraisal and maintenance of real and personal property for assessment purposes.

The Board of Assessors voted to issue an actual real estate tax bill for Fiscal Year 2009, with a tax rate of \$11.89 per thousand, in November 2008, to ensure proper financial management for the Town by avoiding unnecessary borrowing costs.

The assessed value tax roll for the Town of Belmont contains 8,064 real property accounts and 535 personal property accounts with an annual total assessed value of \$5,257,657,170.00 for the tax year Fiscal Year 2009.

The office staff processed approximately 648 transfers of real and personal property, of which approximately 41% of the transfers were determined "valid" sales. There were 20,304 motor vehicle excise tax bills with a total excise tax of \$2,659,318.20 committed to the Tax Collector. A total of 591 motor vehicle excise tax bills with a value of \$47,770.81 were abated, 237 applications for statutory exemptions were granted resulting in \$327,350.09 being exempted.

The Annual Town Meeting appropriated \$91,223,536.16, with other amounts to be raised \$2,384,711.99, and the total revenue required for the operation of Town Government \$93,608,248.15. Estimated receipts and available funds totaled \$31,094,704.40, leaving \$62,513,543.75 to be raised by taxation.

The Board successfully defended 12 overvaluation appeals before the Massachusetts Appellate Tax Board. The Board of Assessors continued the real and personal property re-inspection program as part of the computerized mass appraisal system, otherwise known as the "CAMA" system. During 2008, the Board of Assessors continued updating the existing CAMA system with regards to all property information: building permits, building plans, sketches, images, living area, as well as all other assessment information. Personal Property accounts have also been updated with regards to assessment of furniture and fixtures, equipment and machinery, and inventory. The re-inspection program provided an increase in assessed value of \$66,460,840.00 in new growth for an increase in tax levy of \$749,013.00 for Fiscal Year 2009. The continual updating of the computer system of the Assessors Office allows for improved working conditions and public access. The Board also updated the property record information on the Town's Web site to make data, pictures and sketches available on line.

The Board will continue with an equalized value program. All building, plumbing and electrical permits, and occupancy certificates, will continue to be monitored for possible adjustments in value. Sales ratio studies will be monitored as part of the equalization program in preparation of the Fiscal Year 2010 reappraisal.

The Board of Assessors also provided technical assistance to the Board of Selectmen on matters relating to the potential acquisition and sale of public land. The expertise of the Board and staff saves the cost of real estate appraisal services which would otherwise be required in such matters.

The Town of Belmont's Board of Assessors Office continues being the most designated in the Commonwealth. These designations include: two Certified Assessment Evaluators (CAE) and one Administrative Assessment Specialist (AAS), awarded by the IAAO, one RA (Residential Appraiser) awarded by the MBREA and SRA (Senior Residential Appraiser), awarded by the Appraisal Institute, two Certified Massachusetts Assessors (CMA), awarded by the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers (MAAO), as well as numerous other professional designations from both the public and private sectors.

The members of the Board of Assessors did not change in 2008, but C. Brendan Noonan, III, was elected as Chairman of the Board in April 2008, with Robert P. Reardon as the Vice Chairman, and Charles R. Laverty, Jr., as the Secretary.

In 2008, Adriana D'Andrea transferred to the Board of Selectmen's Office, and Will Bielitz, from the Treasurer's Office, transferred to the Board of Assessors' Office.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Brendan Noonan, III, Chairman

CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Capital Budget Committee is established by Article 13 of the Town by-laws. There are seven members, of whom three are appointed by the Moderator for terms of three years, and the other four are the chairman (or a member appointed by the chairman) of the Board of Selectmen, the Warrant Committee, the Planning Board and the School Committee, all of whom serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

According to Article 13 of the Town's by-laws, "It shall be the duty of the Committee annually to prepare a capital report showing, for each six years hence following a list of those public improvements and non-recurring major equipment needs which, in its opinion, represent the most necessary enhancement projects or purchases to be undertaken by the Town during each such year. The report shall include the probable cost of each such improvement or purchase and the Committee's recommendations as to the method of financing them."

This duty is addressed in several ways in this report. Following a section of more general remarks, we make a specific recommendation for a Capital Budget for FY2009

General Remarks Concerning Belmont's Capital Budgeting Process

In 1994, the Town commissioned a study of the roofs of major municipally owned buildings and embarked on a program to ensure that its buildings are weather-tight above. (The roof program is further discussed below.) Recently, the School Department completed an envelope study of its buildings with the same objective.¹ Although many other Town facilities have been or are being addressed individually, the Committee is pressing the Town to complete a comprehensive survey of building envelopes that were not part of the School Department survey. It will not, however, do any good just to know the condition of buildings; the problems that are defined by the survey must be addressed.

The Committee feels that the Town should take a coordinated approach to its capital needs and budgeting for those capital needs. The Committee has urged that the Town present the Committee with a proposed capital budget in the same manner as it presents the Warrant Committee with a proposed operating budget. This year the Town Administrator did provide the Committee his recommendations for a Capital Budget which provided guidance for the Committee in its deliberations.

Coordination, however, is not easily achieved when several of the departments proposing capital expenditures report to different, independently elected boards and officials. Frequently the Town Meeting, and this Committee as an agent of the Town Meeting, are the point at which authority merges. This Committee tries to stay alert to coordination issues but continues to urge coordination in awareness of the issue at all levels of Town government.

Issues of coordination include acquisition and reuse of replaced equipment. This year, as last, this Committee noted examples involving vehicles and emergency generators. Issues also arise regarding programs that have application to more than one Town operation. Current examples include the proposals for building security and a "reverse 911."

The issue of coordination is particularly important when it involves the major capital expenditures that the Town is facing (enumerated below). A year ago, the Board of Selectmen appointed a "Capital Project Overview Committee" with the mandate to examine all future capital projects to determine "the most efficient use of land and buildings, including the possibility of combining two or more projects." That committee is scheduled to report to the Selectmen on April 7 (in the midst of the time that this report is in preparation). In the meantime, the Police Station feasibility study has recommended re-use of the current Library building for a police station. The School Department has proposed a number of capital expenditures on the north side of Concord Avenue. These proposals in themselves may be worthwhile but in a context of limited funds and uncertain plans for that area may not be wise. The Committee looks forward to the report of the Capital Project Overview Committee.

As explained more fully below, the items within the purview of this Committee and the common definition of capital expenditures are not the same. This Committee diligently seeks to keep its recommendations within its mandate. That means it must reject requests for smaller capital items. As noted in previous years, that does not mean that the requests falling outside the purview of this Committee are not worthy or that the expenditures should not be made. That only means that they should be dealt with outside the allocation of funds to this Committee.² This same problem arises when an item that was initially a capital expenditure becomes a routine item. Both aspects of this issue are dealt with in greater detail below.

Preservation of the Town's capital assets (maintenance) is a continual struggle. There is a great temptation and tendency in difficult times to preserve current operations at the expense of preservation of capital items. The result is the seeming transmutation of a operating expense (maintenance) into a capital expense (replacement of the capital asset that has been so neglected that it must be replaced. The Building Envelope Study, mentioned earlier, is another example of an effort to raise

¹ The total estimate for work identified by the School Department envelope study is \$6.8 million to be phased over five years. Many of the needs identified by the study might be classified for the operating budget rather than for the allocation to this Committee under the criteria discussed later in this report. Nevertheless, the figure indicates the magnitude of the task faced by the Town to protect its investment in capital assets.

² If they are not, they risk becoming the "orphans" we spoke of last year.

the profile of capital asset maintenance to the point where it can survive the tendency to neglect capital asset maintenance in favor of current items.

Recently, however, the Committee has realized a risk created by efforts to single out specific types of capital asset programs. This risk is similar to the situation of "orphans" mentioned earlier that might result from efforts by this Committee to ensure that its budget is allocated to major capital items. The risk differs, however, from "orphans" in that the problem is one of definition rather than size. Some of the building envelope studies that have been conducted to date have included paving and general landscaping that are integral parts of a building site. Some members of this Committee have observed that such paving and landscaping hardly meet the definition of building envelope. Others of the Committee, on the other hand, point out that timely action is needed to maintain the value of a capital asset that is intimately associated with the building. There are a number of examples that might be cited in this regard but one that will be familiar to most readers is the driveway associated with the High School. That stretch of roadway is not (for a number of reasons not appropriate to go into now) within the Pavement Management Committee's proposal yet, arguably, it is not part of the High School building envelope. The downside of efforts to raise the profile of urgent capital needs is that some needs may fall between definitions.

The obvious implication of these observations is that more money is needed. That is a conclusion that this Committee has come to. Both within the operating budget and in the allocation set aside for this Committee, more should be budgeted to maintain and improve the Town's capital assets.

The definition of capital expenditure for which the Committee is responsible is *not* the common understanding of a capital asset -- it is a more exclusive definition. The common understanding of a capital asset is some asset that can be used and enjoyed for an extended period of time, often taken as more than one year, or can be used to produce another product. It is often thought of as anything that is not for immediate consumption. This is *not* the definition with which the Capital Budget Committee works.

Note the key words in the by-law responsibility quoted previously: "public improvements and non-recurring major equipment needs." An example of the differences between the two concepts that is very relevant to the Town's budgeting process is police cruisers. In common understanding, an automobile is a capital item but a police cruiser is a "recurring" item. (The average front-line cruiser is driven 25,000 - 30,000 miles in its first year. Cruisers must be replaced on a regular cycle.) In the view of the Capital Budget Committee, replacement of police cruisers belongs in the regular operating budget. As mentioned below, there are other items that should be considered part of the operating budget that have a tendency to find their way into the capital budget process.

In an effort to draw a "bright line" between what it would consider and not, more than twenty-five years ago a previous Capital Budget Committee established a \$10,000-per-item requirement for requests addressed to it. In 1985, it was the intent of the then Capital Budget Committee to raise that amount to \$12,500 but that did not happen.

Meanwhile, increasing pressure on the Town's operating budget resulted in the virtual elimination of a line item ("Capital Outlay") in departmental budgets under which the small or recurring capital items had been purchased. (This line item has now been restored.) An even more insidious thing began to happen. Maintenance was not pursued. As noted earlier, the inevitable result of wear, tear, and simple weathering plus maintenance neglect is the seeming transmutation of a current expense item (maintenance) into a seeming capital expenditure (starting all over again). The current dismaying condition of the Town's streets, some of which have deteriorated so badly that they can not be repaired but must be rebuilt -- literally from the ground up, has (as noted above) resulted in a targeted, separate funding proposal.

Confronted by increasing pressure from smaller or recurring requests, previous Capital Budget Committees, loathe to see necessary expenditures unmet, tried to accommodate small items and recurring items within previous Capital Budgets -- often by turning a blind eye to the practice of aggregating separate items in order to meet the \$10,000 threshold. As noted above, the current Capital Budget Committee is making a vigorous effort to confine the Capital Budget to items that are truly "public improvements and non-recurring major equipment needs." As also noted above, members of the Committee do not feel that small capital items and recurring capital items are inappropriate expenditures for the Town; indeed, members of the Committee feel that the smaller capital expenditures, recurring expenditures and maintenance of capital assets are very important and should be funded annually under their own explicit headings in each department's operating budget. The members of the Committee feel, however, that the Capital Budget should be available to meet the needs of the Town that are truly "public improvements and non-recurring major equipment."

An important example of the process of distinguishing between items that are appropriate for the Capital Budget and those that are appropriate for the current operating budget is provided by computer technology. When computer technology was novel, the then Capital Budget Committee was easily convinced that acquisition of the Town's (including the School Department's) first computer capability was a capital item within the by-law definition.

Now, as we noted last year, computers are the current era's "textbooks." Textbooks, though they are used for more than one annual cycle, are an item for the current operating budget. In like manner, much of the Town's computer capability should be accommodated within the current operating budget. The importance to the Town of making a success of its transition to computer-based operations is of great concern to the Committee. The Committee has recommended that a special fund be set aside in each Department's operating budget to be spent each year on the constant and continual maintenance and improvement of its computer capability. (The Committee remains ready to address requests for expenditures for the Town's technology infrastructure that supports its computer capability.)

Although the maintenance of the network of streets is (or should be) a recurring item, the funds for providing the Town with its streets have traditionally been included in the Capital Budget. As this Committee observed in last year's report, since much of the work on the Town's streets must be planned and contracted for in advance, the pavement management program of the Town would greatly benefit from a stable and predictable budgeting atmosphere.

A Belmont Pavement Management Committee, appointed by the Selectmen, has made a proposal for meeting the Town's needs in this regard. The failure of the roads override in June has caused this to be revised by the Board of Selectmen. In the meantime, the Community Development Department is prepared to make good use of the amount we can recommend from the Committee's allocation (\$401,161 from so-called chapter 90 funds, plus \$1,051,000 recommended for appropriation from the general tax) but clearly a funding mechanism such as that recommended by the Pavement Management Committee is needed.

In recent practice, each department (whether it reports to the Selectmen or some other elected body) makes its own request to the Capital Budget Committee, and establishes its own set of internal priorities. It is then left to this Committee to sort out priorities among departments. It is also left to this Committee to notice that departments are making similar requests or that the needs being addressed by one department can be addressed without a capital expense, or with a better capital expense, by another department. As noted earlier, for FY2009 the Town Administrator provided the Committee with a list of recommended expenditures.

In efforts to address problems such as these for future years, last year the Committee recommended that a preliminary or draft capital budget be formulated through the Town Administrator and then presented to the Capital Budget Committee in the same manner as the current operating budget is formulated each year by the Town Administrator and then presented to the Warrant Committee. Recently, a sub-committee of the Blueprint Project (see discussion, above) has recommended a reorganization of the Town's administration of IT matters. This proposal, which would result in the formal consolidation of School and non-school operations, has been accepted in principle but its implementation is awaiting the availability of funding for an additional position.

Here is a summary of some of the large capital projects the Town is pursuing or faces -- projects that cannot be undertaken within this Committee's annual allocations.

Ground was broken recently for a new Senior Center. The budget for that project (\$6,328,456 for design and construction) was authorized by a favorable debt exclusion vote by the Town's electorate in April of 2005. At least \$1.1 million has been pledged from private donations (of which \$450,000 is in hand) and a grant of \$151,000 was awarded by the Commonwealth. These funds, with funds from the sale of the Harvard Lawn firehouse, proposed under Article 14 of the Warrant for the 2008 Annual Town Meeting to be transferred for that purpose, will be used to reduce the impact on the taxpayer. The projected completion date is January of 2009.

At the April 24, 2006, session of the Annual Town Meeting, the Town Meeting approved letters of interest for both the Wellington School and the High School. These are first steps in obtaining reimbursements from the Commonwealth for work that is being planned for both sites. In March of 2006, the Capital Project Planning Group held a meeting at which a presentation was made concerning a schematic design that had been produced for the replacement of the current Wellington School. (The cost of this project is currently estimated at about \$55 million in 2009 dollars.) At that same meeting, the Group was given a report of a feasibility study that had been conducted concerning the Town Yard, particularly the headquarters of the Water and Public Works Departments. (The estimated cost of consolidating and replacing the buildings on site at the Town Yard is nearly \$20,000,000. This figure is in 2006 dollars and it is necessary to add an escalation factor of 5 to 8% for each year that the project waits.) (The Municipal Light Department is also headquartered at the Town Yard, but its building is not involved in the proposal.)

In the fall of 2003, Town Meeting authorized funding for the development of a master plan for the comprehensive renovation of Belmont High School, now 37 years old. The resulting plan, accepted by the School Committee in the fall of 2004 and reported to Town Meeting in April 2005, consists of a conceptual design and proposed schedule which presents one possible solution to the identified needs of the building and the educational program. The total estimated cost of the project before any state aid was \$62.3M. (Assuming 40% state aid, the Town's contribution would be \$37.4M.) This estimate, developed in 2004, was meant to represent the cost in FY2008 dollars, FY2008 being at that time the first year the Superintendent's Advisory Committee on the Future Building Needs of Belmont High School felt the project might feasibly be begun. An updated estimate, developed a year ago, is \$70M, assuming the project starts in 2008.

During the spring of 2007 there was a re-evaluation of the proposed High School project. Given the backlog of school projects waiting to be put on the state's School Building Assistance list and the relative urgency of some of the needs of the High School Building, especially the science classrooms, and the HVAC, electrical and fire protection infrastructure, there is a proposal to move ahead with a first phase of the renovation. This would mean putting off the balance of the project for at least ten years after the start of phase one, given state rules about separation of distinct reimbursable projects for one building. This first phase would include the construction of a new science wing, some renovation of current science classrooms and would address some of the most pressing infrastructure needs for an estimated cost of \$22.0 million. The Superintendent's Advisory Committee has recommended this proposal for a phase one project, if it can be funded within two years. If starting the project takes longer than that, the recommendation is to pursue the whole project, so that the balance of the renovation does not get pushed too far into the future.

The Memorial Library (the main library building on Concord Avenue) is also on the list to be replaced. A feasibility study was completed in 2005. The current estimate for rebuilding a main library building on the site of the current Memorial Library is \$25,786,471 in 2008 dollars (total project costs). It appears that the Town's application for state library building assistance will be acted upon sooner than planned. As a result, a proposal was made at the April session of last year's Annual Town Meeting to authorize the Moderator to appoint a building committee and to authorize that committee to expend funds to obtain a schematic plan. The article under which that proposal was made was dismissed from the warrant by the Town Meeting. This Committee expects that the matter will be revisited at a later Town Meeting after more information is available -- perhaps influenced by the report of the police station feasibility study.

Last year (FY2008), pursuant to this Committee's recommendation, the Town Meeting funded a feasibility study concerning the current Police Station and the needs of the Police Department. That feasibility study is now completed and has reported that the police function (including allowance for future development) can be accommodated within the existing footprint -- indeed, within the walls -- of the current main library building. The cost to renovate the library for use as a police station is estimated to be approximately \$13.0 million (2008 dollars). This includes all work, bringing the building to meet the seismic code and using "green building" features. Although no change in the current building footprint is contemplated, there would be need to raise the roof in the rear to accommodate full use of the attic areas. Movement of the Police Department into a renovated library building is the recommendation of the feasibility study committee.

There are other, less well-defined, projects that have received some consideration by this or other committees of the Town. As reported earlier, the School Department has on several occasions made recommendations for renovations of restrooms at the Vigliolo Skating Rink and repairs of external stairs at the White Field House. Although the Committee has thus far declined to recommend those projects, they are carried in the chart below. The Town has increased its ownership of land on the north side of Concord Avenue and further work regarding Town facilities on the north side of Concord Avenue is undoubtedly in the offing. Finally, some work has been done in recent years concerning the Underwood Pool. This Committee would not be surprised if proposals concerning the Pool arose in the future. And, as noted earlier, the results of the Police Station Feasibility Study may influence all of the foregoing.

FY2009 Recommendation

In preparing to recommend an annual Capital Budget, the Committee collects requests from Town departments (including the School Department) for capital expenditures from enterprise funds, from state reimbursements and general tax. With respect to items to be paid from general tax, the Board of Selectmen proposes to the Warrant Committee and the Capital Budget Committee an amount to be spent in the Capital Budget.³ After receiving requests from Town departments and a proposed general tax budget allocation from the Board of Selectmen, the Committee, at its meetings, interviews department representatives from those departments that have made requests. This year -- as for the last two years -- the process began with the individual members of this Committee reviewing copies of the departmental requests and developing individual questions regarding those requests. Those individual questions were then pooled and submitted to the departments in writing. The departments responded to the questions in writing and those responses were distributed to the entire Committee before it interviewed each department.

The Capital Budget Committee then proceeds to assemble a recommended budget for the next fiscal year (in this case, FY2009). The Committee considers each item that has been requested and votes whether that item should be included in its recommended budget. The item is included if it receives a majority vote; unanimity is not required. (In the current year, however, most items that are recommended received a unanimous vote.) The requests for capital funds from various departments are, at the request of the Committee, presented by each department in a priority order. This is particularly helpful when the Committee is confronted with requests that are technical and have implications only for the department making the request. When, however, the request is less technical and/or has implications for others outside the department, the Committee often exercises its own sense of priority.

For FY2009, the Committee initially received requests for \$10,667,142 in capital expenditures (according to a mid-January reconciliation of a previous summary). Of this amount, an estimated \$403,500 (later it became known that \$401,161 was in fact available) was to be funded by the so-called Chapter 90 funds, \$1,150,442 was to be funded by the enterprise funds, leaving \$9,113,200 to be funded from general tax (this figure includes a request of \$3.8 million for the full Pavement Management program for FY09). As one can see from our experience with the FY2007 and FY2008 budgets and continued with FY09 (and as one can confirm by consulting both the forecast at the end of this report and the experiences of the Capital Budget Committee in previous years), the allocation that the Committee receives each year from general tax (about \$1.1 million, not counting road moneys) allows the Committee to address only the most pressing requests each year. The

³ This year (for FY2009), the proposal (not quite all of which is from general tax) was \$2,174,000 of which \$1,051,000 was expected to be allocated to Pavement Management, leaving \$1,123,000 for other capital projects. This represents a 2½% increase over the prior year for Pavement Management and 4% for other capital projects. (The amount allocated to this Committee [\$2,174,000] was \$150,000 less than it otherwise might have been. That sum [\$150,000] appears instead in the Article 4 appropriation pursuant to a recommendation by this Committee last year that funds be borrowed for a HVAC project and that the debt service thus incurred be charged to the capital budget. In fact, debt for the project was not issued last year and the entire \$150,000 will be allocated to principal.) The amount allocated to this Committee includes \$100,000 to be transferred from the Capital Endowment Fund. The interest earned on the Fund fluctuates but exceeded \$100,000 last year. The Committee also receives proposals from the Director of Public Works regarding proposed capital expenditures from water and sewer enterprise funds (financed by rates on water). They are dealt with below.

Committee believes that the Town's allocation to the Capital Budget each year should be at least \$3.0 million (exclusive of money devoted to roads) and that, that amount should increase each year by the same 2½% allowed to other aspects of the Town's general tax budget. Although the 2½% annual growth has been put into practice for FY2009, the base figure is nowhere near the \$3.0 million recommendation. In addition, the Committee wishes to go on record as strongly supporting the efforts of the Warrant Committee to establish a system whereby the condition of the Town's large capital assets can be assessed, indexed and tracked from year to year.

The Committee's recommendations for FY2009 are set forth in the chart below corresponding to Article 10 in the warrant for 2008 Annual Town Meeting.

Note that this Committee's recommendation includes \$150,000 in debt service. That amount appears, however, in the current budget appropriation under Article 4 rather than in Article 10. As explained in the fourth footnote, above, that amount represents the debt service on borrowing that will be incurred to fund our recommendation last year that the Town borrow funds for a High School HVAC project which we had deferred in past years.

Public Safety Equipment

Digital Portable Radios Police- phase 2	38,000
Antenna Site Generator.....	18,000
Radio System Upgrade Fire – phase 2	<u>75,000</u>
Subtotal.....	\$131,000

Computer Equipment

Infrastructure add/update foreign language lab.....	28,000
Data Integration & Recovery Phase 2 – town.....	80,000
Virtualized Backend Service Phase 2 – town	<u>30,000</u>
Subtotal.....	\$138,000

Departmental Equipment

Backup Generators Library/Homer.....	47,000
Cemetery-Replace riding lawnmower	12,000
Cemetery-Replace dump truck.....	56,000
Highway-Replace dump truck	56,000
Fire-Replace Utility Truck	9,500
Fire-Replace staff vehicle.....	<u>44,000</u>
Subtotal.....	\$224,500

Building and Facility and Public Works Construction

5th year of a 5-year replacement program	
Translucent Panels.....	100,000
Building Security –Homer Bldg.....	50,000
Building Security – Elementary Schools.....	150,000
HVAC work – Police Station.....	35,000
School Building Envelop	
Burbank front entrance flagstone & steps	55,000
Multiple school masonry wall patching	55,000
High School Repointing.....	<u>81,000</u>
Subtotal.....	\$526,000

Site Improvements

Resurface & restripe running track.....	<u>103,500</u>
Subtotal.....	\$103,500

Infrastructure and Construction

Pavement and sidewalk management program	<u>1,051,000</u>
Subtotal.....	\$1,051,000

Grand Total..... \$2,174,000

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Brusch, Chairman

CAPITAL ENDOWMENT FUND

The advisors for the Capital Endowment Fund are: Dalton J. Avery, Margaret L. Eagle, Jonathan B. Treat, Ernest E. Fay, S. Warren Farrell, Jr., Walter McLaughlin, Jr., Daniel C. Leclerc, Ex-Officio, and Floyd S. Carman, Ex-Officio.

The Capital Endowment Fund was established to fund and facilitate innovations in town government and to assist with long range capital planning. This fund was enacted by the state legislature and signed into law by the Governor of the Commonwealth in April of 1995.

\$2,000,000 was received from the proceeds of the sale of Belmont's cable system. An additional \$943,949.24 was appropriated into the fund by Town Meeting in 2001. All proceeds from the voluntary tax bill check-off for capital projects are deposited into this account.

Capital Endowment Fund Activity

Opening Balance 7/01/2007	\$3,089,114
Tax Check-Off Donations by 89Residents	580
Withdrawal	-100,000
Fees	-300
Income Earned	8,506
Closing Balance 6/30/2008	\$2,997,900

Capital Endowment Fund Asset Allocation as of 6/30/2008

Cash /Money Funds	\$29,369
CD's/Equivalents	1,170,540
Government Securities	204,344
Corporate Bonds	216,747
Equities	1,360,350
Estimated Accrued Interest	16,550
Closing Balance 6/30/2008	\$2,997,900

Respectfully submitted,
Floyd S. Carman, Town Treasurer

EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The members of the Education Scholarship Committee are Leslie Aitken, Paula Caruso, Robert Sullivan, DeLynn Walker, Belmont High School Guidance Counselor Tobey Brown, and Town Treasurer Floyd S. Carman

The Belmont Education Scholarship Committee was established under MGL 60 §3C by the April 1995 Town Meeting. The Education Scholarship Committee awards scholarships to residents of Belmont who are pursuing higher education. Awards are based on the applicants' financial need, academic achievement, community involvement and school activities. The Committee also makes an annual award to the Belmont Public Schools. Funding is provided by Belmont Taxpayer's contributions to the voluntary Education and Scholarship check-offs on Belmont's real estate, personal property and motor vehicle excise tax bills.

The 2008 Town of Belmont Scholarship was awarded to the following recipients totaling \$9,600 (FY09)

Recipient	College/University	Amount
Yasaman Abdolmohammadi	Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL	\$600.00
Kelly Anderson	Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada	600.00
Courtney Carey	Nichols College, Dudley, MA	600.00
Lucy Flynn	Boston University, Boston, MA	600.00
Michelle Hayes	Tufts University, Medford, MA	600.00
Si Eun Lee	Bennington College, Bennington, VT	600.00
Caitlin Marchetta	University of CT, Storrs, CT	600.00
Kristin Papa	Tufts University, Medford, MA	600.00
Aubrey Robertson	Mass College of Liberal Arts, North Adams, MA	600.00
Rebecca Shaughnessy	University of MA, Amherst, MA	600.00
Jennifer Sliney	Salve Regina University, Newport, RI	600.00
Gabriel Stalberg	Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH	600.00
Nicholas Urciuolo	Bryant University, Smithfield, RI	600.00
Anna Weick	Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA	600.00
John Wright	George Washington University, Washington, DC	600.00
Petey Yang	Brandeis University, Waltham, MA	600.00

Activity Report for the Town of Belmont Scholarship Check-Off Fund for Fiscal Year 2008

Opening Balance 7/1/07	\$ 287,708.16
Plus Tax Check-Off Donations	1,232.70
Plus Income Earned	12,773.59
Less Scholarship (FY07) December 2008	(10,200.00)
Less Helen Finnick Book Award	(200.00)
Less Dollar for Scholars Expenses	(1,663.05)
Closing Balance 6/30/2008	\$ 289,651.40

In Fiscal Year 2008, one hundred and eleven residents contributed to the Town of Belmont Scholarship Check-Off Program.

Activity Report for the Town of Belmont Education Check-Off Fund for Fiscal Year 2008

Opening Balance 7/1/07.....	\$ 72,396.10
Plus Tax Check-Off Donations	2,721.42
Plus Income Earned.....	3,152.71
Less Award to School (FY07) August 2007.....	<u>(3,200.00)</u>
Closing Balance 6/30/2008	\$ 75,070.23

In Fiscal Year 2008, one hundred and twenty-three residents contributed to the Town of Belmont Education Check-Off Program.

Respectfully submitted,
Floyd S. Carman, Town Treasurer

PERMANENT AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Permanent Audit Committee was established pursuant to Article 16 of the Town's General By-Laws. The Committee is charged with assisting the Selectmen in the selection of an independent auditor to perform an audit of the Town's financial statements, monitoring the work of the auditor, and participating in a review and discussion of the audit's results and findings.

Town By-Laws require that an audit be carried out not less than triennially. The Town, however, undertakes an annual audit to comply with federal regulations which call for an annual audit for recipients of certain federal funds. Additionally, it is essential that audits be completed in a timely fashion in order to ensure the maintenance of the Town's AAA credit rating, which is the highest rating category of Moody's Investors Service. The Town's credit rating has resulted in favorable rates and lower borrowing costs. The Aaa rating was last affirmed on June 1, 2007. The Town is one of twelve in Massachusetts that carry he Moody's Aaa rating at the present time.

The Town's general financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008 were audited by Powers & Sullivan CPAs. This will be the fifth year that the Town has been required to be in full compliance with the reporting requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB No. 34), including comprehensive reporting of all town-owned fixed assets. The report complies with Governmental Accounting, Auditing and Reporting Standards. The final report also stated that the Town was in compliance with the requirements of the Federal Single Audit Act of 1984. Copies of these financial statements are included and may be obtained from the Town Accountant and they are posted on the Town Treasurer's web site.

The fiscal year 2008 audit was the first year of our second three-year contract with Powers & Sullivan CPAs. This new three year contract was approved by the Committee. The Committee expresses its sincere appreciation to Town Accountant Barbara Hagg for her work and to Town Treasurer Floyd Carman who also serves as Clerk of the Committee. The Committee also thanks Selectman Angelo Firenze for his participation on this Committee.

The financial statements of the Belmont Contributory Retirement System for the year ending December 31, 2007 were audited by Powers & Sullivan CPA's. Copies of these financial statements may be obtained from the Town Accountant, and they are posted on the Town Treasurer's web site.

The Municipal Light Department's financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2007 were audited by Goulet, Salvio & Associates, PC. The financial statements for December 31, 2007 may be obtained from the Municipal Light Department and they are posted on the Light Department's web site. The Light Department has its own credit rating established with Standard & Poor's. The AA- (meaning Stable) rating was last affirmed on December 10, 2007. The committee wishes to thank Manager/CEO Timothy J. Richardson, Customer Service/Finance Director Kristina Frizzell and Municipal Light Board Advisory Committee Member Robert Forrester for all of their participation.

Respectfully submitted,
Ernest E. Fay, Chairman

TOWN OF BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS

REPORT ON EXAMINATION OF BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2008

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TOWN OF BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS

**REPORT ON EXAMINATION OF
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008



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Independent Auditors' Report

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen
Town of Belmont, Massachusetts

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Belmont, Massachusetts, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008 (except for the Belmont Contributory Retirement System and Municipal Light Enterprise which are as of December 31, 2007), which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Belmont, Massachusetts' management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the Belmont Municipal Light Department, a major enterprise fund, which represents 40% and 59%, respectively, of the assets and revenues of the business-type activities. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Belmont Municipal Light Department, is based solely on the report of the other auditors.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall basic financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Belmont, Massachusetts, as of June 30, 2008 (except for the Belmont Contributory Retirement System and Municipal Light Enterprise which are as of December 31, 2007) and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 28, 2008, on our consideration of the Town of Belmont, Massachusetts' internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Management's discussion and analysis, located on the following pages, and schedule of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance – general fund – budgetary basis, located after the notes to the basic financial statements, are not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.


October 28, 2008

Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of the Town of Belmont, we offer readers of the Town's basic financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008.

The Town provides general government services for the territory within its boundaries, including police and fire protection, public education, water and sewer maintenance, trash disposal, electricity transmission and parks and recreational facilities.

Financial Highlights

- The Town's assets exceeded its liabilities at the close of fiscal 2008 by \$133.7 million.
- The Town's total net assets increased by \$9.2 million.
- At the end of fiscal 2008, undesignated fund balance for the general fund was \$10.5 million or 13% of total general fund expenditures.
- The Town realized a \$615,000 gain on the sale of the Harvard Lawn fire station during fiscal 2008.
- The Town established an Other Post Employment Benefits Trust Fund (OPEB) to account for funds set aside to help offset future post-retirement benefits for retirees. \$500,000 was transferred to the fund during fiscal year 2008. See note 12 in the financial statements for further details.
- The Town established an internal service fund in fiscal year 2008 to account for the Town's health insurance activities. At year end the fund balance was over \$1.5 million after taking into consideration \$1.2 million of "incurred but not reported" liability. The Town at the same time negotiated higher percentage of cost sharing from Town employees toward premiums and plan design changes that will help mitigate future costs.

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Overview of the Financial Statements

Our discussion and analysis of the Town is intended to serve as an introduction to the Town of Belmont's basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This analysis also contains other required supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-wide financial statements. The *government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Town's finances, in a manner similar to private-sector business.

The *statement of net assets* presents information on all of the Town's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net assets*. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Town is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the Town's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, *regardless of the timing of related cash flows*. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused sick and vacation time).

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the Town that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (*governmental activities*) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (*business-type activities*). The governmental activities of the Town include general administration, public safety, education, public works, human

services, and cultural development. The business-type activities of the Town include water and sewer systems and electricity transmission activities.

The government-wide financial statements include not only the Town of Belmont itself (known as the *primary government*), but also a legally separated public employee retirement system for which the Town of Belmont is financially accountable. Financial information for this *component unit* is reported separately within the fiduciary fund statements.

Fund financial statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Town can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund statements focus on *near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources*, as well as on *balances of spendable resources* available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the General Fund, the Reserve for Appropriation Fund, which are the Town's major governmental funds. Data from the other nonmajor governmental funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation.

The Town of Belmont adopts an annual appropriated budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison schedule has been provided as Required Supplementary Information for the general fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

Proprietary funds. Enterprise funds are used to report the same functions presented as *business-type activities* in the government-wide financial statements. The Town uses enterprise funds to account for its water and sewer systems and electricity transmission activities.

Proprietary funds provide the same type of information as the government-wide financial statements, only in more detail. The proprietary fund financial statements provide separate information for the water and sewer systems, the electricity transmission activities, and the internal service fund all of which are considered to be major funds of the Town.

Fiduciary funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statement because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Town's own programs.

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net assets and changes in net assets. The fiduciary fund category is split into two classifications: a pension trust fund and agency funds. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal

liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. The Town's agency fund accounts for primarily police off-duty details and school activity funds.

The Town is the trustee, or fiduciary, for its employees' pension plan. The Town's fiduciary activities are reported in a separate statement of fiduciary net assets and a statement of changes in fiduciary net assets. These activities are excluded from the Town's government-wide financial statements because the Town cannot use these assets to finance its operations.

The Town established an Other Post Employment Benefits trust fund (OPEB) to account for funds set aside to help offset future post-retirement benefits for retirees. The Town contributed \$500,000 to the fund during fiscal year 2008. These activities are excluded from the Town's government-wide financial statements because the Town cannot use these assets to finance its operations.

Notes to the basic financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Government-wide Financial Analysis

Governmental Activities

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. As noted below, assets exceeded liabilities by approximately \$102.2 million at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

Governmental Financial Highlights

	FY2008	FY2007
	Governmental	Governmental
	Activities	Activities
Assets:		
Current assets.....	\$ 38,355,690	\$ 37,531,928
Noncurrent assets (excluding capital).....	2,511,602	3,292,954
Capital assets.....	102,258,398	100,490,310
Total assets.....	<u>143,125,690</u>	<u>141,315,190</u>
Liabilities:		
Current liabilities (excluding debt).....	5,663,952	7,115,809
Noncurrent liabilities (excluding debt).....	5,773,990	5,800,645
Current debt.....	2,973,170	3,044,140
Noncurrent debt.....	26,499,796	29,652,996
Total liabilities.....	<u>40,910,908</u>	<u>45,413,590</u>
Net Assets:		
Capital assets net of related debt.....	81,013,305	75,052,663
Restricted.....	2,948,587	2,442,969
Unrestricted.....	18,252,890	18,405,948
Total net assets.....	<u>\$ 102,214,782</u>	<u>\$ 95,901,600</u>

A significant portion of the Town's net assets, \$81 million (79%), reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery, and equipment), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The Town uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town's investment in its capital assets is reported net of its related

debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

An additional portion of the Town's net assets, \$2.9 million (3%), represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of *unrestricted net assets*, \$18.3 million (18%), may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town is able to report positive balances of net assets for its governmental type activities.

The governmental activities net assets increased by \$6.3 million during the current fiscal year. This is due primarily to the establishment of the health insurance internal service fund which had a surplus of \$1.5 million, a gain on the sale of the Harvard Lawn fire station of \$615,000, and current year capital additions funded through current revenues exceeding depreciation by \$2.0 million. Also contributing was better than anticipated revenue collections of \$1 million, and expenditures coming in \$2.0 million under budget.

Key elements of change in net assets are as follows:

	FY2008 Governmental Activities	FY2007 Governmental Activities
Program revenues:		
Charges for services.....	\$ 4,543,713	\$ 4,309,146
Operating grants and contributions.....	14,857,030	15,156,564
Capital grants and contributions.....	1,587,084	1,232,437
General Revenues:		
Real estate and personal property taxes.....	59,566,113	58,336,494
Tax liens.....	301,852	67,688
Motor vehicle and other excise taxes.....	2,705,942	2,621,556
Nonrestricted grants.....	2,949,003	2,961,022
Penalties and interest on taxes.....	175,857	190,029
Unrestricted investment income.....	1,698,179	1,923,798
Gain/(loss) on sale of capital assets.....	640,613	1,680,447
Total revenues.....	89,025,386	88,479,181
Expenses:		
General government.....	5,400,489	4,974,519
Public safety.....	13,930,358	13,332,310
Education.....	50,236,749	50,177,345
Public works.....	8,933,120	8,389,905
Human services.....	1,271,900	1,147,835
Culture and recreation.....	2,494,634	2,637,456
Interest.....	1,364,954	1,556,800
Total expenses.....	83,632,204	82,216,170
Transfers.....	920,000	980,000
Change in net assets.....	\$ 6,313,182	\$ 7,243,011

A statewide tax limitation statute known as "Proposition 2-1/2" limits the property tax levy to an amount equal to 2-1/2% of the value of all taxable property in the Town. A secondary limitation is that no levy in a fiscal year may exceed the preceding year's allowable tax levy by more than 2-1/2%, plus taxes levied on certain property newly

added to the tax rolls. Certain Proposition 2-1/2% taxing limitations can be overridden by Town-wide referendum vote. The Town has taken advantage of this override capability to increase operating budgets and so-called "debt exclusions" that are not subject to the Proposition 2-1/2% limitations.

The Town collects 99% of its property tax billings in the year billed. Property taxes increased \$2.5 million in fiscal 2008. \$1.36 million of this increase was the allowable increase under Proposition 2 1/2. \$871 thousand of this increase is the product of the certified new growth of the Town. There was an increase in the debt exclusion in fiscal 2008 of \$226 thousand.

Business-type activities

Combined business-type activities net assets increased by \$2.9 million in the current year. The following table identifies key elements of the enterprise operations:

	FY2008 Business-type Activities	FY2007 Business-type Activities
Assets:		
Current assets.....	\$ 17,925,105	\$ 15,640,203
Capital assets.....	21,921,266	19,313,264
Total assets.....	39,846,371	34,953,467
Liabilities:		
Current liabilities (excluding debt).....	1,262,630	1,480,651
Noncurrent liabilities (excluding debt).....	2,924,729	1,242,602
Current debt.....	540,150	402,750
Noncurrent debt.....	3,600,100	3,186,250
Total liabilities.....	8,327,609	6,312,253
Net Assets:		
Capital assets net of related debt.....	17,781,016	15,724,264
Restricted.....	1,876,000	1,616,000
Unrestricted.....	11,861,746	11,300,950
Total net assets.....	31,518,762	28,641,214
Program revenues:		
Charges for services.....	26,870,223	23,339,776
General Revenues:		
Unrestricted investment income.....	232,494	193,865
Total revenues.....	27,102,717	23,533,641
Expenses:		
Water.....	3,508,959	3,402,053
Sewer.....	5,311,309	4,889,433
Light.....	14,484,901	14,276,181
Total expenses.....	23,305,169	22,567,667
Transfers.....	(920,000)	(980,000)
Change in net assets.....	\$ 2,877,548	\$ (14,026)

Financial Analysis of the Town's Governmental Funds

As noted earlier, the Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental funds. The focus of the Town's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. In particular, *unreserved fund balance* may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$28.4 million. Of this amount \$11.0 million relates to the general fund, \$8.5 million relates to receipts reserved for appropriation, and \$8.9 million for nonmajor governmental funds. Overall fund balance increased by \$1.2 million in fiscal 2008. This was primarily due to \$647 thousand realized from the sale of capital assets and the timing of federal and state grant revenues received in the current year in which the expenditures were made in the prior year.

The general fund is the chief operating fund. At the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved fund balance of the general fund was \$10.5 million, while total fund balance was \$11.0 million. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unreserved fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. Unreserved fund balance represents 13.1% of total general fund expenditures, while total fund balance represents 13.7% of that same amount. During fiscal year 2008, the fund balance of the general fund decreased by approximately \$2.3 million. The decrease was due to approximately \$4.3 million in Town and School capital projects being funded by current year appropriations, partially offset by strong revenue collections.

The receipts reserved for appropriation had an ending fund balance of approximately \$8.5 million, an increase of approximately \$1.1 million over the prior year. The increase is primarily due to \$125 thousand in the sales of cemetery lots and proceeds of \$615 thousand from the sale of the Harvard Lawn Fire Station.

The Town established an internal service fund in fiscal year 2008 to account for the Town's health insurance activities. This fund had an ending fund balance of approximately \$1.5 million. Contributions to the fund exceeded claim payments by approximately \$1.4 million and the fund earned approximately \$78 thousand in investment earnings.

Financial Analysis of Proprietary Funds

The Water, Sewer and Light activities funds maintained positive results of operations and demonstrated the ability to recover all costs from rates.

The net assets of the water, sewer and electric light fund increased \$2.9 million in fiscal 2008. This performance was primarily the result of an increase in water and sewer rates of 5% and 4%, respectively. Also fiscal year 2008 saw higher collection rates of outstanding water and sewer liens outstanding. The light department experienced a 2% increase in sales of kilowatt hours which, combined with level expenses, contributed to an overall increase.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The \$815,000 increase between the original budget and the final amended budget was mainly due to a voted transfer in the amount of \$500,000 to fund the newly created other post-employment benefits trust fund, and an approximate \$300,000 increase in the snow and ice budget. Of the \$2.0 million in under budget expenditures \$468,000 has been carried over to FY09.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital Asset Administration

In conjunction with the operating budget, the Town annually prepares a capital budget for the upcoming fiscal year and a five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that is used as a guide for future capital expenditures.

The Town annually budgets over \$2.0 million a year from current-year appropriations for capital projects.

Debt Administration

Outstanding governmental long-term debt, as of June 30, 2008, totaled \$29.5 million of which \$7.6 million relates to various School construction projects, \$9.6 million relates to the Town Hall renovation project and \$9.9 million relates to the Fire Station construction, leaving a balance of \$2.4 million for other CIP projects.

The enterprise funds have \$1.1 million in water debt, \$2.4 million in sewer debt and \$640 thousand in light debt, all of which are fully supported by the rates.

The Town has a "AAA" rating from Moody's for general obligation debt.

Please refer to notes 4, 7, and 8 for further discussion of the major capital and debt activity.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget

The Town continues to experience growth in residential renovation and development. In fiscal year 2008, 825 building permits were issued, resulting in \$38.4 million in value. This is an increase in the 2007 value levels, which generated 790 permits resulting in \$34 million in value. This activity has produced new growth tax revenue, which is exempt from the limitation imposed by Proposition 2 1/2. For fiscal year 2008, the Town realized \$796 thousand in new taxes from this source.

The unemployment rate for Belmont as of September 2008 was 3.8% compared to the state figure of 5.3% and the nationwide figure of 6.0%. The Town collected 99.2% of all tax billings by year end.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town of Belmont's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Finance Department, Town Hall, 19 Moore Street, Belmont, MA 02478.

Basic Financial Statements

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STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
JUNE 30, 2008

	Primary Government		
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
ASSETS			
CURRENT:			
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 28,129,597	\$ 7,847,003	\$ 36,976,590
Investments.....	5,654,743	-	5,654,743
Receivables, net of allowance for uncollectibles.....	598,133	-	598,133
Real estate and personal property taxes.....	840,181	-	840,181
Tax liens.....	544,751	-	544,751
Motor vehicle excise taxes.....	163,611	-	163,611
User fees.....	3,484,215	-	3,484,215
Debt premium and other.....	467,672	-	467,672
Intergovernmental.....	1,548,600	-	1,548,600
Tax foreclosures.....	540,400	-	540,400
Inventory.....	64,183	448,175	512,358
Prepaid expenses.....	501,098	-	501,098
Purchased power advanced deposits.....	1,989,406	-	1,989,406
Unamortized bond issue costs.....	19,852	-	19,852
NONCURRENT:			
Restricted cash and cash equivalents.....	-	3,050,457	3,050,457
Receivables, net of allowance for uncollectibles:			
Intergovernmental.....	2,324,000	-	2,324,000
Other assets.....	18,196	-	18,196
Unamortized bond issue costs.....	187,602	-	187,602
Capital assets, net of depreciation.....	17,173,481	12,467	17,185,948
Capital assets, depreciable.....	85,684,917	21,908,779	107,593,696
TOTAL ASSETS.....	143,125,650	39,846,371	182,972,021
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT:			
Warrants payable.....	1,588,050	1,156,728	3,154,818
Accrued liabilities.....	-	80,654	80,654
Health claims payable.....	1,200,000	-	1,200,000
Tax refunds payable.....	132,000	-	132,000
Accrued interest.....	386,743	4,321	391,064
Other liabilities.....	403,264	2,732,834	3,136,098
Capital lease obligations.....	149,735	-	149,735
Compensated absences.....	22,339	10,627	32,966
Unamortized premium on bonds payable.....	2,873,170	540,150	3,413,320
Bonds and notes payable.....	-	-	-
NONCURRENT:			
Capital lease obligations.....	1,300,802	-	1,300,802
Landfill closure.....	4,160,000	-	4,160,000
Compensated absences.....	1,348,588	201,885	1,550,473
Unamortized premium on bonds payable.....	265,402	-	265,402
Bonds and notes payable.....	26,699,796	3,620,100	30,319,896
TOTAL LIABILITIES.....	40,910,908	8,327,609	49,238,517
NET ASSETS			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt.....	81,013,325	17,781,016	98,794,321
Restricted for:			
Debt service.....	-	1,876,000	1,876,000
Permanent funds.....	425,656	-	425,656
Expendable.....	1,135,300	-	1,135,300
Nonexpendable.....	1,387,631	-	1,387,631
Other purposes.....	16,220,690	11,861,146	28,081,836
Unrestricted.....	102,214,762	31,518,762	133,733,544
TOTAL NET ASSETS.....	\$ 102,214,762	\$ 31,518,762	\$ 133,733,544

See notes to basic financial statements.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	
Functions/Programs				
Primary Government:				
Governmental Activities:				
General government.....	\$ 5,400,489	\$ 607,440	\$ 281,977	\$ (4,510,494)
Public safety.....	13,630,358	548,563	372,603	(13,009,192)
Education.....	50,236,749	1,589,371	13,916,691	(34,719,887)
Public works.....	8,933,120	788,044	60,365	(7,310,049)
Human services.....	1,271,900	320,086	145,462	(770,509)
Culture and recreation.....	2,494,634	709,609	75,732	(959,293)
Interest.....	1,354,954	-	-	(1,354,954)
Total Governmental Activities.....	83,632,204	4,543,713	14,857,030	(62,844,377)
Business-Type Activities:				
Water.....	3,508,959	4,589,929	-	1,080,970
Sewer.....	5,311,309	6,315,620	-	1,004,311
Light.....	14,484,901	15,964,874	-	1,479,773
Total Business-Type Activities.....	23,305,169	26,870,223	-	3,565,054
Total Primary Government.....	\$ 106,937,373	\$ 31,413,936	\$ 14,857,030	\$ (59,079,323)

See notes to basic financial statements.

(Continued)

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (Continued)

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

	Primary Government		
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
Changes in net assets:			
Net (expense) revenue from previous page.....	\$ (62,644,377)	\$ 3,565,054	\$ (59,079,323)
General revenues:			
Real estate and personal property taxes, net of tax refunds payable.....	59,566,113	-	59,566,113
Tax liens.....	301,852	-	301,852
Motor vehicle and other excise taxes.....	2,705,942	-	2,705,942
Penalties and interest on taxes.....	175,857	-	175,857
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs.....	2,949,003	-	2,949,003
Unrestricted investment income.....	1,696,179	232,494	1,930,673
Gain on sale of capital assets.....	640,613	-	640,613
Transfers, net.....	920,000	(920,000)	-
Total general revenues and transfers.....	68,957,559	(687,506)	68,270,053
Change in net assets.....	6,313,162	2,877,548	9,190,730
Net Assets:			
Beginning of year.....	95,901,800	28,641,214	124,542,814
End of year.....	102,214,762	31,518,762	133,733,544

(Concluded)

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
BALANCE SHEET

JUNE 30, 2008

ASSETS	General	Reserved for Appropriation	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 13,937,162	\$ 5,540,448	\$ 6,963,793	\$ 26,441,403
Investments.....	-	2,951,991	2,102,762	5,054,743
Receivables, net of uncollectibles:				
Real estate and personal property taxes.....	509,133	-	-	509,133
Real estate tax delinquents.....	840,161	-	-	840,161
Motor vehicle excise taxes.....	163,611	-	-	163,611
Departmental and other.....	458,842	-	8,630	467,472
Intergovernmental.....	2,789,000	-	1,093,600	3,882,600
Tax foreclosures.....	540,420	-	-	540,420
TOTAL ASSETS.....	\$ 19,236,349	\$ 8,492,429	\$ 10,158,985	\$ 37,889,763
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES				
LIABILITIES:				
Warrants payable.....	\$ 1,618,308	\$ -	\$ 379,782	\$ 1,998,090
Tax refunds payable.....	132,000	-	-	132,000
Other liabilities.....	403,264	-	-	403,264
Deferred revenues.....	6,054,346	-	818,302	6,862,648
TOTAL LIABILITIES.....	\$ 8,217,918	\$ -	\$ 1,198,084	\$ 9,416,002
FUND BALANCES:				
Reserved for:				
Encumbrances and continuing appropriations.....	467,782	-	-	467,782
Perpetual permanent funds.....	-	-	1,135,300	1,135,300
Unreserved:				
Designated for subsequent year's expenditures.....	3,556,359	-	-	3,556,359
Designated for capital endowment.....	-	2,697,900	-	2,697,900
Undesignated, reported in:				
General fund.....	6,996,280	-	-	6,996,280
Special revenue funds.....	-	5,494,529	1,961,072	7,455,601
Capital projects funds.....	-	-	5,438,873	5,438,873
Permanent funds.....	-	-	425,656	425,656
TOTAL FUND BALANCES.....	\$ 11,020,431	\$ 8,492,429	\$ 8,960,901	\$ 28,473,761
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES.....	\$ 19,236,349	\$ 8,492,429	\$ 10,158,985	\$ 37,889,763

See notes to basic financial statements.

RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
TOTAL FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

Total governmental fund balances.....	\$ 28,473,761
Capital assets (net) used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.....	102,258,388
Accounts receivable are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds.....	6,882,648
Internal service funds are used by management to account for retirees' health insurance and workers' compensation activities.....	1,506,382
The assets and liabilities of the internal service funds are included in the governmental activities in the statement of net assets.....	
Adjustment to reflect the consolidation of internal service fund activities related to enterprise funds.....	(386,743)
In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding long-term debt, whereas in governmental funds interest is not reported until due.....	64,183
Inventory is capitalized in the Statement of Activities.....	
Bond issue costs are capitalized in the Statement of Activities.....	206,954
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.....	(29,472,866)
Bonds and notes payable.....	(1,450,538)
Capital lease obligations.....	(4,160,000)
Landfill closure.....	(287,741)
Unamortized premium on bonds payable.....	(1,419,566)
Compensated absences.....	
Net effect of reporting long-term liabilities.....	(36,790,811)
Net assets of governmental activities.....	\$ 102,274,782

See notes to basic financial statements.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

REVENUES:	General	Reserved for Appropriation	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Real estate and personal property taxes, net of tax refunds.....	\$ 59,514,301	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59,514,301
Tax liens.....	206,429	-	-	206,429
Motor vehicle and other excise taxes.....	2,777,170	-	-	2,777,170
Charges for services.....	1,554,421	-	-	1,554,421
Penalties and interest on taxes.....	175,857	-	-	175,857
Licenses and permits.....	746,872	-	-	746,872
Fines and forfeitures.....	464,973	-	-	464,973
Intergovernmental.....	15,199,366	-	-	15,199,366
Departmental and other.....	-	339,447	4,277,380	4,616,827
Contributions.....	-	-	993,780	993,780
Investment income.....	1,375,292	183,701	60,676	1,619,669
TOTAL REVENUES.....	82,014,081	523,148	7,108,756	89,645,985
EXPENDITURES:				
Current				
General government.....	2,976,190	-	961,469	3,937,659
Public safety.....	10,032,223	-	507,557	10,539,780
Education.....	44,540,126	-	5,007,120	49,547,246
Public works.....	7,486,441	-	2,212,405	9,698,846
Human services.....	851,174	-	139,800	990,974
Culture and recreation.....	2,327,021	-	827,179	3,154,200
Pension benefits.....	3,924,655	-	-	3,924,655
Employee benefits.....	2,281,377	-	-	2,281,377
State and county charges.....	1,498,205	-	-	1,498,205
Debt service:				
Principal.....	2,984,170	-	-	2,984,170
Interest.....	1,409,149	-	-	1,409,149
TOTAL EXPENDITURES.....	80,310,741	-	9,655,530	89,966,271
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES.....	1,703,340	523,148	(2,546,774)	(320,286)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
Sale of capital assets.....	-	647,046	-	647,046
Transfers in.....	1,269,086	23,533	5,194,025	6,486,634
Transfers out.....	(6,252,283)	(155,000)	(217,609)	(6,624,892)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES).....	(3,983,197)	515,559	4,976,416	1,508,788
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES.....	(2,279,857)	1,038,717	2,429,642	1,188,502
FUND BALANCES AT BEGINNING OF YEAR.....	13,300,288	7,453,712	6,331,259	27,285,259
FUND BALANCES AT END OF YEAR.....	11,020,431	8,492,429	8,960,901	28,473,761

See notes to basic financial statements.

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds.....	\$ 1,188,502
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.	5,505,552
Capital outlay.....	(3,491,020)
Depreciation expense.....	2,014,520
Net effect of reporting capital assets.....	(6,472)
In the Statement of Activities, only the gain on the sale of capital assets is reported, whereas in the governmental funds the entire proceeds of the sale are reported as financial resources. As a result, the change in net assets differs from the change in fund balance by the cost of the capital assets sold.	10,072
Governmental funds report inventories as expenditures. However in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is capitalized and expensed when depleted.....	(1,371,567)
Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are fully deferred in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances. Therefore, the recognition of revenue for various types of accounts receivable (i.e., real estate and personal property, motor vehicle excise, etc.) differ between the two statements. This amount represents the net change in deferred revenue.....	(19,352)
The issuance of long-term debt (e.g., bonds and leases) provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long- term debt consumes the financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net assets. Also, governmental funds report the effect of premiums, discounts, and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the Statement of Activities.	22,339
Amortization of issuance costs.....	144,357
Capital lease financing.....	2,994,170
Debt service principal payments.....	3,131,214
Net effect of reporting long-term debt.....	(159,599)
Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds.	(100,718)
Net change in compensated absences accrual.....	41,209
Net change in accrued interest on long-term debt.....	(100,000)
Net change in landfill closure accrual.....	1,596,382
Net effect of recording long-term liabilities and amortizing deferred issues.....	6,313,102
Internal services funds are used by management to account for health insurance and workers' compensation activities.	-
The net activity of internal service funds is reported with Governmental Activities.....	-
Change in net assets of governmental activities.....	\$ 5,313,102

See notes to basic financial statements.

PROPRIETARY FUNDS
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

JUNE 30, 2008

	Business-Type Activities - Enterprise Funds			Governmental Activities - Internal Service Funds
	Water	Sewer	Light (as of December 31, 2007)	
ASSETS				
CURRENT:				
Cash and cash equivalents.....	4,319,400	3,131,225	396,376	7,847,003
Receivables, net of allowance for uncollectibles.....				2,888,184
Tax liens.....	21,624	523,127	-	544,751
User fees.....	1,007,131	1,388,677	-	3,494,215
Inventory.....	146,394	285,529	-	448,175
Other assets.....	-	-	501,098	18,168
Prepaid expenses.....	-	-	-	-
Purchased power advanced deposits.....	-	1,899,405	-	1,899,405
Total current assets.....	5,494,551	4,759,021	4,571,076	14,834,648
NONCURRENT:				
Restricted cash and cash equivalents.....	-	-	3,980,457	-
Capital assets, non-depreciable.....	3,138	9,349	-	12,487
Capital assets, depreciable.....	5,300,985	8,375,916	8,202,285	21,958,779
Total noncurrent assets.....	5,303,733	8,375,916	11,982,074	25,011,723
TOTAL ASSETS.....	10,808,284	13,144,937	15,973,150	39,846,371
LIABILITIES				
CURRENT:				
Warrants payable.....	247,89	123,233	788,306	1,156,728
Accrued liabilities.....	-	-	90,954	90,954
Health claims payable.....	-	4,321	-	1,200,000
Accrued interest.....	-	-	-	4,321
Compensated absences.....	2,258	2,398	5,976	10,627
Bonds and notes payable.....	136,600	143,750	260,000	540,150
Total current liabilities.....	386,845	273,689	1,143,236	1,802,789
NONCURRENT:				
Compensated absences.....	42,655	45,489	113,541	201,855
Other liabilities.....	-	-	2,723,834	2,723,834
Bonds and notes payable.....	967,600	2,252,500	380,000	3,600,100
Total noncurrent liabilities.....	1,010,455	2,297,669	3,216,375	6,924,629
TOTAL LIABILITIES.....	1,396,300	2,571,698	4,359,611	8,727,629
NET ASSETS				
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt.....	4,226,699	5,979,666	7,562,266	17,768,529
Residual for:				
Debt service.....	-	-	1,876,000	1,876,000
Unsubsidized.....	5,205,389	4,593,573	2,075,271	11,874,233
TOTAL NET ASSETS.....	9,431,984	10,573,239	11,513,539	31,518,762

See notes to basic financial statements.

PROPRIETARY FUNDS
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Funds			Total	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Funds
	Water	Sewer	Light (ie of December 31, 2007)		
OPERATING REVENUES:					
Employee contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,784,628
Employer contributions	4,584,877	6,315,620	15,684,474	26,584,971	9,285,478
Charges for services	5,652	-	134,555	139,847	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	4,589,529	6,315,620	15,819,029	26,724,178	12,031,102
OPERATING EXPENSES:					
Cost of services and administration	3,288,556	4,687,283	13,254,885	21,230,724	-
Depreciation	220,403	234,584	1,154,655	1,609,642	-
Employee benefits	-	-	-	-	10,851,468
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	3,508,959	4,921,867	14,409,540	22,840,366	10,851,468
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	1,080,570	1,113,803	1,189,228	3,384,122	1,389,614
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES):					
Investment income	67,506	48,847	118,341	222,494	78,510
Interest expense	-	(108,642)	(35,061)	(144,703)	-
Other revenues	-	-	345,605	345,605	-
TOTAL NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES), NET	67,506	(60,995)	426,885	433,396	78,510
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE OPERATING TRANSFERS	1,148,076	1,052,808	1,586,114	3,797,548	1,468,124
TRANSFERS:					
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	58,259
Transfers out	(150,000)	(120,000)	(650,000)	(920,000)	-
TOTAL OPERATING TRANSFERS	(150,000)	(120,000)	(650,000)	(920,000)	58,259
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	998,076	932,808	946,114	2,877,548	1,526,383
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	8,433,538	9,640,281	10,287,425	28,641,214	-
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	9,431,614	10,573,089	11,233,539	31,518,762	1,526,383

See notes to basic financial statements.

PROPRIETARY FUNDS
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

	Business-type Activities - Enterprise Funds			Total	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Funds
	Water	Sewer	Light (ie of December 31, 2007)		
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:					
Receipts from customers and users	\$ 4,643,953	\$ 6,382,220	\$ 15,283,544	\$ 26,310,337	\$ 12,031,102
Receipts from refund service providers	-	-	345,865	345,865	-
Claims and judgments	(2,202,580)	(5,817,891)	(2,142,893)	(10,163,364)	-
Payments to vendors	(765,511)	(506,176)	(2,615,844)	(3,887,531)	-
Payments for refund services used	-	-	-	-	(8,473,662)
NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	1,574,452	1,060,005	875,648	3,535,105	2,557,416
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:					
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	58,259
Transfers out	(150,000)	(120,000)	(650,000)	(920,000)	-
NET CASH FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(150,000)	(120,000)	(650,000)	(920,000)	58,259
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:					
Proceeds from the issuance of bonds and notes	714,000	(1,283,650)	300,000	(269,650)	1,014,000
Acquisition and construction of capital assets	(840,000)	(1,283,650)	(2,208,250)	(4,331,900)	-
Proceeds from the sale of investments	(83,000)	(200,000)	(1,140,000)	(1,423,000)	-
Interest expense	-	(129,000)	(24,600)	(153,600)	-
NET CASH FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(989,000)	(1,312,650)	(2,192,850)	(3,894,500)	-
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:					
Rate reduction reserve	-	-	1,844,000	1,844,000	-
Investment income	67,506	48,847	118,341	222,494	78,510
Investment income	-	-	115,341	115,341	-
NET CASH FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	67,506	48,847	1,207,682	1,324,035	78,510
NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	1,194,958	(202,845)	(607,202)	384,911	2,666,194
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	3,124,533	3,829,786	4,159,259	11,113,578	-
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR	4,319,491	3,626,941	3,552,057	11,498,489	2,666,194
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:					
Operating income (loss)	\$ 1,080,570	\$ 1,113,803	\$ 1,189,228	\$ 3,384,122	\$ 1,389,614
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash from operating activities	220,403	234,584	1,154,655	1,609,642	-
Depreciation	67,506	48,847	118,341	222,494	78,510
Change in assets and liabilities:					
Accounts payable	4,862	6,516	(183,015)	(171,637)	(18,198)
Due from other funds	1,101	(7,658)	-	(6,557)	-
Inventory	-	-	57,454	57,454	50,897
Prepaid expenses	-	-	(1,832)	(1,832)	(1,832)
Purchased power advance deposits	-	-	(1,200,000)	(1,200,000)	-
Accounts payable	220,204	(383,968)	(104,350)	(208,114)	-
Accounts receivable	-	-	1,140,000	1,140,000	-
Other receivables	-	-	5,400	5,400	-
Accrued compensated absences	(1,850)	5,531	-	3,681	1,200,000
Transfers in	480,402	(129,880)	(693,991)	(343,469)	1,814,852
NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	1,574,452	1,060,005	875,648	3,535,105	2,557,416

See notes to basic financial statements.

FIDUCIARY FUNDS
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS
JUNE 30, 2008

	Pension Trust Fund (as of December 31, 2007)	Other Postemployment Benefit Trust	Private Purpose Trust Funds	Agency Funds
ASSETS				
CURRENT:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 525,222	\$ 505,391	\$ 647,234	\$ 286,188
Investments	62,148,686	-	499,868	-
Interest and dividends	1,430	-	-	-
Due from general fund	2,460,601	-	-	124,110
TOTAL ASSETS	65,135,941	505,391	1,146,102	410,298
LIABILITIES				
Warrants payable	51,672	-	-	26,689
Liabilities due depositors	-	-	-	259,499
Deferred revenue	-	-	-	124,110
TOTAL LIABILITIES	51,672	-	-	410,298
NET ASSETS Held in trust for retirement, OPEB benefits, and other purposes	\$ 65,084,269	\$ 505,391	\$ 1,146,102	\$ -

See notes to basic financial statements.

FIDUCIARY FUNDS
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

	Pension Trust Fund (as of December 31, 2007)	Other Postemployment Benefit Trust	Private Purpose Trust Funds
ADDITIONS:			
Contributions:			
Employer	\$ 4,761,090	\$ 500,000	\$ -
Employee	1,784,939	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	35,337
Total contributions	6,546,029	500,000	35,337
Net investment income (loss):			
Net change in fair value of investments	4,146,291	-	-
Interest	1,640,782	5,391	48,221
Total investment income (loss)	5,987,073	5,391	48,221
Less: Investment expense	(394,811)	-	-
Net investment income (loss)	5,592,262	5,391	48,221
Intergovernmental	210,648	-	-
Transfers from other systems	280,210	-	-
TOTAL ADDITIONS	12,629,149	505,391	84,558
DEDUCTIONS:			
Administration	155,063	-	-
Transfers to other systems	280,654	-	-
Retirement benefits and refunds	8,006,366	-	-
Educational scholarships	-	-	28,435
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	8,442,103	-	28,435
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	4,207,046	505,391	56,123
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	60,877,223	-	1,089,979
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 65,084,269	\$ 505,391	\$ 1,146,102

See notes to basic financial statements.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying basic financial statements of the Town of Belmont, Massachusetts have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the recognized standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The significant Town accounting policies are described herein.

A. Reporting Entity

The Town of Belmont, Massachusetts (Town) is a municipal corporation that is governed by an elected three member Board of Selectmen. They in turn appoint a Town Administrator who has general supervision of and control over the Town's boards, commissions, officers and departments. The legislative body of the Town is the elected Town Meeting members which consist of 288 members elected for a three-year term in addition to some ex-officio members.

For financial reporting purposes, the Town has included all funds, organizations, agencies, boards, commissions and institutions. The Town has also considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable as well as other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the Town are such that exclusion would cause the basic financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. As required by GAAP, these basic financial statements present the Town (the primary government) and its component units. One entity has been included as a component unit in the reporting entity, because of the significance of its operational and/or financial relationship.

Blended Component Units – Blended component units are entities that are legally separate from the Town, but are so related that they are, in substance, the same as the Town or entities providing services entirely or almost entirely for the benefit of the Town. The following component unit is blended within the primary government:

In the Fiduciary Funds:

- (1) The Belmont Contributory Retirement System (the System) was established to provide retirement benefits to Town employees and their beneficiaries. The System is governed by a five-member board comprised of the Town Accountant (ex-officio), two members elected by the System's participants, one member appointed by the Board of Selectmen and one member appointed by the Board members. The System is presented using the accrual basis of accounting and is reported as a pension trust fund in the fiduciary fund financial statements.

Availability of Financial Information for Component Units

The System issues a publicly available audited financial report in accordance with guidelines established by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' (Commonwealth) Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC). That report may be obtained by contacting the System located at Town Hall, 455 Concord Ave, Belmont, MA 02478.

B. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., statement of net assets and the statement of changes in net assets) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government and its component units.

Governmental activities, which are primarily supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from *business-type activities*, which are supported primarily by user fees and charges.

Fund Financial Statements

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though fiduciary funds are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. Non-major funds are aggregated and displayed in a single column.

Major Fund Criteria

Major funds must be reported if the following criteria are met:

- If the total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of an individual governmental or enterprise fund are at least 10 percent of the corresponding element (assets, liabilities, etc.) for all funds of that category or type (total governmental or total enterprise funds), and
- If the total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of the individual governmental fund or enterprise fund are at least 5 percent of the corresponding element for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.

Additionally, any other governmental or enterprise fund that management believes is particularly significant to the basic financial statements may be reported as a major fund.

Internal service funds and fiduciary funds are reported by fund type.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when the liabilities are incurred. Real estate and personal property taxes are recognized as revenues in the fiscal year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a particular function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include the following:

- Charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment.
- Grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational requirements of a particular function or segment.
- Grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the capital requirements of a particular function or segment.

Taxes and other items not identifiable as program revenues are reported as general revenues. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from the government-wide financial statements. However, the effect of interfund services provided and used between functions is not eliminated as the elimination of these charges would distort the direct costs and program revenues reported for the functions affected.

Fund Financial Statements

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the flow of current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., measurable and available). Measurable means the amount of the transaction can be determined and available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for unmatured interest on general long-term debt which is recognized when due, and certain compensated absences and claims and judgments which are recognized when the obligations are expected to be liquidated with current expendable available resources.

Real estate and personal property tax revenues are considered available if they are collected within 60 days after fiscal year-end. Investment income is susceptible to accrual. Other receipts and tax revenues become measurable and available when the cash is received and are recognized as revenue at that time.

Entitlements and shared revenues are recorded at the time of receipt or earlier if the susceptible to accrual criteria is met. Expenditure driven grants recognize revenue when the qualifying expenditures are incurred and all other grant requirements are met.

The following major governmental funds are reported:

The *General Fund* is the primary operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources, except those that are required to be accounted for in another fund.

The *Reserved for Appropriation Fund* accounts for specific revenue sources that by law must be accounted for separately and spent by appropriation.

The nonmajor governmental funds consist of other special revenue, capital projects and permanent funds that are aggregated and presented in the *nonmajor governmental funds* column on the governmental funds financial statements. The following describes the general use of these fund types:

The *special revenue fund* is used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than permanent funds or capital projects funds) that are restricted by law or administrative action to expenditures for specified purposes.

The *capital projects fund* is used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by enterprise and trust funds or reported as a major fund).

The *permanent fund* is used to account for financial resources that are legally restricted to the extent that only earnings, not principal, may be used for purposes that support the governmental programs.

Proprietary fund financial statements are reported using the flow of economic resources measurement focus and use the accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when the liabilities are incurred.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with the proprietary funds principal ongoing operations. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

The following major proprietary funds are reported:

The *water enterprise fund* is used to account for the water activities.

The *sewer enterprise fund* is used to account for the sewer activities.

The *light enterprise fund* is used to account for the Town's electric light department activities.

The *internal services fund* is used to account for the financing of services provided by one department to other departments or governmental units. This fund is used to account for risk financing activities related to the self-insured employee health program.

Fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the flow of economic resources measurement focus and use the accrual basis of accounting. Fiduciary funds are used to account for assets held in a trustee capacity by the Town for others that cannot be used to support the governmental programs.

The following fiduciary fund types are reported:

The *persion trust fund* is used to account for the activities of the System, which accumulates resources to provide pension benefits to eligible retirees and their beneficiaries.

The *other postemployment benefit trust fund* is a new fund established under special legislation to accumulate resources to provide funding for future OPEB (other postemployment benefits) liabilities.

The *private-purpose trust fund* is used to account for trust arrangements that exclusively benefit individuals, private organizations, or other governments. Some of these trusts have donor restrictions and trustee policies that do not allow the endowment portion and any unrealized appreciation to be spent. The donor restrictions and trustee policies only allows the trustees to authorize spending of the realized investment earnings. The Town's educational scholarship trusts are accounted for in this fund.

The *agency fund* is used to account for assets held in a purely custodial capacity by the Town.

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

For the government-wide financial statements, and proprietary and fiduciary fund accounting, all applicable Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements issued on or prior to November 30, 1989, are applied, unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements.

D. Cash and Investments

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

Cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments with an original maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Investments are carried at fair value.

E. Accounts Receivable

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The recognition of revenue related to accounts receivable reported in the government-wide financial statements and the proprietary funds and fiduciary funds financial statements are reported under the accrual basis of accounting. The recognition of revenue related to accounts receivable reported in the governmental funds financial statements are reported under the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Real Estate, Personal Property Taxes and Tax Liens

Real estate and personal property taxes are levied and based on values assessed on January 1st of every year. Assessed values are established by the Board of Assessor's for 100% of the estimated fair market value. Taxes are due on August 1st, November 1st, February 1st and May 1st and are subject to penalties and interest if they are not paid by the respective due date. Real estate and personal property taxes levied are recorded as receivables in the fiscal year of the levy.

Real estate tax liens are processed during the year on delinquent properties and are recorded as receivables in the fiscal year they are processed.

Real estate receivables are secured via the tax lien process and are considered 100% collectible. Accordingly, an allowance for uncollectibles is not reported.

Personal property taxes cannot be secured through the lien process. The allowance of uncollectibles is estimated based on historical trends and specific account analysis.

Motor Vehicle Excise

Motor vehicle excise taxes are assessed annually for each vehicle registered in the Town and are recorded as receivables in the fiscal year of the levy. The Commonwealth is responsible for reporting the number of vehicles registered and the fair values of those vehicles. The tax calculation is the fair value of the vehicle multiplied by \$25 per \$1,000 of value.

The allowance for uncollectibles is estimated based on historical trends and specific account analysis.

Water and Sewer

User fees are levied quarterly based on individual meter readings and are subject to penalties and interest if they are not paid by the respective due date. Water and Sewer liens are processed every year and included as a lien on the property owner's tax bill. Water and Sewer charges and liens are recorded as receivables in the fiscal year of the levy.

Since the receivables are secured via the lien process, these accounts are considered 100% collectible and therefore do not report an allowance for uncollectibles.

Town of Belmont, Massachusetts

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Basic Financial Statements

Departmental and Other

Departmental and other receivables are recorded as receivables in the fiscal year accrued. The allowance for uncollectibles is estimated based on historical trends and specific account analysis.

Intergovernmental

Various federal and state grants for operating and capital purposes are applied for and received annually. For non-expenditure driven grants, receivables are recorded as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. For expenditure driven grants, receivables are recorded when the qualifying expenditures are incurred and all other grant requirements are met.

These receivables are considered 100% collectible and therefore do not report an allowance for uncollectibles.

F. Inventories

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

Inventories are recorded as expenditures at the time of purchase in the fund financial statements. Such inventories are capitalized in the government-wide financial statements. Inventories of the Light Fund are carried at average cost.

G. Capital Assets

Government-Wide and Proprietary Fund Financial Statements

Capital assets, which include land, land improvements, buildings, machinery and equipment, and infrastructure (e.g., roads, water mains, sewer mains, and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activity column of the government-wide financial statements, and the proprietary fund financial statements. Capital assets are recorded at historical cost, or at estimated historical cost, if actual historical cost is not available. Donated capital assets are recorded at the estimated fair market value at the date of donation. Except for the capital assets of the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements, construction period interest is capitalized on constructed capital assets.

All purchases and construction costs in excess of \$10,000 are capitalized at the date of acquisition or construction, respectively, with expected useful lives of greater than one year.

Capital assets (excluding land) are depreciated on a straight-line basis. The estimated useful lives of capital assets are as follows:

Capital Asset Type	Estimated Useful Life (in years)
Land improvements.....	20
Buildings.....	40-50
Machinery and equipment.....	5-20
Infrastructure.....	15-100

Town of Belmont, Massachusetts

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Basic Financial Statements

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the assets or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized and are treated as expenses when incurred. Improvements are capitalized.

The fixed assets of the municipal light enterprise fund are capitalized upon purchase and depreciated at a rate of 3% of the cost of plant in service at the beginning of the calendar year, exclusive of land and land rights. The municipal light enterprise fund charges maintenance to expense when incurred. Replacements and betterments are charged to fixed assets.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements

Capital asset costs are recorded as expenditures in the acquiring fund in the fiscal year of the purchase.

H. Interfund Receivables and Payables

During the course of its operations, transactions occur between and within individual funds that may result in amounts owed between funds.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

Transactions of a buyer/seller nature between and within governmental funds and internal service funds are eliminated from the governmental activities in the statement of net assets. Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the statement of net assets as "internal balances".

Fund Financial Statements

Transactions of a buyer/seller nature between and within funds are not eliminated from the individual fund statements. Receivables and payables resulting from these transactions are classified as "Due from other funds" or "Due to other funds" on the balance sheet.

I. Interfund Transfers

During the course of its operations, resources are permanently reallocated between and within funds. These transactions are reported as transfers in and transfers out.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

Transfers between and within governmental funds and internal service funds are eliminated from the governmental activities in the statement of net assets. Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the statement of activities as "Transfers, net".

Fund Financial Statements

Transfers between and within funds are not eliminated from the individual fund statements and are reported as transfers in and transfers out.

J. Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue at the governmental fund financial statement level represents billed receivables that do not meet the available criterion in accordance with the current financial resources measurement focus and the

modified accrual basis of accounting. Deferred revenue is recognized as revenue in the conversion to the government-wide (full accrual) financial statements.

K. Net Assets and Fund Equity

Government-Wide Financial Statements (Net Assets)

Net assets are reported as restricted when amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for a specific future use.

Net assets have been "restricted for" the following:

"Debt service" – represents amounts held for the payment of debt service principal and interest.

"Permanent funds – expendable" represents the amount of realized and unrealized investment earnings of donor restricted trusts. The donor restrictions and trustee policies only allows the trustees to approve spending of the realized investment earnings that support governmental programs.

"Permanent funds – nonexpendable" represents the endowment portion of donor restricted trusts that support governmental programs.

"Other purposes" represents restrictions placed on assets from outside parties.

Fund Financial Statements (Fund Balances)

Fund balances are reserved for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for a specific future use. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

Fund balances have been "reserved for" the following:

"Encumbrances and continuing appropriations" represents amounts obligated under purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for expenditures that are being carried over to the ensuing fiscal year.

"Perpetual permanent funds" represents amounts held in trust for which only investment earnings may be expended.

Fund balances have been "designated for" the following:

"Subsequent year's expenditures" represents amounts appropriated for the fiscal year 2009 operating budget.

"Capital Endowment" represents amounts of funds designated for long range capital planning. The Capital Endowment Fund was capitalized with funds from the sale of the Town's interest in the local cable television system. The net income generated from this fund may be appropriated annually at Town Meeting upon recommendation of the Board of Selectmen for various purposes for which the Town is authorized to borrow, except routine maintenance or repairs to any capital assets. Principal of the fund may be appropriated by the Board of Selectmen and two-thirds vote of the Town Meeting. Any excess earnings not appropriated will be reinvested and become part of the Fund.

modified accrual basis of accounting. Deferred revenue is recognized as revenue in the conversion to the government-wide (full accrual) financial statements.

K. Net Assets and Fund Equity

Government-Wide Financial Statements (Net Assets)

Net assets are reported as restricted when amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for a specific future use.

Net assets have been "restricted for" the following:

"Debt service" – represents amounts held for the payment of debt service principal and interest.

"Permanent funds – expendable" represents the amount of realized and unrealized investment earnings of donor restricted trusts. The donor restrictions and trustee policies only allows the trustees to approve spending of the realized investment earnings that support governmental programs.

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Fund Financial Statements (Fund Balances)

Fund balances are reserved for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for a specific future use. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

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P. Use of Estimates

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The preparation of basic financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure for contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the basic financial statements and the reported amounts of the revenues and expenditures/expenses during the fiscal year. Actual results could vary from estimates that were used.

Q. Individual Fund Deficits

A fund deficit exists within the Capital Projects Non-Major Governmental Fund. This deficit is expected to be funded through the issuance of long term debt or available funds appropriated at Town Meeting.

R. Total Column

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The total column presented on the government-wide financial statements represents consolidated financial information.

Fund Financial Statements

The total column on the fund financial statements is presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in this column is not the equivalent of consolidated financial information.

NOTE 2 - CASH AND INVESTMENTS

A cash and investment pool is maintained that is available for use by all funds. Each fund type's portion of this pool is displayed on the combined balance sheet as "Cash and Short-term Investments". The deposits and investments of the trust funds are held separately from those of other funds.

Statutes authorize the investment in obligations of the U.S. Treasury, agencies, and instrumentalities, certificates of deposit, repurchase agreements, money market accounts, bank deposits and the State Treasurer's Investment Pool (the Pool). The Treasurer may also invest trust funds in securities, other than mortgages or collateral loans, which are legal for the investment of funds of savings banks under the laws of the Commonwealth.

The Pool meets the criteria of an external investment pool. The Pool is administered by the Massachusetts Municipal Depository Trust (MMDT), which was established by the Treasurer of the Commonwealth who serves as Trustee. The fair value of the position in the Pool is the same as the value of the Pool shares.

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

In the case of deposits, this is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Town's deposits may not be returned to it. The Town does not have a formal policy for custodial credit risk. At fiscal year-end, the carrying amount of deposits totaled \$28,839,085 and the bank balance totaled \$30,883,665. Of the bank balance, \$629,369 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance, \$5,928,622 was covered by the Depositors Insurance Fund, and \$24,325,674 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and uncollateralized.

L. Long-term debt

Government-Wide and Proprietary Fund Financial Statements

Long-term debt is reported as liabilities in the government-wide and proprietary fund statement of net assets. Material bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements

The face amount of governmental funds long-term debt is reported as other financing sources. Bond premiums and discounts, as well as issuance costs, are recognized in the current period. Bond premiums are reported as other financing sources and bond discounts are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual bond proceeds received, are reported as general government expenditures.

M. Investment Income

Excluding the permanent funds, investment income derived from major and nonmajor governmental funds is legally assigned to the general fund unless otherwise directed by Massachusetts General Law (MGL).

Investment income from proprietary funds, trust funds, and internal service funds is retained within the respective fund.

N. Compensated Absences

Employees are granted vacation and sick leave in varying amounts based on collective bargaining agreements, state laws and executive policies.

Government-Wide and Proprietary Fund Financial Statements

Vested or accumulated vacation and sick leave are reported as liabilities and expensed as incurred. Sick leave though accrued is expensed as incurred. There is no obligation to pay for time upon termination of employment.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements

Vested or accumulated vacation and sick leave, which will be liquidated with expendable available financial resources, are reported as expenditures and fund liabilities.

O. Post Retirement Benefits

Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

In addition to providing pension benefits, health and life insurance coverage is provided for retired employees and their survivors in accordance with MGL, Chapter 32, on a pay-as-you-go basis. The cost of providing health insurance is recognized by recording the employer's 50-80% share of insurance premiums in the general fund in the fiscal year paid. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, this expense/expenditure totaled approximately \$2,867,000. There were 548 participants eligible to receive benefits at June 30, 2008.

At December 31, 2007, the carrying amount of the System's deposits totaled \$289,996 and the bank balance totaled \$298,478. All of the bank balance was covered by Federal Depository Insurance.

Investments

Listed below are the investments of the Town as of June 30, 2008 and the System as of December 31, 2007.

Investment Type	Fair Value	Maturity		Quality Rating
		Under 1 Year	1-5 Years	
Debt Securities				
U.S. Government Securities.....	\$ 102,375	\$ -	\$ 102,375	AAA
U.S. Treasury Note.....	301,474	-	301,474	AAA
Corporate Bonds.....	216,746	-	216,746	A2/NR
Federal Home Loan Banks.....	551,205	449,236	101,969	AAA
Federal National Mortgage Association.....	883,515	883,515	-	AAA
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.....	967,402	706,195	261,207	AA/NR
Total Debt Securities.....	3,022,717	2,038,946	983,771	

Other Investments

Equity Securities.....	1,360,353
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit.....	1,170,541
Money Market Mutual Funds.....	963,519
MMDT.....	11,703,256
Total Investments.....	\$ 18,220,386

System's investment balances at December 31, 2007:

	Fair Value	Maturity			Quality Rating
		1-5 Years	6-10 Years		
Debt Securities					
Frontiera Total Return Bond Fund.....	\$ 15,405,618	\$ 15,405,618	\$ -		A/A2
Delaware Pooled Global Fixed Income Fund.....	4,561,321	-	4,561,321		AAA
Total Debt Securities.....	19,966,939	15,405,618	4,561,321		
Other Investments					
Equity Mutual Funds.....	8,441,250				
Equity Securities.....	15,689,737				
International Equity Mutual Funds.....	7,366,676				
PRIT Real Estate Fund.....	3,351,923				
PRIT Alternative Fund.....	1,370,466				
PRIT Absolute Return Fund.....	4,452,341				
Short Term Investment Fund.....	235,226				
PRIT Fund.....	1,509,356				
Total Investments.....	\$ 62,383,914				

* Average life of underlying holdings in bond mutual funds is 4.6 years.

Custodial Credit Risk — Investments

For an investment, this is the risk that, in the event of a failure by the counterparty, the Town will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral security that are in possession of an outside party. Investments in external investment pools and in open-end mutual funds are not exposed to custodial credit risk because their existence is not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. Of the Town's investments in U.S. Treasury Notes, U.S. Government Securities, corporate bonds, certificates of participation, asset backed securities, and equity securities, as detailed above, the Town has a custodial credit risk exposure of \$4,383,070 because the related securities are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty. The Town does not have a formal investment policy for custodial credit risk.

The System has custodial credit risk exposure of \$15,689,737 because the related equity securities are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty.

The System limits its custodial credit risk by utilizing an institutional custodial bank, currently State Street Bank, to custody all separately held securities which are registered under a nominee name that is specific to the System. Assets held in commingled fund accounts are also held in a similar fashion, with individual fund securities held in the fund's name at their custodian bank. A small percentage of the System's assets (typically less than 5%) may be held from time to time in commingled cash equivalent vehicles where the assets are subject to counterparty risk.

Interest Rate Risk

The Town does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

The System's fixed income assets are held in professionally managed, institutional commingled funds. The System limits its effective exposure to interest rate risk by benchmarking its commingled fixed income investment accounts to an intermediate duration benchmark (LB Aggregate) with a duration of 4-5 years. Further, the System's current fixed income investments are diversified by sector (corporate, government, asset-backed, mortgage, non-US dollar) to provide additional protection in various interest rate environments.

Credit Risk

The Town has not adopted a formal policy related to Credit Risk.

The System has a policy that states no more than 20% of the fixed income assets may be invested in below investment grade securities (rated BBB by Standard & Poor's) and the average duration of the fixed income portfolio cannot be more than 20% higher than the market as measured by Lehman Aggregate Index.

Concentration of Credit Risk

The Town places no limit on the amount the Town may invest in any one issuer. The Town does not have more than 5% of its investments with any one issuer that is not explicitly backed by the U.S. Government as of June 30, 2008.

For the System, no fixed income security, except issues of the U. S. Government, can comprise more than 5% of the System's assets, measured at market, and no individual portfolio can hold more than 5% of its assets in securities of any single entity, except issues of the U. S. Government. Further, no equity security can comprise more than 5% of the equity portfolio measured at book value. The System does have investments in individual commingled mutual funds and trusts that represent more than 5% of the System's assets, but in each case these investments are in institutional commingled funds that are invested in diversified portfolios of between 50 and 200 individual securities.

Foreign Currency Risk

The System's exposure to foreign currency risk is attributable to its investments in individual commingled mutual funds and trusts that are invested in diversified (by country and security) portfolios on international stocks and bonds that are denominated in foreign currencies. The System's combined policy target allocation to all non-US securities is currently 20% of the System's total assets (12% international equities and 8% international bonds).

NOTE 3 – RECEIVABLES

At June 30, 2008, receivables for the individual major and nonmajor governmental funds, including the applicable allowances for uncollectible accounts, are as follows:

Receivables:	Gross Amount		Allowance for Uncollectibles		Net Amount	
Real estate and personal property taxes.....	\$	512,002	\$	(2,869)	\$	509,133
Real estate tax deferrals.....		840,181		-		840,181
Motor vehicle and other excise taxes.....		360,243		(196,632)		163,611
Departmental and other.....		615,624		(147,952)		467,672
Intergovernmental.....		3,872,600		-		3,872,600
	\$	6,200,650	\$	(347,453)	\$	5,853,197

At June 30, 2008, receivables for the enterprise funds consist of the following:

Receivables:	Gross Amount	Allowance for Uncollectibles	Net Amount
Water user fees.....	\$ 1,007,131	\$ -	\$ 1,007,131
Water enterprise tax liens.....	21,624	-	21,624
Sewer user fees.....	1,098,417	-	1,098,417
Sewer enterprise tax liens.....	523,127	-	523,127
Light user fees.....	1,388,667	-	1,388,667
	\$ 4,038,966	\$ -	\$ 4,038,966

Governmental funds report deferred revenue in connection with receivables for revenues that are not considered to be available to liquidate liabilities of the current period. At the end of the current fiscal year, the various components of deferred revenue reported in the governmental funds were as follows:

Receivable and other asset type:	General Fund		Nonmajor Governmental Funds		Total	
Real estate, personal property and tax deferrals....	\$	2,112,675	\$	-	\$	2,112,675
Tax liens and foreclosures.....		540,420		-		540,420
Motor vehicle and other excise.....		163,611		-		163,611
Intergovernmental.....		2,789,000		809,472		3,598,472
Departmental.....		458,640		8,830		467,470
	\$	6,064,346	\$	818,302	\$	6,882,648

NOTE 4 – CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Governmental Activities:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land.....	\$ 16,195,405	\$ -	(476)	\$ 16,194,930
Construction in progress.....	983,870	912,620	(917,939)	978,551
Total capital assets not being depreciated.....	17,179,276	912,620	(918,415)	17,173,481
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Land improvements.....	3,089,210	1,040,155	(325,615)	3,803,750
Buildings.....	91,707,909	455,410	(82,104)	92,081,215
Machinery and equipment.....	10,554,159	2,045,044	(357,817)	12,241,386
Infrastructure.....	23,609,718	1,969,262	-	25,578,980
Total capital assets being depreciated.....	128,960,986	5,510,871	(765,536)	133,706,331
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Land improvements.....	(1,991,125)	(113,246)	325,615	(1,778,756)
Buildings.....	(31,507,891)	(1,903,440)	76,148	(33,334,983)
Machinery and equipment.....	(6,069,196)	(1,140,132)	357,817	(6,851,511)
Infrastructure.....	(6,321,950)	(334,214)	-	(6,656,164)
Total accumulated depreciation.....	(45,889,962)	(3,491,032)	759,580	(48,621,414)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net.....	83,071,034	2,019,839	(5,956)	85,084,917
Total governmental activities capital assets, net.....	\$ 100,250,310	\$ 2,932,459	\$ (924,371)	\$ 102,258,398

Business-Type Activities:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Water:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land.....	\$ 3,138	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,138
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Land improvements.....	7,822	-	-	7,822
Buildings.....	146,491	-	-	146,491
Machinery and equipment.....	943,983	64,171	-	1,008,154
Infrastructure.....	21,879,461	881,888	-	22,761,349
Total capital assets being depreciated.....	22,977,757	946,059	-	23,923,816
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Land improvements.....	(7,822)	-	-	(7,822)
Buildings.....	(126,553)	(3,080)	-	(129,633)
Machinery and equipment.....	(424,788)	(117,566)	-	(542,354)
Infrastructure.....	(17,813,655)	(99,727)	-	(17,913,382)
Total accumulated depreciation.....	(18,372,818)	(220,403)	-	(18,593,221)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net.....	4,604,939	725,656	-	5,330,595
Total business-type activities capital assets, net.....	\$ 4,608,077	\$ 725,656	\$ -	\$ 5,333,733
Sewer:				
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Machinery and equipment.....	\$ 688,473	\$ 66,019	\$ -	\$ 754,492
Infrastructure.....	8,911,449	997,574	-	9,909,023
Total capital assets being depreciated.....	9,599,922	1,063,593	-	10,663,515
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Machinery and equipment.....	(229,431)	(104,665)	-	(334,096)
Infrastructure.....	(1,823,684)	(129,919)	-	(1,953,603)
Total accumulated depreciation.....	(2,053,015)	(234,584)	-	(2,287,599)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net.....	7,546,907	829,009	-	8,375,916
Total business-type activities capital assets, net.....	\$ 7,546,907	\$ 829,009	\$ -	\$ 8,375,916

NOTE 5 – CAPITAL LEASES

During fiscal year 2008 the Town entered into a lease agreement to finance the acquisition of energy conservation equipment. The lease agreement qualifies as a capital lease for accounting purposes, and therefore, has been recorded at the present value of the future minimum lease payments as of the inception date.

The following identifies the asset value acquired through the capital lease agreement:

Asset:	Governmental Activities
Machinery and equipment.....	\$ 1,693,000
Less: accumulated depreciation.....	(253,950)
Total.....	\$ 1,439,050

The future minimum lease obligation and the net present value of the minimum lease payment at June 30, 2008, follows:

Fiscal Years	Governmental Activities
Ending June 30	
2009.....	\$ 198,439
2010.....	198,038
2011.....	196,138
2012.....	198,138
2013.....	196,138
2014 - 2017	693,483
Total minimum lease payments.....	1,684,374
Less: amounts representing interest.....	(233,836)
Present value of minimum lease payments.....	\$ 1,450,538

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Light:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land.....	\$ 9,349	-	-	\$ 9,349
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Distribution Plant.....	16,865,647	1,196,740	(248,150)	17,814,237
General Plant.....	6,473,464	771,552	-	7,245,016
Total capital assets being depreciated.....	23,339,111	1,968,292	(248,150)	25,059,253
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Distribution Plant.....	(12,929,609)	(843,282)	248,150	(13,524,741)
General Plant.....	(3,020,571)	(311,673)	-	(3,332,244)
Total accumulated depreciation.....	(15,950,180)	(1,154,955)	248,150	(16,856,985)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net.....	7,388,931	813,337	-	8,202,268
Total business-type activities capital assets, net.....	\$ 7,398,280	\$ 813,337	\$ -	\$ 8,211,617

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

Governmental Activities:		
General government.....	\$ 154,674	
Public safety.....	598,214	
Education.....	1,583,163	
Public works.....	998,010	
Human services.....	22,219	
Culture and recreation.....	134,752	
Total depreciation expense - governmental activities.....	\$ 3,491,032	
Business-Type Activities:		
Water.....	\$ 220,403	
Sewer.....	234,584	
Light.....	1,154,955	
Total depreciation expense - business-type activities.....	\$ 1,609,942	

NOTE 6 – INTERFUND TRANSFERS

Interfund transfers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, are summarized as follows:

	Transfers In:					
	Transfers Out	General Fund	Non-Major Governmental Funds	Reserved for Appropriation	Internal Service Funds	Total
General Fund.....	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,194,025	\$ -	\$ 58,258	\$ 5,252,283
Reserved for Appropriation.....	155,000	-	-	-	-	155,000
Nonmajor Governmental Funds..	194,086	-	23,523	-	-	217,609
Water Enterprise Fund.....	150,000	-	-	-	-	150,000
Sewer Enterprise Fund.....	120,000	-	-	-	-	120,000
Light Enterprise Fund.....	650,000	-	-	-	-	650,000
		<u>\$ 1,269,086</u>	<u>\$ 5,194,025</u>	<u>\$ 23,523</u>	<u>\$ 58,258</u>	<u>\$ 6,544,892</u>

Transfers represent amounts voted to fund the fiscal year 2008 operating budget, amounts transferred to fund various capital projects, and also the transfer of expenditures to fund various enterprise fund related capital outlay.

NOTE 7 – SHORT-TERM FINANCING

Short-term debt may be authorized and issued to fund the following:

- Current operating costs prior to the collection of revenues through issuance of revenue or tax anticipation notes (RANS or TANS).
- Capital project costs and other approved expenditures incurred prior to obtaining permanent financing through issuance of bond anticipation notes (BANS) or grant anticipation notes (GANS).

Short-term loans are general obligations and carry maturity dates that are limited by statute. Interest expenditures and expenses for short-term borrowings are accounted for in the general fund and enterprise funds.

The Town had no short-term financing activity during fiscal year 2008.

NOTE 8 - LONG-TERM DEBT

Under the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 10, Municipal Law authorizes indebtedness up to a limit of 5% of the equalized valuation. Debt issued in accordance with this section of the law is designated as being "inside the debt limit". In addition, however, debt may be authorized in excess of that limit for specific purposes. Such debt, when issued, is designated as being "outside the debt limit".

Details related to the outstanding indebtedness at June 30, 2008, and the debt service requirements follow.

Bonds and Notes Payable Schedule – Governmental Funds

Project	Interest Rate (%)	Outstanding at June 30, 2007	Issued	Redeemed	Outstanding at June 30, 2008
FY96-00.....	3.40-5.50	\$ 8,715,000	\$ -	\$ 1,090,000	\$ 7,625,000
Septic Loan 97-2002.....	0.00	41,136	-	3,170	37,966
Town Hall Renovations.....	4.20-4.65	800,000	-	200,000	600,000
Town Hall Renovation.....	3.00-4.75	9,550,000	-	600,000	8,950,000
Outdoor Athletic Facility.....	3.00-3.75	1,320,000	-	220,000	1,100,000
Fire Station Construction.....	3.00-5.00	7,225,000	-	425,000	6,800,000
Fire Land Acquisition.....	3.00-5.00	1,275,000	-	75,000	1,200,000
Communications Tower.....	3.00-5.00	80,000	-	15,000	65,000
Fire Station Construction.....	4.00-6.00	1,925,000	-	105,000	1,820,000
Land Acquisition.....	4.00-6.00	735,000	-	45,000	690,000
Skating Rink.....	4.00-6.00	145,000	-	40,000	105,000
Computer Software.....	5.00	646,000	-	166,000	480,000
Total.....		<u>\$ 32,457,136</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,984,170</u>	<u>\$ 29,472,966</u>

Debt service requirements for principal and interest for enterprise fund bonds and notes payable in future fiscal years are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2009	\$ 136,400	\$ -	\$ 136,400
2010	136,400	-	136,400
2011	136,400	-	136,400
2012	136,400	-	136,400
2013	136,400	-	136,400
2014	136,400	-	136,400
2015	136,400	-	136,400
2016	71,400	-	71,400
2017	71,400	-	71,400
2018	71,400	-	71,400
Total	\$ 1,104,000	\$ -	\$ 1,104,000

Water Enterprise

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2009	\$ 143,750	\$ 103,700	\$ 247,450
2010	143,750	97,200	240,950
2011	143,750	90,700	234,450
2012	125,000	84,200	209,200
2013	125,000	79,044	204,044
2014	125,000	73,888	198,888
2015	125,000	68,732	193,732
2016	125,000	63,576	188,576
2017	125,000	57,326	182,326
2018	125,000	51,076	176,076
2019	125,000	45,918	170,918
2020	125,000	40,794	165,794
2021	125,000	35,638	160,638
2022	125,000	30,388	155,388
2023	125,000	25,076	150,076
2024	125,000	19,762	144,762
2025	120,000	14,450	134,450
2026	120,000	9,350	129,350
2027	100,000	4,250	104,250
Totals	\$ 2,395,250	\$ 995,068	\$ 3,391,318

Sewer Enterprise

Debt service requirements for principal and interest for governmental bonds payable in future fiscal years are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2009	\$ 2,973,170	\$ 1,285,767	\$ 4,258,937
2010	2,968,170	1,160,142	4,128,312
2011	2,963,191	1,032,545	3,995,736
2012	2,568,191	906,811	3,475,002
2013	2,563,191	793,552	3,356,743
2014	2,338,191	683,223	3,021,414
2015	2,323,191	571,503	2,894,694
2016	1,238,134	466,886	1,705,020
2017	1,238,134	415,282	1,653,416
2018	1,238,134	362,964	1,601,098
2019	1,238,134	309,801	1,547,935
2020	1,238,135	255,547	1,493,682
2021	1,235,000	200,289	1,435,289
2022	1,235,000	144,019	1,379,019
2023	1,235,000	85,307	1,320,307
2024	640,000	40,576	680,576
2025	140,000	9,976	149,976
2026	100,000	4,200	104,200
Total	\$ 29,472,966	\$ 8,728,390	\$ 38,201,356

Bonds and Notes Payable Schedule – Enterprise Funds

Project	Interest Rate (%)	Outstanding at June 30, 2007	Issued	Redeemed	Outstanding at June 30, 2008
MWRA Water Main	0.00	\$ 455,000	\$ 714,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 1,104,000
Sewer	4.1 - 5.0	2,534,000	-	137,750	2,396,250
Light Bond	4.20-4.60	840,000	-	200,000	640,000
Total		\$ 3,829,000	\$ 714,000	\$ 402,750	\$ 4,140,250

Light Enterprise

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2008.....	\$ 260,000	\$ 34,562	\$ 294,562
2009.....	260,000	22,000	282,000
2010.....	60,000	10,100	70,100
2011.....	60,000	2,750	62,750
Total.....	\$ 640,000	\$ 69,412	\$ 709,412

The Commonwealth has approved school construction assistance to the Town. The assistance program, which is administered by the Massachusetts School Building Authority, provides resources for future debt service of general obligation school bonds outstanding. During fiscal year 2008, approximately \$1 million of such assistance was received. Approximately \$3,225,000 will be received in future fiscal years. Of this amount, approximately \$435,000 represents reimbursement of long-term interest costs, and approximately \$2,789,000 represents reimbursement of approved construction costs. Accordingly, a \$2,789,000 intergovernmental receivable and corresponding deferred revenue have been reported in governmental fund financial statements. The deferred revenue has been recognized as revenue in the conversion to the government-wide financial statements.

The Town is subject to various debt limits by statute and may issue additional general obligation debt under the normal debt limit.

At June 30, 2008, the Town had the following authorized and unissued debt:

Purpose	Amount
Communications Tower.....	\$ 247,200
Fire Station.....	272,598
School remodeling.....	850,000
Water.....	2,849,570
Sewer storm drain.....	375,430
Sewer surface drain.....	11,608,000
Senior Center.....	4,683,256
Total.....	\$ 20,886,054

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, the following changes occurred in long-term liabilities:

	Balance June 30, 2007	Additions	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2008	Current Portion
Governmental Activities:					
Long-Term Bonds and Notes.....	\$ 32,457,136	\$ -	\$ (2,984,170)	\$ 29,472,966	\$ 2,973,170
Landfill Closure.....	4,060,000	100,000	-	4,160,000	-
Compensated Absences.....	1,318,848	166,660	(65,942)	1,419,566	70,978
Capital Leases.....	1,594,595	-	(144,057)	1,450,538	149,736
Total governmental activity long-term liabilities.....	\$ 39,430,579	\$ 266,660	\$ (3,194,169)	\$ 36,503,070	\$ 3,193,884
Business-Type Activities:					
Long-Term Bonds and Notes.....	\$ 3,829,000	\$ 714,000	\$ (402,750)	\$ 4,140,250	\$ 540,150
Compensated Absences.....	190,865	31,202	(9,545)	212,522	10,927
Total business type activity long-term liabilities.....	\$ 4,019,865	\$ 745,202	\$ (412,295)	\$ 4,352,772	\$ 550,777

The long-term liabilities will be liquidated in the future by the general fund and enterprise funds.

NOTE 9 – LANDFILL CLOSURE

State and federal laws and regulations require the Town to close its old landfill site when it stops accepting waste and to perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the site after closure. The Town operated a solid waste landfill that ceased operations in 1973. The Town has reflected \$4,160,000 as the estimate of the landfill closure liability at June 30, 2008. This amount is based on estimates of what it would cost to perform all future closure and post closure care in fiscal year 2008. Actual costs may be higher due to inflation, changes in technology, or changes in regulations. Town meeting has voted a special purpose stabilization fund for this liability. The balance at June 30, 2008 was over \$4 million.

NOTE 10 – RISK FINANCING

The Town is self-insured for its health insurance activities. The health insurance activities are accounted for in the internal service fund where revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred.

Liabilities are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities include an amount for claims that have been incurred but not reported (IBNR). The result of the process to estimate the claims liability is not an exact amount as it depends on many factors. Accordingly, claims are reevaluated periodically to consider the effects of inflation, recent claims settlement trends, and other economic and social factors.

granted between 1981 and 1997 and any increase in other benefits imposed by the Commonwealth's state law during those years are borne by the Commonwealth and are deposited into the pension fund. Cost-of-living adjustments granted after 1997 must be approved by the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board and are borne by the System. The System issues a publicly available unaudited financial report in accordance with guidelines established by the Commonwealth's PERAC. That report may be obtained by contacting the System located at Town Hall, 455 Concord Ave., Belmont, Massachusetts 02478.

At December 31, 2007, the System's membership consists of the following:

	2007
Active members.....	445
Inactive members.....	90
Disabled members.....	42
Retirees and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits.....	345
Total.....	922

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute to the System at rates ranging from 5% to 11% of annual covered compensation. The Town is required to pay into the System its share of the system-wide actuarial determined contribution that is apportioned among the employers based on active current payroll. Administrative expenses are funded through investment earnings. The current and two preceding fiscal years apportionment of the annual pension cost between the two employers required the Town to contribute approximately 98%, respectively, of the total. Chapter 32 of the MGL governs the contributions of plan members and the Town.

Annual Pension Cost - The Town's contributions to the System for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were approximately \$4,762,000, \$4,100,000, and \$3,900,000, respectively, which equated its required contribution for each fiscal year. The required contribution was determined as part of the January 1, 2006, actuarial valuation using the entry age normal actuarial cost method. The actuarial assumptions included an 8.25% investment rate of return and projected salary increases of 3% per year. The actuarial value of the System's assets was determined using the fair value of the assets. The System's unfunded actuarial accrued liability is being amortized as a level percentage of projected payroll. The remaining amortization period at January 1, 2006, was 19 years.

Health Insurance

The Town estimates its' Incurred But Not Reported (IBNR), claims based on an approximate two month claims paid average. The Town purchases individual stop loss insurance for claims in excess of the \$100,000 coverage provided by the Town. At June 30, 2008, the amount of the liability for health insurance claims totaled \$1,200,000.

Changes in the reported liability since July 1, 2007, are as follows:

	Current Year	Balance at	Balance at
	Claims and	Beginning of	Fiscal
	Changes in	Fiscal Year	Year-End
	Estimate	Payments	Year-End
Fiscal Year 2008.....	\$ 11,861,488	\$ (10,661,488)	\$ 1,200,000

Insurance

The Town is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the Town carries commercial insurance. The Town participates in a premium-based health care plan for its active and eligible retired employees. The amount of claim settlements has not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the previous two fiscal years.

Workers' Compensation

The Town participates in a premium based workers' compensation insurance plan for its employees, except for police officers and firefighters for which the Town is self insured. The Town's liability related to incurred but not reported claims for police officers and/or firefighters workers compensation is not material at June 30, 2008, and is therefore not reported.

General Liability

The Town is self insured for its general liability insurance. MGL Chapter 258 limits the liability to a maximum of \$100,000 per claim in all matters except actions relating to federal/civil rights, eminent domain, and breach of contract.

NOTE 11 - PENSION PLAN

Plan Description - The Town contributes to the Belmont Contributory Retirement System, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board. All employees working twenty or more hours a week are members of the System, except for public school teachers and certain administrators who are members of the Massachusetts Teachers Retirement System, to which the Town does not contribute. Pension benefits and administrative expenses paid by the Teachers Retirement Board are the legal responsibility of the Commonwealth. The amount of these on-behalf payments totaled \$7,153,670 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, and, accordingly, are reported in the general fund as intergovernmental revenues and pension expenditures.

The System provides retirement, disability and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Chapter 32 of the MGL assigns authority to establish and amend benefit provisions of the plan. Cost-of-living adjustments

**Schedule of Funding Progress
(Dollar amounts in thousands)**

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (A)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) Entry Age (B)	Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (B-A)	Funded Ratio (A/B)	Covered Payroll (C)	UAAL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll ((B-A)/C)
1/1/2006	\$ 53,736,253	\$ 101,659,952	\$ 47,923,699	52.9%	\$ 164,549,300	28.1%
1/1/2004	53,364,538	94,947,922	41,583,284	56.2%	146,655,300	28.4%
1/1/2002	52,838,407	87,176,074	34,337,667	60.6%	131,319,000	26.1%
1/1/2000	49,941,824	70,890,071	20,948,247	70.4%	121,019,400	17.3%
1/1/1998	40,838,623	64,600,786	23,762,163	63.2%	114,071,500	20.8%

Funding progress is reported based on the biennial actuarial valuation performed by the System, and is being accumulated on a biennial basis. The Town is responsible for approximately 98.65% of the unfunded liability.

NOTE 12 – OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT TRUST FUND

Plan Description – The Town maintains a single employer defined benefit Other Postemployment Benefit Plan. Chapter 32B of the Massachusetts General Law (MGL) assigns authority to establish and amend benefit provisions of the Plan. Medical and prescription drug benefits are provided to all eligible retirees through a variety of plans offered by Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare of Massachusetts. Lifetime coverage is provided for retirees and their spouses.

The Town adopted Chapter 32B, Section 18 of MGL in April 2004, requiring all Medicare-eligible retirees to enroll in a Medicare supplement plan. The effects of this adoption have been included in the actuarial determination of OPEB liabilities by the Town's actuary.

At January 1, 2006, the Health Plan's membership consisted of the following:

Retirees, beneficiaries, and dependents.....	530
Active members.....	608
Totals.....	<u>1138</u>

Contributions – Retired plan members and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits are required to contribute 25% of the cost of benefits for the HMO and PPO plans if they are not participating in the Medicare plan. Medicare-eligible retirees and their spouses contribute 50% of the cost of the Medicare Enhance Supplement plan and the First Seniority.

For the year ended June 30, 2008, plan members contributed approximately \$1,142,000 through their required contributions. The Town is required to be contribute the balance of the current premiums and may contribute additional amounts to prefund benefits. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts passed special legislation that has allowed the Town to establish the Other Postemployment Benefit Trust Fund (OPEB). During fiscal year 2008, the Town contributed \$500,000 to pre-fund future post-employment benefit liabilities.

Funded Status – The funded status of the Plan as of the most recent actuarial valuation date, January 1, 2006, is as follows:

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (A)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) Entry Age (B)	Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (B-A)	Funded Ratio (A/B)	Covered Payroll (C)	UAAL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll ((B-A)/C)
1/1/2006	\$ -	\$ 121,618,163	\$ 121,618,163	0.0%	\$ N/A	N/A

The following additional information is provided as of the latest actuarial valuation:

Valuation Date..... January 1, 2006

Actuarial Cost Method..... Projected Unit Credit

Amortization Method..... Level Dollar

Remaining amortization period.... 30 Years as of January 1, 2006

Asset valuation method..... Market

Actuarial Assumptions

Investment rate of return..... 5%, compounded annually

Health care cost trend..... 8% graded to 4.5% over 5 years

NOTE 13 - COMMITMENTS

The Town has entered into, or is planning to enter into contracts for water infrastructure upgrades, for various sewer and surface drain projects, for a new senior center, and school remodeling work.

NOTE 14 - CONTINGENCIES

The Town participates in a number of federal award programs. Although the grant programs have been audited in accordance with the provisions of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 through June 30, 2008, these programs are still subject to financial and compliance audits. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the granting agencies cannot be determined at this time, although it is expected such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

Various legal actions and claims are pending. Litigation is subject to many uncertainties, and the outcome of individual litigated matters is not always predictable. Although the amount of liability, if any, at June 30, 2008, cannot be ascertained, management believes any resulting liability should not materially affect the financial position at June 30, 2008.

NOTE 15 – FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW GASB PRONOUNCEMENTS

During fiscal year 2008, the following GASB pronouncements were implemented:

The GASB issued Statement #50 *Pension Disclosures—an amendment of GASB Statements No. 25 and No. 27*. The implementation of this statement did not impact the basic financial statements or related footnote disclosures.

The GASB issued Statement #43, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*. The implementation of this statement resulted in changes to the fund financial statements as well as footnote disclosures relating to such post-employment benefits.

Future GASB Pronouncements:

The GASB issued Statement #45 *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, which is required to be implemented in Fiscal 2009. Management has yet to determine if this pronouncement will significantly impact the basic financial statements.

The GASB issued Statement #53, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Derivative Instruments*, which is required to be implemented in fiscal year 2010. The standards requires governments to measure most derivative instruments at fair value in their financial statements that are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Management elected to implement this standard early and this standard did not impact the basic financial statements.

Required Supplementary Information

**GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -
BUDGET AND ACTUAL**

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2008

	Budgeted Amounts				Actual Budgetary Amounts	Amounts Carried Forward To Next Year	Variance To Final Budget
	Amounts Carried forward From Prior Year	Current Year Initial Budget	Original Budget	Final Budget			
REVENUES:							
Real estate and personal property taxes, net of tax refunds.....	\$ -	\$ 58,619,800	\$ 58,619,800	\$ 59,119,800	\$ 59,138,301	\$ -	\$ 19,501
Tax liens.....	-	-	-	2,600,000	206,429	-	206,429
Motor vehicle and other excise taxes.....	-	2,600,000	2,600,000	2,600,000	2,777,170	-	177,170
Charges for services.....	-	1,540,772	1,540,772	1,540,772	1,554,421	-	13,649
Penalties and interest on taxes.....	-	110,000	110,000	110,000	175,857	-	65,857
Licenses and permits.....	-	550,000	550,000	550,000	746,872	-	196,872
Fines and forfeitures.....	-	270,000	270,000	270,000	464,373	-	194,373
Intergovernmental.....	-	8,067,497	8,067,497	8,067,497	8,045,696	-	(21,801)
Investment income.....	-	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	1,375,292	-	175,292
TOTAL REVENUES.....		72,958,069	72,958,069	73,458,069	74,484,411		1,026,342
EXPENDITURES:							
Current:							
General government.....	18,955	3,411,705	3,430,660	3,231,979	2,976,180	20,118	235,671
Public safety.....	1,940	10,227,721	10,228,661	10,354,512	10,032,223	-	322,289
Education.....	248,402	37,707,199	37,955,601	37,799,601	37,386,456	320,865	92,180
Public works.....	34,560	7,547,752	7,562,312	7,933,578	7,486,441	56,857	360,280
Human services.....	1,099	879,986	881,065	902,012	851,174	1,099	49,739
Culture and recreation.....	8,100	2,287,423	2,295,523	2,347,013	2,327,021	9,743	10,249
Pension benefits.....	-	3,928,785	3,928,785	3,928,785	3,924,665	-	4,120
Employee benefits.....	85,000	2,455,500	2,540,500	2,757,529	2,281,377	59,000	417,152
State and county charges.....	-	1,505,417	1,505,417	1,505,417	1,498,205	-	7,212
Debt service:							
Principal.....	-	3,368,170	3,368,170	2,984,170	2,984,170	-	-
Interest.....	-	1,768,536	1,768,536	1,409,149	1,409,149	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES.....	398,056	75,068,194	75,486,250	75,153,745	73,157,071	467,782	1,526,892
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES.....	(398,056)	(2,130,125)	(2,528,181)	(1,695,676)	1,327,340	(467,782)	2,555,234
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):							
Transfers in.....	-	1,075,000	1,075,000	1,231,420	1,269,086	-	37,666
Transfers out.....	-	(4,105,100)	(4,105,100)	(5,252,283)	(5,252,283)	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES).....	-	(3,030,100)	(3,030,100)	(4,020,863)	(3,983,197)	-	37,666
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE.....	(398,056)	(5,160,225)	(5,558,281)	(5,716,539)	(2,855,867)	(467,782)	2,552,900
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCE, Beginning of year.....	-	10,333,333	10,333,333	10,333,333	10,333,333	-	-
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCE, End of year.....	(398,056)	5,173,108	4,775,052	4,616,794	7,477,466	(467,782)	2,552,900

See notes to basic financial statements.

NOTE A - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

A. Budgetary Information

Municipal Law requires the adoption of a balanced budget that is approved by the Board of Selectmen (the "Board"). The Board presents an annual budget to the representative Town meeting, which includes estimates of revenues and other financing sources and recommendations of expenditures and other financing uses. The representative town meeting, which has full authority to amend and/or reject the budget or any line item, adopts the expenditure budget by majority vote.

Increases or transfers between voted functions subsequent to the approval of the annual budget, requires a vote at a special Town meeting.

The majority of appropriations are non-continuing which lapse at the end of each fiscal year. Others are continuing appropriations for which the governing body has authorized that an unspent balance from a prior fiscal year be carried forward and made available for spending in the current fiscal year. These carry forwards are included as part of the subsequent fiscal year's original budget.

Generally, expenditures may not exceed the legal level of spending (salaries, expenses and capital) authorized for an appropriation account. However, the payment of debt service is statutorily required, regardless of whether such amounts are appropriated. Additionally, expenditures for disasters, natural or otherwise, and final judgments may exceed the level of spending authorized by two-thirds majority vote of the Town meeting.

An annual budget is adopted for the general fund in conformity with the guidelines described above. The original fiscal year 2008 approved budget authorized approximately \$79.591 million in appropriations and other amounts to be raised. During fiscal year 2008, the Town meeting also approved supplemental appropriations totaling approximately \$815,000.

The Town Accountant's office has the responsibility to ensure that budgetary control is maintained. Budgetary control is exercised through the accounting system.

B. Budgetary - GAAP Reconciliation

For budgetary financial reporting purposes, the Uniform Municipal Accounting System basis of accounting (established by the Commonwealth) is followed, which differs from the GAAP basis of accounting. A reconciliation of budgetary-basis to GAAP-basis results for the general fund for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, is presented below:

Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources (uses) over expenditures - budgetary basis.....	\$ (2,655,857)
Basis of accounting differences:	
Net change in recording tax refunds payable.....	259,000
Net change in recording 60-day receipts accrual.....	117,000
Recognition of revenue for on-behalf payments.....	(7,153,670)
Recognition of expenditures for on-behalf payments.....	7,153,670
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources (uses) over expenditures - GAAP basis.....	\$ (2,279,857)

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

This office has settled in with the new accounting software system and manages to find new uses each month for the information gathered. This along with a new internal audit focus led by the Assistant Town Accountant & Internal Auditor has increased our professionalism. Permanent staffing has remained stable which is imperative in these financial times. Training strains productivity and funds. We have lost our intern due to the hiring freeze and anticipate a period of intense focus on budgets.

The following pages show the internally generated financial statements along with charts showing the specific activity for all special revenue funds. The final audited financial statements presented by our accounting firm of Powers & Sullivan is located in the Permanent Audit Committee section.

The FY08 budget year ended on a positive note. We have tended to be relatively conservative in our revenue estimates and town departments do not make an attempt to spend money left over at year which frees up funds for "Free Cash". The free cash figure certified on was July 1, 2008, was \$2,594,800. The Town generally uses these funds for the upcoming operating budget, saving a portion of emergency use.

This office acts as liaison for both the Warrant Committee and Capital Budget Committee. These citizen committees are to be lauded for the hundreds of hours they donate to the community each year. It is always interesting to have new ideas being brought to the table.

Finally, without Frank Martin and Paula Carroll in this office we would be unable to provide the needed services to the community. I would like to thank them for their continuing service.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Hagg, Town Accountant

Town of Belmont
 Combined Balance Sheet Statement of Changes in Fund Balance
 June 30, 2008

	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Internal Service	Trust & Agency	General Long-Term Obligations	Total
Assets								
Cash and Investments	10,719,209	13,306,492	5,714,254	9,826,756	2,688,186	3,500,011		45,754,907
Receivables								
Real Estate Taxes	497,654							497,654
Personal Property Taxes	14,347							14,347
Excises	360,242							360,242
Tax Liens	540,420							540,420
Deferred Taxes	840,181							840,181
Departmental	606,793			3,857,935		124,110		4,588,839
Overlay	(744,456)							(744,456)
Intergovernmental								
Due From Other Funds		274,128						274,128
Other Assets								
Fixed Assets		3,817,254						3,817,254
Amount to be Provided		8,706,306						8,706,306
Total Assets	12,834,391	13,580,619	5,714,254	26,208,251	2,688,186	3,624,121	33,553,216	98,203,036
Liabilities and Fund Equity								
Liabilities								
Warrants/Payroll/Accounts Payable	1,618,307	88,082	275,380	370,421	(18,198)	28,083		2,363,056
Deferred Revenue - Property Taxes	(232,455)							(232,455)
Deferred Revenue - Other	2,347,637			1,727,106		124,110		4,198,853
Notes Payable								
Accrued Payroll/withholdings	388,776							388,776
Due To Other Funds								
Other Liabilities	14,489							
Undistributed Receipts	1,020,161			4,412,560	1,200,000	259,500		5,886,549
Landfill Closure								
Bonds Payable				580,000			33,553,216	34,133,216
Total Liabilities	5,156,915	89,082	275,380	7,090,987	1,181,802	411,673	33,553,216	47,758,155
Fund Equity								
Retained Earnings				15,594,128				15,594,128
Reserved for Encumbrances	467,782			2,397,898				2,865,680
Reserved for Expenditures	3,556,359			1,126,138	1,506,383			6,188,880
Reserved for Special Purposes	19,696					1,728,979		1,748,675
Unreserved	3,633,639	13,491,537	5,438,874			1,483,469		24,047,519
Designated for Deficits								
Total Fund Equity	7,677,476	13,491,537	5,438,874	19,118,164	1,506,383	3,212,448	-	50,444,982
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	12,834,391	13,580,619	5,714,254	26,208,251	2,688,186	3,624,121	33,553,216	98,203,036

Town of Belmont
Combined Balance Sheet Statement of Changes in Fund Balance
June 30, 2008

Assets	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise	Internal Service	Trust & Agency	General Long-Term Obligations	Total
Revenues								
Real Estate & PP taxes	56,344,728.28	-	-	-	-	-	-	59,344,728
MVE & other Excises	2,777,171.19	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,777,171
Charges for services & Dept rev	1,082,528.94	1,677,686.85	-	-	-	1,719,137	-	4,479,353
Penalties & interest on taxes	175,857.40	-	-	29,457,004	-	-	-	29,632,862
Licenses & Permits & Fees	746,872.10	-	-	66,830	-	-	-	813,702
Fines & Forfeitures	336,626.40	4,410.55	-	-	-	-	-	341,037
Intergovernmental	8,282,564.02	3,934,363.42	-	-	-	43,510	-	12,260,437
Departmental & Other (In Lieu of Tax)	381,175.05	8,419.50	-	-	-	6,130	-	407,724
Contributions	-	277,548.49	-	35,394	-	50,387	-	363,329
Investment Income	1,375,292.10	183,699.89	-	251,620	76,510	117,773	-	2,006,895
Miscellaneous	26,236.56	-	-	99,183	12,031,103	4,225	-	12,160,748
Total Revenues	74,539,052.03	6,066,126.50	-	29,910,031	12,109,813	1,943,162	-	124,567,986.77
Expenditures								
General Government	4,327,646.83	46,636.18	6,946.40	-	-	85,801	-	4,467,034
Public Safety	10,066,431.60	113,299.66	-	-	-	1,080,239	-	11,259,970
Education	36,952,144.93	4,576,283.09	12,000.00	-	-	596,315	-	42,138,744
Public Works	5,163,336.63	5,822.11	-	-	-	21,755	-	5,190,914
Human Services	851,173.78	131,837.70	-	25,736,976	-	-	-	26,719,987
Culture & Recreation	2,930,796.35	42,108.36	-	-	-	6,139	-	2,979,047
Pension Benefits	3,924,665.11	-	-	-	10,661,488	-	-	3,924,665
Employee Benefits	1,781,376.60	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,781,376
State & County Charges	1,498,205.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,498,205
Capital Outlay	822,613.16	1,030,230.29	3,662,605.72	1,950,586	-	-	-	12,442,864
Debt Service Principal	3,244,170.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,486,205
Debt Service Interest	1,443,709.93	-	-	312,650	-	-	-	7,466,037
Total Expenditures	73,006,272.92	5,948,219.59	3,681,554	28,000,214	10,661,488	1,790,249	-	123,087,997
Other Financing Sources (uses)								
Proceeds from bonds & notes	-	-	-	714,000	-	-	-	714,000
Premium from issuance of Bonds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance Proceeds	19,012.34	647,045.78	-	-	-	-	-	19,012
Sale of Capital Assets	1,563,648.12	23,522.68	5,194,025.00	955,822	-	-	-	647,046
Transfers In	(5,694,025.00)	(155,000.00)	(194,066.12)	(2,170,384)	-	509,195	-	6,246,212.80
Transfers Out	(4,130,376.86)	534,580.80	4,996,638.88	(500,562)	-	(32,718)	-	(6,246,212.80)
Total Other Financing Sources (uses)	(2,597,597.77)	672,489.71	1,318,384.76	1,409,256	1,448,125	629,390	-	2,860,047.52
Net Change in fund Balance	10,275,073.92	12,756,566.96	3,370,489.21	17,708,909	58,258	2,842,558	-	47,011,855
Budgetary FB, Beg of Year								

FY08 STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS						
Munis Fund	Description	Balance 7/1/2007	Revenue to 6/30/2008	Expenditures to 6/30/2008	Transfers	Balance 6/30/2008
	FUND BALANCES RESERVED FOR APPROPRIATION					
2100	1010 INSURANCE. REIMB>\$20,000.	34,089.84				34,089.84
2100	1011 SALE OF CEMETERY LOTS	342,137.50	289,800.00		-	631,937.50
2100	1012 SALE OF TOWN OWNED PROPERTY	11,000.00	647,045.78			658,045.78
2100	1013 CAPITAL ENDOWMENT FUND	3,089,114.53	8,785.12		(100,000.00)	2,997,899.65
2100	1014 STABILIZATION FUND - GENERAL	5,842.28	384.41			6,226.69
2100	1015 CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE FUND	35,935.75			3,522.68	39,458.43
2100	1016 KENDALL SCHOOL FIRE INSURANCE	3,217,955.02	49,069.00		(35,000.00)	3,217,955.02
2100	1017 PARKING METER RECEIPTS	96,516.19	175,110.36			110,585.19
2100	1018 ASH LANDFILL STABILIZATION FUND	3,839,075.71	1,170,194.57		(131,477.32)	4,014,186.07
		10,671,666.82				11,710,384.17
	TOWN GIFTS AND REVOLVING ACCOUNTS					
2150	2010 COUNCIL ON AGING REVOLVING	23,403.36	37,035.82	47,793.16		12,646.02
2150	2011 YOUTH COMMISSION REVOLVING	2,573.20	854.00			3,427.20
2150	2012 CULTURAL COUNCIL REVOLVING	1,261.69	12,721.64	11,439.97		2,543.36
2150	2013 LIB REVOLVING - PRINTERS/LOST BOOK	-	12,405.09	441.19		11,963.90
2150	2110 TOWN CLERK GIFT	1,621.19		1,564.00		57.19
2150	2111 TREASURER DONATION	905.33				905.33
2150	2112 RCN TECHNOLOGY GRANT	50,445.30				50,445.30
2150	2113 CONSERVATION GIFT	1,492.06	7,877.81	1,684.02		7,685.85
2150	2114 MCLEAN GIFT CONSERVATION	94,650.00	26,545.74	36,577.68		84,618.06
2150	2115 CROSSWALK GIFT - BELMONT	2,021.55	120.00			2,141.55
2150	2117 BENCHES FOR BELMONT	1,312.40		1,200.78		111.62
2150	2118 GIFT WOODLAND SEWER I/I	68,607.00	54,054.00			122,661.00
2150	2120 COUNCIL OF AGING GIFT	15,440.60	100.00			15,540.60
2150	2121 DONATION - POLICE DEFIBRILLATOR	93.95	27,000.00	21,990.95		5,103.00
2150	2122 BICYCLE RODEO DONATION	6,010.70				6,010.70
2150	2123 DONATION FIRE DEFIBRILLATOR	146.45				146.45
2150	2124 CERT TRAINING GIFT	6,498.03		4,086.42		2,411.61
2150	2125 SAFE GIFTS	12,794.15	8,100.00	5,675.00		15,219.15
2150	2126 MOUNT AUBURN HOSPITAL GRANT	3,827.53				3,827.53
2150	2127 OUTREACH WORKER - DONATION	10.00				10.00
2150	2128 SKIN CANCER AWARD	1,000.00				1,000.00
2150	2129 TUFTS HEALTH DONATION	40.56				40.56
2150	2130 PAPPAS FIT EQUIPMENT	18,529.96		295.00		18,234.96
2150	2131 PAPPAS GIFT - UNIFORMS	25.00				25.00
2150	2132 PAPPAS GIFT FIREARMS	5,761.22				5,761.22

Munis Fund	Description	Balance 7/1/2007	Revenue to 6/30/2008	Expenditures to 6/30/2008	Transfers	Balance 6/30/2008
2150	2138 VERIZON LIBRARY GRANT	2,004.72		1,356.06		648.66
2150	2139 LIBRARY GIFT ACCOUNT	22,728.14	660.00	12,403.27		10,984.87
2150	2140 LIBRARY ART COUNCIL	121.35				121.35
2150	2141 DONATION - SHADE TREE	636.75	13,800.00			14,436.75
2150	2142 UNDERWOOD POOL FUND	147.68				147.68
2150	2143 BOSTON FOUNDATION DONATIONS PLY	1,025.80				1,025.80
2150	2144 MEMORIAL TREE DONATIONS - CEMETE	1,815.00				1,815.00
2150	2145 PEQUOSETTE PLAYGROUND IMPROVE.	3,110.64				3,110.64
2150	2146 ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR	2,220.02		118.74		2,101.28
2150	2147 AUDITORIUM BALL	58,723.03		19,180.73		39,542.30
2150	2149 PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT DONATIONS	3,347.86				3,347.86
2150	2150 MISC FIRE GIFT - CAPITAL	35,100.00		34,691.60		408.40
2150	2151 CULTURAL COUNCIL GALLERY GIFTS	150.00	2,737.00	352.45		2,534.55
2150	2152 ANIMAL CONTROL GIFT	10,050.00	150.00	1,831.95		8,368.05
2150	2153 ALS Study- Grant		3,000.00			3,000.00
2150	2310 INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT < \$20,000	19,840.89	19,012.34	21,662.76		17,190.47
2150	2311 INS PROCEEDS - CAMBRIDGE PLATING	590.64				590.64
2150	2350 RMV - PARKING HANDICAPPED	33,507.47	4,400.00	224.00		37,683.47
2150	2351 HISTORIC DISTRICT	10,027.37				10,027.37
2150	2352 CABLE TELEVISION-TRAFFIC MGT	40,000.00				40,000.00
2150	2353 CABLE TELEVISION - NEW EQUIPMENT	3,137.50	3,619.50			6,757.00
2150	2354 BELMONT UPLAND ALEWIFE	1,307.00		1,307.00		
2150	2355 O'NEILL PROPERTY - CONSULTING	41.00		41.00		
2150	2356 MCLEAN TRAFFIC MITIGATION	47,239.97		47,239.42		0.55
2150	2357 PLAN BD SITE PLAN REVIEW		18,698.75	18,168.75		530.00
2150	2358 CEMETERY, PLANNING & DEVEL COMM.	1,900.78		88.56		1,812.22
2150	2359 VISION IMPLEMENTATION COMM. GIFTS	207.68	525.00	200.31		532.37
2150	2360 PLANNING BD LEGAL ADS	1,811.70	4,800.00	3,760.56		2,851.14
2150	2361 WETLAND PROTECTION CONSERVATIO	262.50	1,932.50			2,195.00
2150	2362 TEEN CENTER GIFT	1,500.00	1,000.00			2,500.00
2150	2363 BELMONT 150TH CELEBRATION	28,082.71	5,587.00	800.99		32,868.72
2150	2364 HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE GIFT	500.00	1,526.00	1,931.88		94.12
2150	2365 MCLEAN LAND MANAGEMENT	17,000.00	13,000.00			30,000.00
		666,609.43	281,262.19	298,108.20		649,763.42
2200	SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM	30,416.57	771,569.70	772,992.11		28,994.16
2500	SCHOOL GIFTS & REVOLVING ACCOUNTS					
2500	2501 INSURANCE PROCEED OVER \$20,000 (S	7,611.49				7,611.49

Munis Fund	Description	Balance 7/1/2007	Revenue to 6/30/2008	Expenditures to 6/30/2008	Transfers	Balance 6/30/2008
2500	2510 LOST BOOKS	9,646.05	4,410.55	2,103.83		11,952.77
2500	2511 SCHOOL ATHLETICS	82,148.31	236,302.88	258,025.98		60,425.21
2500	2512 ADULT EDUCATION	27,291.14	57,950.95	56,806.14		28,435.95
2500	2513 TUITION - STUDENTS	285,367.49	127,243.00	412,610.49		-
2500	2514 SUMMER SCHOOL	136,789.02	38,236.00	53,212.13		121,812.89
2500	2515 SCHOOL BUILDING RENTALS	-	176,852.23	19,751.81		157,100.42
2500	2516 SATURDAY MUSIC PROGRAM	14,451.22	50,555.00	42,941.37		22,064.85
2500	2517 BUSING FEES	44,042.11	156,128.50	162,467.50		37,703.11
2500	2518 KINDERGARDEN TUITION		102,310.00			102,310.00
2500	2610 WELLINGTON SCHOOL-DONATIONS	600.00				600.00
2500	2619 SANTOS EXPENSE - BUTLER	3,426.56		1,991.78		1,434.78
2500	2620 BELMONT AGAINST RACISM	9,576.53	9,300.00	6,650.00		12,226.53
2500	2621 BELMONT SAVINGS DONATIONS	10.24				10.24
2500	2622 WINN BROOK DONATE	1,495.09	392.62	192.00		1,695.71
2500	2623 FTECH TRAINING MANAGEMENT	5,067.12	1,235.00	5,698.70		603.42
2500	2624 BELMONT SPED ADV COUNCIL	670.15	180.00	299.12		551.03
2500	2626 BURBANK SCHOOL DONATION		1,660.00	1,659.18		0.82
2500	2626 CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL DONATION	1,946.44	300.00	300.00		1,946.44
2500	2626 COMMISSIONED MUSIC WORK	1,345.45				1,345.45
2500	2626 DONATIONS - BELMONT HS	300.00				300.00
2500	2626 SCHOOL GENERAL DONATION (NOT TR)	13,054.19	4,250.00	4,823.95		12,480.24
2500	2626 WELLINGTON SCHOOL-TECH	542.70				542.70
2500	2629 CONCORD CONSORTIUM		1,800.00	1,800.00		-
2500	2630 BURBANK MAEVE GOULDING DONATION		52,189.00			52,189.00
		645,381.30	1,021,295.73	1,031,333.98	-	635,343.05
2510	FOUNDATION FOR BELMONT EDUCATION	-	52,025.32	52,025.32		-
	TOWN FEDERAL GRANTS					
2600	2015 USDA ROCK MEADOW GRANT	-	12,232.50	12,232.50		-
2600	3010 CDBG - READY RESOURCE (WAVERLEY	170.00	15.00			185.00
2600	3011 FEMA-FIRE EQUIPMENT	1,339.49	40,320.00	37,393.00		4,266.49
2600	3012 FEMA/BEMA CERT GRANT	(648.22)				(648.22)
2600	3014 FEMA-FLOOD REIMB SUSP.	3,068.00				3,068.00
2600	3016 CDC - EMERGENCY PREP	7,646.55	3,190.00	9,697.85		1,138.70
2600	3017 FIRE HOMELAND SECURITY FY06	237.18				237.18
2600	3018 HOMELAND SECURITY NERAC	(381.33)				(381.33)

Munis Fund	Description	Balance 7/1/2007	Revenue to 6/30/2008	Expenditures to 6/30/2008	Transfers	Balance 6/30/2008
2600 3019	POLICE BULLETPROOF VEST	-	1,007.01	5,250.00		(4,242.99)
2600 3020	SMALL CITIES POLICE GRANT	5,323.43				5,323.43
2600 3021	DRUG GRANT U.S. JUSTICE	162.95				162.95
2600 3022	TITLE III - HEALTH EDUC COUNCIL ON A	52.92				52.92
2600 3023	TITLE III E - ALTERNATIVE	4,888.89				4,888.89
2600 3025	EOPS - HOMELAND SECURITY	414.36				414.36
2600 3026	GOVERNORS HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGF	548.59	3,712.48	5,288.42		(1,027.35)
2600 3027	FEMA EMERGENCY PLANNING	10.53				10.53
2600 3029	CDC - EMERGENCY PREP		7,699.38	5,531.56		2,167.82
		22,833.34	68,176.37	75,393.33	-	15,616.38
	SCHOOL FEDERAL GRANTS					
2700 3200	DRUG FREE SCHOOLS 2001/2002	1,138.31				1,138.31
2700 3200	DRUG FREE SCHOOLS 2004/2005	954.27		954.27		-
2700 3200	DRUG FREE SCHOOLS 2007/2008		1,125.00			1,125.00
2700 3200	SAFE SCHOOLS FY98	2,169.87				2,169.87
2700 3200	SAFE SCHOOLS FY00	7,391.00				7,391.00
2700 3300	IDEA SPED 94-142 GRANT 2006/2007	84,463.78		84,463.78		-
2700 3300	IDEA SPED 94-142 GRANT 2007/2008		787,381.00	737,066.45		50,314.55
2700 3400	TEACHER QUALITY FY07	818.00		818.00		-
2700 3400	TEACHER QUALITY FY08		78,871.00	77,835.80		1,035.20
2700 3500	LEP SUPPORT FY08		21,316.00	21,316.00		-
2700 3600	SPED ED TITLE V 2003/2004	6,497.49				6,497.49
2700 3600	SPED ED TITLE V 2007/2008		2,273.00	2,273.00		-
2700 3600	SPED ED TITLE VI 2001/2002	2,391.59				2,391.59
2700 3700	SPED EARLY CHILDHOOD FY08		24,992.00	24,550.00		442.00
2700 3800	CHAPTER 1 DISTRIBUTION 02/03	56.04				56.04
2700 3800	CHAPTER 1 DISTRIBUTION 03/04	560.34				560.34
2700 3800	CHAPTER 1 DISTRIBUTION 07/08		228,691.00	225,999.00		2,692.00
2700 3800	TITLE 1 DIST FY07	2,248.00		2,248.00		-
2700 3900	SPED PROF. DEV. FY02	5,880.00				5,880.00
2700 3900	SPED PROGRAM IMPROVE FY07	13,183.38		13,183.38		-
2700 3900	SPED PROGRAM IMPROVE FY08		22,299.00	22,299.00		-
2700 3902	08 CORRECTIVE ACTION		6,000.00			6,000.00
		127,752.07	1,172,948.00	1,213,006.68	-	87,693.39
	TOWN STATE GRANTS					
2800 4303	STATE AID TO LIBRARIES	127,264.91	41,035.63	9,157.38		159,143.36

Munis Fund	Description	Balance 7/1/2007	Revenue to 6/30/2008	Expenditures to 6/30/2008	Transfers	Balance 6/30/2008
2800	4304 LIBRARY MATCH INCENTIVE	3,094.00				3,094.00
2800	4312 COA SERVICE INCENTIVE GRANT 02	746.90				746.90
2800	4313 COA COORDINATOR - EOE/VOL/GERIA	(365.30)	32,832.00	29,805.56		2,661.14
2800	4314 FIRE SAFETY EQUIPMENT CY	8,929.98		8,284.00		645.98
2800	4315 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	3,604.66		884.11		2,720.55
2800	4316 SAFE GRANT OVERTIME	-	8,300.04	4,971.07		3,328.97
2800	4320 MW/PAT-SEPTIC TANK MANAGEMENT PF	23,791.65	709.84			24,501.49
2800	4322 TOBACCO CONTROL - CY	10,832.01	63,708.62	62,199.78		12,340.85
2800	4323 POLICE-BULLET PROOF VEST	3,289.20	1,112.50	5,250.00		(848.30)
2800	4324 COMMUNITY POLICING	56,043.23	35,917.86	38,209.49		53,751.60
2800	4325 DARE-EDUCATION ON SMOKING/DRUG,	2,377.39				2,377.39
2800	4327 SALE OF COMPOSTERS	9,425.35	4,090.00	4,532.77		8,982.58
2800	4330 ARTS LOTTERY	8,622.14	4,776.96	6,958.24		6,440.86
2800	4331 MWRA I & I GRANT FY00	59,064.59	-	59,064.59		-
2800	4333 EOPS 911 Training	-	5,387.38	5,721.04		(333.66)
2800	4335 ROCK MEADOW			4,194.99		(4,194.99)
	SCHOOL STATE GRANTS	316,720.71	197,871.03	239,233.02	-	275,358.72
2900	SCHOOL CHOICE	195,680.00	-	-		195,680.00
2900	KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION		30,000.00	30,000.00		-
2900	CIRCUIT BREAKER		849,857.00	849,857.00		-
2900	ENHANCED EDUC THRU TECH 07	273.00	-	273.00		-
2900	ENHANCED EDUC THRU TECH 08		3,168.00	3,168.00		-
2900	METCO - FY08		632,660.00	632,660.00		-
		195,953.00	1,515,685.00	1,515,958.00	-	195,680.00
3000	CHAPTER 90 - STATE HWY GRANTS	1,717.18	828,989.86	817,149.12		13,557.92
	TOWN SMALL CAPITAL PROJECTS					
3100	5012 CEMETERY CONSTRUCTION	142,061.33		37,997.22		104,064.11
3100	5011 CEMETERY LAND DEVELOPMENT - MCL	4,959.83				4,959.83
3100	5015 COMMUNICATION TOWER	2.68				2.68
3100	5014 ERP/FINANCIAL SOFTWARE	586,604.26		299,694.22		286,910.04
3100	5013 TOWN HALL ANNEX	44,014.17		20,333.95		23,680.22
3100	OLD CAPITAL PROJECTS	28,836.22		5,643.76	(17,775.93)	5,416.53
3100	FY04 CAPITAL PROJECTS - Town	25,143.50		-	(364.00)	24,779.50

Munis Fund	Description	Balance 7/1/2007	Revenue to 6/30/2008	Expenditures to 6/30/2008	Transfers	Balance 6/30/2008
3100	FY05 CAPITAL PROJECTS - Town	4,136.02		2,467.08		1,668.94
3100	FY06 CAPITAL PROJECTS - Town	172,207.43		146,732.00	(1,061.67)	24,413.76
3100	FY07 CAPITAL PROJECTS - Town	1,347,536.53		1,098,707.63	(9,203.01)	239,625.89
3100	FY08 CAPITAL PROJECTS - Town	-	3,875,600.00	866,951.19	(40.00)	3,008,608.81
	FIRE STATION BUILDING COMMITTEE	2,355,501.97	3,875,600.00	2,478,527.05	(28,444.61)	3,724,130.31
3110	FIRE STATIONS CONSTRUCTION	(85,900.28)	23,925.00	24,920.65	-	(86,895.93)
3110	LAND ACQUISITION - FIRE STATIONS	3,450.36		-	-	3,450.36
		(82,449.92)	23,925.00	24,920.65	-	(83,445.57)
	SENIOR CENTER BUILDING COMMITTEE					
3125	Donations		-			
3120	SENIOR CENTER CONSTRUCTION	67,813.58	750,000.00	732,037.93	570,000.00	655,775.65
3120	DESIGN SENIOR CENTER	43,570.68		36,500.00		7,070.68
		111,384.26	750,000.00	768,537.93	570,000.00	662,846.33
	SCHOOL CAPITAL PROJECTS					
3600	7011 CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL	688,492.76				688,492.76
3600	7010 CONSTRUCTION - HIGH SCHOOL ATHLE	47,904.65		2,000.00		45,904.65
3600	7009 DESIGN - HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC FIEL	25,737.78		-		25,737.78
3600	7023 HS HVAC UNITS	-	150,000.00	67,063.00	-	82,937.00
3600	HS TRANSLUCENT PANELS	17,189.25				17,189.25
3600	FY04 CAPITAL PROJECTS - School	2,403.07				2,403.07
3600	FY05 CAPITAL PROJECTS - School	20,849.86				20,849.86
3600	FY06 CAPITAL PROJECTS - School	2,370.00				2,370.00
3600	FY07 CAPITAL PROJECTS - School	181,105.53		20,580.00	(160,525.53)	-
3600	FY08 CAPITAL PROJECTS -School		574,500.00	319,925.49	(5,115.98)	249,458.53
		986,052.90	724,500.00	409,568.49	(165,641.51)	1,135,342.90
	NON EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS					
5200	9010 CEMETERY, PERPETUAL CARE PRIN.	491,327.14				491,327.14
5200	9020 ATKINS, KATHERINE LIBRARY (Library)	20,052.16	954.62		(23,522.68)	21,006.78
5200	9021 BURDICK, ESTHER E. MEMORIAL. (Libra	11,293.61	537.60			11,831.21
5200	9022 DELUTY, MICHAEL E. (Library)	14,179.23	675.01			14,854.24
5200	9023 GRAY (DUSTAN), JANE EDUC. SCHOLAR	566,935.45	26,921.87	10,500.00		583,357.32
5200	9024 JENNEY, BLANCHE HOWE LIB. (Library)	14,164.95	1,051.68			15,216.63
5200	9026 WRISLEY, MARGARET LIBRARY (Library)	17,347.44	825.80			18,173.24
5200	9125 MARIE TELLIER (Non expend to 2029)	64,741.88	3,079.46			67,821.34
		1,200,041.86	57,568.72	10,500.00	(23,522.68)	1,223,587.90
6500	WATER ENTERPRISE	1,755,322.39	4,703,089.47	3,357,515.39	(931,022.00)	2,169,874.47

Munis Fund	Description	Balance 7/1/2007	Revenue to 6/30/2008	Expenditures to 6/30/2008	Transfers	Balance 6/30/2008
	WATER CAPITAL PROJECTS					
6550	5071 MWRA BOND-WATER MAIN	18,511.69	528.11		(19,039.80)	-
6550	5072 WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT	820,786.42	-	881,888.22	666,361.80	605,260.00
6550	5074 VEHICLE REPLACEMENT	25,132.14	-	51,096.87	75,700.00	49,735.27
	5096 WATER METERS	439,996.36				439,996.36
	5097 WATER MAIN MAINT BOND FY08	-	721,451.29	-	-	721,451.29
6550	5075 GIS HARDWARE & SOFTWARE	37,789.39	-	9,874.00	58,000.00	85,895.39
		1,342,196.00	721,979.40	942,859.09	781,022.00	1,902,338.31
	SEWER ENTERPRISE					
6600	SEWER OPERATIONS	1,666,259.25	6,416,876.53	5,216,838.97	(294,800.00)	2,571,496.81
	SEWER CAPITAL PROJECTS					
6650	5023 Sewer I&I Construction	229,389.92		203,480.68		25,909.24
6650	5066 SEWER & DRAIN REPLACEMENT	69,793.67		17,159.75		52,633.92
6650	5067 BOND SEWER LINE REMEDIATION	1,025,928.23		717,869.70		308,058.53
6650	5068 TRUCK REPLACEMENTS	-		56,785.75	155,200.00	98,414.25
6650	5069 GIS ENGINEERING & HARDWARE	177.00		9,233.00	19,600.00	10,544.00
6650	5070 MWRA GIS GRANT LOAN	-				-
		1,325,288.82	-	1,004,528.88	174,800.00	495,559.94
	EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS					
7200	9310 EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE	515.28	2,775,628.84	2,340,206.45		435,937.67
7200	9311 EMPLOYER HEALTH INSURANCE	57,742.85	9,333,984.16	7,121,281.24		2,270,445.77
7200	9023 DUSTAN GRAY CHILD LIB EXPEND		9,195.00	2,188.50		7,006.50
7200	9028 BELMONT EDUCATION DONATIONS (Che	72,396.10	5,874.13	3,200.00		75,070.23
7200	9313 MUGAR MEMORIAL POLICE	7,136.96	320.14			7,457.10
7200	9314 LAW ENFORCEMENT	37,928.99	2,984.38	10,000.00		30,913.37
7200	9317 CEMETERY ANNUAL PLANTING	84,121.86	6,428.64			90,550.50
7200	9318 SENIOR CENTER CHECK OFF	19,305.01	2,102.88			21,407.89
7200	9319 LIBRARY GIFT FUND (Library)	146,091.00	7,740.38			153,831.38
7200	9320 TRUSTEES BLDG FUND (Library) LIB CHA	17,599.23	1,351.92			18,951.15
7200	9321 DUSTAN LIBRARY BLDG BEQUEST NON	272,786.27	12,229.93			285,016.20
7200	9322 BARRON, CARL FIRE GRANT	4,567.59	214.87	1,146.00		3,636.46
7200	9323 OPEB TRUST FUND		5,390.69		500,000.00	505,390.69
		720,191.14	12,163,445.96	9,478,022.19	500,000.00	3,905,614.91
	SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS					
8500	9110 ACORN, RUTH SCHOLARSHIP	5,286.01	243.66	200.00		5,329.67
8500	9111 ARNO, GUY LIB. SCHOLARSHIP	6,962.67	525.71	200.00		7,288.38

Munis Fund	Description	Balance 7/1/2007	Revenue to 6/30/2008	Expenditures to 6/30/2008	Transfers	Balance 6/30/2008
8500	9112 BAKON, EDMUND B. SCHOLARSHIP	14,471.26	8,460.02	500.00		22,431.28
8500	9114 BELMONT SCHOLARSHIP FUND (Check	287,708.16	14,006.29	12,063.05		289,651.40
8500	9116 BELMONT WOMEN ROTARY	2,872.10	131.13	200.00		2,803.23
8500	9117 BENNETT SCHOLARSHIP	63.35	2.21			65.56
8500	9118 BETTENCOURT, WM. SCHOLARSHIP.	28,095.12	1,314.72	500.00		28,909.84
8500	9119 BLACKER, LILLIAN SCHOLAR.	28,455.38	1,354.74	1,000.00		28,810.12
8500	9120 BURNHAM, RICHARD A. SCHOLARSHIP	5,628.82	464.81	200.00		5,893.63
8500	9122 CLASS OF 1982 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSH	159.23	8.19			167.42
8500	9124 CRISAFULLI, CHARLES SCHOLARSHIP	4,536.05	210.74	200.00		4,546.79
8500	9126 DESTEFANO, COSMO, SCHOLARSHIP	2,325.38	105.65	200.00		2,231.03
8500	9129 FRIENDS OF BELMONT WRESTLERS	7,141.64	335.88			7,477.52
8500	9132 GRACE, CHRISTOPHER J. SCHOLARSHI	115.13	100.00	215.13		-
8500	9133 GRANT, BRENDAN SCHOLARSHIP	57,416.39	2,709.66	2,000.00		58,126.05
8500	9134 HANSON, PAUL MEMORIAL, SCHOLARS	3,548.28	164.04	200.00		3,512.32
8500	9135 HARRINGTON, BARRY J. MEM SCHOLAR	1,056.62	1,053.64	1,000.00		1,110.26
8500	9136 HECHT, MALCOLM, JR. SCHOLARSHIP.	33,094.26	1,535.28	500.00		34,129.54
8500	9137 KELLEY, PAUL L. SCHOLARSHIP	17,714.54	838.25	200.00		18,352.79
8500	9139 LEE, EDWARD -RAY, DONALD SCHOLAR	7,530.04	352.93	200.00		7,682.97
8500	9140 LYONS, DUNCAN SCHOLARSHIP	5,452.60	1,272.78	200.00		6,525.38
8500	9142 MCNEIL, JOSEPH SCHOLARSHIP	8,186.99	384.10	500.00		8,071.09
8500	9143 MEYERHOEFFER, C. SCHOLARSHIP	4,997.10	232.39	500.00		4,729.49
8500	9144 NAHABIDIAN, ALICE MEMORIAL.	7,810.75	408.39	500.00		7,719.14
8500	9145 OLIN, JOHN R. SCHOLARSHIP	6,757.98	316.00	200.00		6,873.98
8500	9146 PHI BETA KAPPA BOOK AWARD	1,280.54	60.45	30.00		1,310.99
8500	9149 ALLEN, RICHARD LEARNING CENTER S	4,546.14	203.40	500.00		4,249.54
8500	9150 RILEY, BRIAN SCHOLARSHIP	52,178.12	14,326.41	1,000.00		65,504.53
8500	9152 SAIA, PATRICIA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSH	6,318.39	800.98	500.00		6,619.37
8500	9153 SHARPE, HOWARD D. SCHOLARSHIP	6,180.96	490.52	200.00		6,471.48
8500	9155 SULLIVAN, JOHN J., SCHOLARSHIP	19,217.80	896.91	500.00		19,614.71
8500	9156 WESTLUND SCHOLARSHIP FUND	13,949.95	1,119.42	500.00		14,569.37
8500	9157 WESTPHAL CARLA A., SCHOLARSHIP	53,584.84	2,502.34	1,000.00		55,087.18
8500	9158 WHITNEY, MARY E. SCHOLARSHIP FUN	41,167.24	1,947.55	1,000.00		42,114.79
8500	9159 SHAW, NORMA LEE, MEMORIAL ART SC	848.39	1,291.24	500.00		1,639.63
8500	9160 Class 1959 ALUMNI and Friends		10,008.01			10,008.01
		746,658.22	70,178.44	27,208.18		789,628.48

Munis Fund	Description	Balance 7/1/2007	Revenue to 6/30/2008	Expenditures to 6/30/2008	Transfers	Balance 6/30/2008
	AGENCY FUNDS					
9100	9511 SPORTING LICENSES. DUE COMM.	(209.05)	2,904.50	2,735.00		(39.55)
9100	9512 TOWN HALL/ANNEX DETAIL	3,033.11	3,805.80	4,823.01		2,015.90
9100	9513 POLICE PAID DETAILS	(23,741.32)	952,416.48	955,850.57		(27,175.41)
9100	9514 FIREARM LICENSE/REGISTRATION	200.00	5,225.00	5,225.00		200.00
9100	9515 FIREMEN PAID DETAIL	3,547.01	19,693.08	19,380.86		3,859.23
9100	9516 AMBULANCE BILLING-THIRD PARTY	1,187.47	88,636.28	88,636.30		1,187.45
9100	9517 LIBRARY CUSTODIAL DETAIL	3,114.48	1,134.00	2,645.37		1,603.11
9100	9518 SCHOOL CUSTODIAL DETAIL	7,352.92	33,830.21	33,830.21		7,352.92
9100	9519 BHS ACTIVITY AGENCY	200,005.41	412,157.44	405,511.32		206,651.53
9100	9520 CMS ACTIVITY AGENCY	50,613.88	128,706.96	126,566.24		52,754.60
9100	9521 ABC STORMWATER FLOODING	(10,665.00)	43,510.00	21,755.00		11,090.00
9100	9522 RETIREMENT BOARD PAYROLL	(514.33)	78,757.01	78,242.68		-
		233,924.58	1,770,776.76	1,745,201.56	-	259,499.78

TOWN TREASURER, TAX COLLECTOR AND PARKING CLERK

Treasurer, Collector and Parking Clerk
Floyd S. Carman, April 4, 2005 – June 30, 2008
Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Collector
Daniela Boccia

Staff

Mary Ehler, Payroll Technician
Marie Conroy, Real Estate Technician
Iwona Gosz, Administrative Assistant

Will Bielitz, Excise Technician
Paula Hall, Accounts Payable
Michael Trainer, Head Cashier

The Treasurer/Tax Collector Office has responsibilities to oversee the Town's investments, cash management, and revenue collection activities, managing debt service functions, participating in the bond issuance process and administration of payroll and employee benefits. They also directly support the Parking Clerk, Permanent Audit Committee, Capital Endowment Committee, Town of Belmont Scholarship Fund Committee, Belmont Employees Credit Union, Belmont Cultural Arts, and Belmont 150th Celebration Committee.

A few of the accomplishments for FY08 were as follows:

- Personal Property Tax Clean Up (1998-2001)
- Abandoned Property Clean Up (2004-2006)
- All prior year audit issues involving Treasurer's Department were fixed
- Issued \$714,000 Water Bond
- Reaffirmed AAA Bond Rating

Treasury Management

The investment income earnings decreased \$322,115 to \$1,619,669. Our General Fund earnings increased by \$10,785 to a record high of \$1,375,292. The cash flow continues to be steady with a 99.4% real estate collection rate and weighted annual interest rates of 4.25%.

Debt Management

As of 6/30/08 the current year Net Debt Service Cost was \$4,460,501 with total outstanding debt remaining of \$33,553,216. This represents ten projects which include Chenery Middle School, Light Department Building, Town Hall Complex, Fire Station, BHS Athletic Field, Skating Rink, Communication Tower, Financial System, and Town Water/Sewer projects. The Town has \$20,886,054 in authorized but not issued debit remaining. It is anticipated these Debt Authorizations will be issued in calendar year 2009.

Tax Collection

In April 2003, Town Meeting voted to adopt a quarterly real estate tax billing and collection system which was implemented for FY05.

The Town continues to enjoy a high collection rate, 99.4% for FY08. A number of properties are delinquent with back taxes and the appropriate tax title taking documents were filed to establish a lien and protect the Town's interest in collecting delinquent taxes. Taxpayers experiencing financial hardship are encouraged to consult with the Board of Assessors to determine eligibility for deferrals and exemptions as options to allow them to remain in their homes. While properties in deferral accrue interest on outstanding taxes at 8% annually, overdue tax and lien amounts incur 14% interest and 16% when in tax title. All taxes, liens, and accrued interest are ordinarily collected when the property is sold or refinanced.

Parking Clerk

The parking revenue for FY08 was \$136,783, a decrease of \$67,365 over FY07.

Respectfully submitted
Floyd S. Carman, Treasurer/Tax Collector and Parking Clerk

**TREASURY MANAGEMENT
RECAP OF SCHOLARSHIP ACTIVITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008**

<i>(For Belmont High School Students)</i>	BALANCE 7/1/2007	DONATIONS	INCOME	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE 6/30/2008
Ruth Acorn	\$5,286.01		\$243.66	\$200.00	\$5,329.67
Richard Allen Learning Center	4,546.14		203.40	500.00	4,249.54
Guy & Madeline Arno	6,962.67	\$200.00	325.71	200.00	7,288.38
Alumni Class of 1959	0.00	\$10,000.00	8.01		10,008.01
Edmund B. Bakon	14,471.28	\$7,600.00	860.02	500.00	22,431.28
Frank Bennett	63.35		2.21		65.56
William Bettencourt	28,095.12		1,314.72	500.00	28,909.84
Lillian Blacker	28,455.38		1,354.74	1,000.00	28,810.12
Richard Burnham	5,628.82	\$200.00	264.81	200.00	5,893.63
Class of 1982	159.23		8.19		167.42
Charles Crisafulli	4,536.25		210.74	200.00	4,546.99
Cosmo DeStefano	2,325.38		105.65	200.00	2,231.03
Christopher J Grace	115.13			115.13	0.00
Brendan Grant	57,416.39		2,709.66	2,000.00	58,126.05
Paul D. Hanson	3,548.28		164.04	200.00	3,512.32
Barry Harrington	1,056.62	\$1,000.00	53.64	1,000.00	1,110.26
Malcolm Hecht	33,094.26		1,535.28	500.00	34,129.54
Paul Kelly	17,715.54		838.25	200.00	18,353.79
Teddy Lee & Donald Ray	7,530.04		352.93	200.00	7,682.97
Duncan Lyons	5,452.60	\$1,000.00	272.78	200.00	6,525.38
Joseph D McNeill	8,186.99		384.10	500.00	8,071.09
Clyde Meyerhoefer	4,997.10		232.39	500.00	4,729.49
Alice Nahabedian	7,810.75	50.00	358.39	500.00	7,719.14
John Olin	6,757.98		316.00	200.00	6,873.98
Phi Beta Kappa Book Award	1,280.54		60.45	30.00	1,310.99
Brian & Shaun Riley	52,178.12	11,579.00	2,747.41	1,000.00	65,504.53
Patricia Saia	6,518.39	500.00	300.98	500.00	6,819.37
Howard Sharpe	6,380.96	200.00	290.52	200.00	6,671.48
Norma Lee Shaw	448.39	1,225.00	66.24	500.00	1,239.63
John Sullivan	19,217.80		896.91	500.00	19,614.71
Westlund Family Scholarship	13,949.95	450.00	669.42	500.00	14,569.37
Carl Westphal	53,584.84		2,502.34	1,000.00	55,087.18
Mary E. Whitney	41,167.24		1,947.55	1,000.00	42,114.79
Friends of Belmont Wrestling	7,141.64	\$300.00	335.88	300.00	7,477.52
Belmont Women's Rotary	2,872.10		131.13	200.00	2,803.23
TOTAL	\$458,951.26	\$34,304.00	\$22,068.15	\$15,345.13	\$499,978.28

RECAP OF OTHER TRUST FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

OTHER TRUST FUND	OPENING BALANCE 7/1/2007	DONATIONS	INCOME	EXPENDITURES	ENDING BALANCE 7/30/2008
Scholarship Check -Off (for Town Residents)	\$287,708.16	\$1,232.70	\$12,773.59	\$12,083.05	\$289,651.40
Education Check Off (for School Technology)	72,396.10	2,721.42	3,152.71	3,200.00	75,070.23
Senior Center Check -Off (for New Senior Center)	19,305.01	1,215.58	877.30		21,397.89
General Check-Off (Town Use)	3,437.49	1,298.00	162.77		4,898.26
Local Law Enforcement (Multi Jurisdictional Task Force)	37,928.99	1,159.18	1,825.20	10,000.00	30,913.37
Carl Barron Fire Grant (Fire Dept Grant)	4,567.59		214.87	1,146.00	3,636.46
Marian Mugar Kitchen Fund (Police Dept Kitchen Accessories Fund)	7,136.96		320.14		7,457.10
Maria A. Tellier Trust (To be disbursed in 2028)	64,741.88		3,079.46		67,821.34
TOTAL	\$497,222.18	\$7,626.88	\$22,406.04	\$26,409.05	\$500,846.05

RECAP OF LIBRARY FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

LIBRARY FUNDS	OPENING BALANCE 7/1/2007	DONATIONS TRANSFER IN	INCOME	EXPENDITURES TRANSFER OUT	ENDING BALANCE 6/30/2008
Library Gift Fund	\$146,091.00	\$500.00	\$7,240.38		\$153,831.38
Michael E Deluty	14,179.23		675.01		14,854.24
Katharine W Atkins	20,052.16		954.82		21,006.98
Margaret Wisley	17,347.44		825.80		18,173.24
Esther Burdick	11,293.61		537.60		11,831.21
Blanche Howe Jenney	14,164.95		1,051.68		15,216.63
Jane Gray Children's Educ Fund	566,935.45		26,921.87	3,493.50	590,363.82
Dustan Library Bequest	272,786.27		12,229.93		285,016.20
Library Capital Building Fund	17,599.23	530.00	821.92		18,951.15
TOTAL	\$1,080,449.34	\$1,030.00	\$51,258.81	\$3,493.50	\$1,129,244.65

RECAP OF CEMETERY FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

CEMETERY FUNDS	OPENING BALANCE 7/1/2007	DONATIONS	INCOME	EXPENDITURES	ENDING BALANCE 06/30/08
Cemetery Annual Planting	\$84,121.86	\$2,400.00	\$4,028.64		\$90,550.50
Cemetery Perpetual	491,327.14		23,522.68	23,522.68	491,327.14
TOTAL	\$575,449.00	\$2,400.00	\$27,551.32	\$23,522.68	\$581,877.64

RECAP OF LIGHT FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

LIGHT FUNDS	OPENING BALANCE 7/1/2007	DONATIONS	INCOME	EXPENDITURES	ENDING BALANCE 06/30/08
Light Rate Stabilization	\$191,504.58	\$400,000.00	\$14,249.34		\$605,753.92
Light Depreciation	821,963.95		35,801.28	500,000.00	357,765.23
TOTAL	\$1,013,468.53		\$50,050.62		\$963,519.15

**DEBT MANAGEMENT
DEBT SERVICE COST FY 08**

Description of Debt	Bonded Amount	Issue Year	Year of Payment	Principal Paid	Interest Paid	P & I Total due
Chenery Middle School	\$ 20,705,000	1996	11 of 19	\$ 1,090,000	\$ 438,748	\$ 1,528,748
Light Department Building	1,800,000	2000	8 of 10	200,000	22,800	222,800
Town Hall Renovations	1,500,000	2000	7 of 10	200,000	32,100	232,100
Title V Loans	60,160	2001	7 of 19	3,170		3,170
BHS Athletic Field and Track	2,200,000	2002	5 of 10	220,000	42,900	262,900
Town Hall Complex	11,950,000	2002	5 of 20	600,000	377,610	977,610
MWRA - Water	650,000	2003	4 of 10	65,000		65,000
Communication Tower	126,000	2004	4 of 10	15,000	3,038	18,038
Fire Station Construction & Land	10,000,000	2004	4 of 20	500,000	361,750	861,750
Fire Station Construction	2,030,000	2006	2 of 20	105,000	80,525	185,525
Concord Avenue Land Acquisition	780,000	2006	2 of 19	45,000	30,790	75,790
Skating Rink Repair	185,000	2006	2 of 5	40,000	6,575	46,575
Sewer GIS System	68,750	2006	2 of 5	13,750		13,750
Financial System	886,000	2007	1 of 4	226,000	44,300	270,300
Sewer	2,479,000	2007	1 of 5	124,000	109,900	233,900
MWRA Pipeline	714,000	2008				
Sub-Total P & I						\$ 4,997,956
Less Chenery School Building State Aid Reimbursement						\$ (537,455)
Net Debt Service Cost FY08						\$ 4,460,501

**DEBT MANAGEMENT
TOWN OUTSTANDING DEBT
AS OF 6/30/08**

	Principal Outstanding 6/30/2006	Principal Outstanding 6/30/2007	Principal Outstanding 6/30/2008
Chenery Middle School General Obligation Bond	\$ 9,805,000	\$ 8,715,000	\$ 7,625,000
Town Hall Complex Remodeling	10,150,000	9,550,000	8,950,000
Town Hall Renovation Plans	1,000,000	800,000	600,000
Fire Station Construction	7,650,000	7,225,000	6,800,000
Fire Station Land Acquisition	1,350,000	1,275,000	1,200,000
Outdoor Athletic Facility	1,540,000	1,320,000	1,100,000
Communication Towers	95,000	80,000	65,000
Community Septic Management Program	44,306	41,136	37,966
Concord Ave Land Acquisition	780,000	735,000	690,000
Light Building Prince Street	800,000	600,000	400,000
MWRA Sewer Interest Free Loan	68,750	2,534,000	2,396,250
MWRA Water Interest Free Loan	520,000	455,000	1,104,000
Fire Station Construction	2,030,000	1,925,000	1,820,000
Skating Rink	185,000	145,000	105,000
Financial System		886,000	660,000
TOTALS	\$ 36,018,056	\$ 36,286,136	\$ 33,553,216

**DEBT MANAGEMENT
DEBT AUTHORIZED BUT NOT ISSUED
AS OF 6/30/08**

Description of Debt Authorization	Year	Amount	Amortization Period
Communication Tower	2004	\$ 247,200	5 years
Fire Station Construction	2004	272,598	20 years
Senior Center	2006	4,683,256	20 years
Belmont High School - HVAC	2007	850,000	10 years
Water	2008	2,849,570	10 years
Sewer Storm Drain	2008	375,430	10 years
Sewer Surface Drain	2008	11,608,000	20 years
TOTAL AUTHORIZED NOT ISSUED		\$20,886,054	

**SUMMARY OF TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
JULY 1, 2007 TO JUNE 30, 2008**

Real Estate & Personal Property Taxes

Commitment	Real Estate	\$60,108,906.71
Commitment	Personal Property	<u>281,742.46</u>
Total	Commitment	<u>\$60,390,649.17</u>

Collection	Real Estate	\$57,885,731.89
Collection	Personal Property	271,945.20
Refund	Real Estate	-53,495.21
Refund	Personal Property	-66.71
Abated	Real Estate	947,995.70
Abated	Personal Property	291.67
Uncollected	Real Estate	1,328,674.32
Uncollected	Personal Property	<u>9,572.30</u>
Total		<u>\$60,390,649.16</u>

Real Estate Tax collected for Previous Years in FY08	\$216,460.91
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Real Estate & Tax Deferred Interest and Fees Collected in FY08	\$76,563.12
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Tax Title Interest and Fees Collected in FY08	\$86,907.97
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Tax Deferred Taxes

Opening Balance 07/01/08	\$770,702.90
Plus FY 08 New Tax Deferred Taxes	128,857.84
Less Paid Tax Deferred in FY08	<u>-69,477.69</u>
Outstanding Balance as of 6/30/08	\$830,083.05

Tax Title Taxes

Opening Balance 07/01/07	\$444,997.06
Plus New Tax Title in FY08	170,532.62
Less Paid Tax Title in FY08	<u>-95,423.42</u>
Outstanding Balance as of 6/30/08	\$520,106.26

**SUMMARY OF TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
JULY 1, 2007 TO JUNE 30, 2008**

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax

Total Commitment	<u>\$2,362,548.74</u>
Collections	\$2,232,859.25
Refunds	-\$47,788.02
Abated	\$66,669.06
Uncollected	<u>\$110,808.45</u>
Total	<u>\$2,362,548.74</u>

Committed Motor Vehicle Tax in Fiscal Year 2008 for Previous Years:

FY07	\$387,075.30
FY06	\$22,642.77

Motor Vehicle Excise Tax collected for Previous Years in:

FY08	\$581,889.48
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Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Fees Collected for Previous Years in:

FY08	\$18,808.00
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Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Marking Fees Collected in:

FY08	\$7,380.00
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Uncollected Motor Vehicle Excise Tax for Previous Years:

FY07	\$39,650.35	
FY06	\$16,395.75	
FY05	\$14,934.72	
FY04	\$16,112.81	
FY03	\$17,218.93	
Prior to 2002	\$145,122.00	\$249,434.56

**SUMMARY OF TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
JULY 1, 2007 TO JUNE 30, 2008**

Parking Fines

Outstanding Parking fines as of 07/01/2007	\$409,759
New Parking Tickets Issued in FY08	153,185
Less Payments FY08	<u>-136,783</u>
Outstanding Parking fines as of 06/30/2008	<u>\$426,161</u>

Handicap Parking Fines

Outstanding HP Fines as of 7/1/2007	\$9,950
New Parking Fines Issued in FY08	2,900
Less Payments FY08	<u>-4,020</u>
Outstanding HP Fines as of 6/30/2008	<u>\$8,830</u>

**SUMMARY OF TAX COLLECTORS REPORT
CHECK OFF BELMONT REAL ESTATE
TAX BILL DONATIONS
July 1 2007 to June 30, 2008**

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Senior Center	138	\$1,225.58
Education	123	2,721.42
Scholarship Fund	111	1,232.70
General Fund	81	1,353.00
Capital Endowment	<u>89</u>	<u>580.00</u>
TOTAL	542	<u>\$7,112.70</u>

WARRANT COMMITTEE

The Warrant Committee did not submit a 2008 Annual Report.

LEGAL

TOWN COUNSEL

During 2008, Town Counsel was asked to render numerous legal opinions related to zoning and other land use matters, as well as interpretations of Town By-Laws and Special Acts relating to Belmont. Town Counsel has handled several litigation matters. Presently there are eight cases in active litigation involving various Town departments. Seven cases were closed in 2008.

In addition to representing the Town in ongoing litigation, Town Counsel has been providing general advice and assistance to various town boards and departments regarding the redevelopment of Cushing Square pursuant to the Town's Cushing Square Overlay District Zoning Bylaw. Recently Town Counsel negotiated a lease of the property located at 310 Trapelo Road with the Belmont American Legion, Post 165. We have also continued to advise the Board of Selectmen and various Town boards with respect to the development of the Uplands site.

We extend our appreciation to the Board of Selectmen for their confidence in appointing this firm as Town Counsel, and appreciate the assistance and cooperation on all matters from the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, department heads, boards, committees and other Town personnel. We look forward to working with the members of the Town Government in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
John W. Giorgio, Esq., for the Firm of Kopelman and Paige, P.C.

Status Report on Pending Litigation Matters Pending with Town Counsel as of February 17, 2009

1. Belmont Police Patrolman's Association and Town of Belmont
(Gr: Gilligan - Termination); AAA No. 11 390 00858
(02600-0081)
This is an appeal of the Town's decision to terminate the employment of Officer Gilligan, who after a prolonged absence was terminated based upon his inability to perform the essential functions of his position. An arbitration hearing is currently scheduled for March 3, 2009. Officer Gilligan currently also has a disability retirement application pending, which was initially granted by the Retirement Board and is currently being reviewed by PERAC.
2. Buster v. Zoning Board of Appeals
Land Court 08 MISC 387638 – GHP
(02600-0083)
This is an appeal under G.L. c. 40A, §17 of a decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals to affirm the determination of the Building Commissioner that a retaining wall is not a "structure" and consequently is not subject to the set back requirements of the Zoning Bylaw. The plaintiff is acting pro se, and did not name the owners of the subject property as defendants. A case management conference was held on January 9, 2009, and the Town was ordered to notify the owners of the subject property concerning their rights to seek to intervene in the case. The Court also encouraged the Town to file a motion for summary judgment on the legal question of whether a retaining wall is a structure under the Town's zoning bylaw. The Zoning Board of Appeals has been notified and a motion for summary judgment is due on March 9, 2009.
3. Coalition to Preserve the Belmont Uplands v. Belmont Zoning Board of Appeals and AP Cambridge Partners II, LLC
Land Court Misc. Case No. 07-PS-346988-GHP
(02600-0067)
This is an action filed in March 2007 by a Citizens Group from the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals to grant a comprehensive permit to construct 299 housing units on the Belmont Uplands site. The developer informed the Court that it intended to appeal the decision of the Conservation Commission denying an order of conditions issued for the same project and filed a motion to postpone the trial date due to the pendency of the anticipated appeal of the order of conditions. Subsequently, the Department of Environmental Protection issued a superseding order of conditions which the Conservation Commission has now appealed. On December 9, 2008, the Land Court held a status conference and scheduled a trial for March 18, 19, and 20, and a view for February 20, 2009.
4. Ehler v. Town of Belmont, et al.
Middlesex Superior Court, C.A. No. MICV2006-03933
(02600-0057)
This is an action commenced in November 2006, in which the plaintiff is seeking to recover damages for personal injury as a result of a slip and fall accident that occurred at the entrance to the Homer Building. The plaintiff has brought suit against the Town, as well as the general contractor and the architect involved in the Homer Building renovation project. The general contractor brought a third-party action against two subcontractors. The plaintiff alleges that his fall was the direct result of negligent design, construction, and maintenance of the stairs on the part of the defendants because the stairway on which he fell failed to comply with the applicable provisions of the Massachusetts State Building Code. The

Town has filed a cross-claim against the co-defendant, architect, Donham & Sweeney, for insurance coverage. Donham & Sweeney filed a motion for summary judgment on the cross-claim, which the Town is opposing, arguing that the architect is liable to the Town for damages caused by its failure to provide general liability insurance coverage which would have protected the Town against the claims plaintiff has asserted in this case.

5. N. Sacca & Sons, Inc v. Belmont Zoning Board of Appeals

Middlesex Superior Court, C.A. No. 07-2873
(02600-0071)

This is an appeal from a decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals on remand granting in part and denying in part a special permit for a change, alteration, and/or extension of a non-conforming commercial operation at 50 Brighton Street. Specifically, the owner is seeking to use the property for the storage of commercial vehicles, equipment and materials. The parties are engaged in discovery. The Town has answered interrogatories from the plaintiff and responded to the plaintiff's first set of requests for production of documents. The plaintiff has taken no further action to prosecute this appeal.

6. Petroleum Traders Corporation v. Town of Belmont, et al.

Middlesex Superior Court, C.A. No. 07-1173
(02600-0070)

This is a declaratory judgment action which involves a cooperative contract between the plaintiff and ten communities including Belmont for the delivery of reformulated gasoline for the period of July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006. The plaintiff unilaterally attempted to increase the cost per gallon by 43 cents during the contract. The cooperative communities disputed the plaintiff's right to increase the price and refused to pay the increased costs. The contract was originally negotiated by the Town of Brookline which has taken the lead in defending the lawsuit. The plaintiff recently propounded discovery to each of the defendants. The defendants have filed discovery responses. A final pretrial conference will not be scheduled until September, 2009.

7. Wilcinski v. Town of Belmont Fire Department

Civil Service Commission No. 02-07-384
(02600-0079)

This is an appeal of the Fire Chief's decision to bypass plaintiff for appointment as a firefighter. A pre-hearing conference was held on December 20, 2007, and a full hearing was held on March 11, 2008. Briefs were filed on June 20, 2008 and the parties are currently awaiting a decision.

8. Wynott v. Town of Belmont

Middlesex Superior Court, C.A. No. 06-1146C
(02600-0052)

This is an action commenced in May 2006 in which the plaintiff is seeking to recover damages for personal injury as a result of a slip and fall accident that occurred at the Belmont High School pool on July 28, 2004. The parties conducted discovery and a pre-trial conference in this matter was held on November 13, 2008, at which time the case was referred for mediation.

Cases Closed in 2008

1. Flores v. Town of Belmont Zoning Board of Appeals

Middlesex Superior Court, C.A. No. 2008-04711
(02600-0085)

This was an appeal pursuant to G.L. c.40A, §17 of a November 20, 2008, decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals upholding the Building Commissioner's enforcement order regarding the use of the plaintiff's property at 39 Lorimer Road to house patients of McLean Hospital. The plaintiff also claimed the Board acted in bad faith. Town Counsel requested plaintiff's counsel immediately and voluntarily dismiss the case in light of the failure to file the appeal on time, in addition to other procedural errors. Subsequently, the plaintiff filed a voluntary dismissal.

2. Forster v. Town of Belmont

Cambridge District Court, C.A. No. 0452CV1097
(02600-0040)

This was an action commenced in April 2005 by the plaintiff to recover an alleged overcharge for sewer and water charges. The Town filed a Motion for Summary Judgment as to all counts, which was granted by the Court on February 20, 2008. The plaintiff filed a notice of appeal of the Court's decisions with the Appellate Division of the District Court. The Appellate Division upheld the lower court's granting of the Town's motion for summary judgment. The plaintiff did not appeal.

3. In the Matter of AP Cambridge Partners LLP

DEP File #106-0075 (Belmont Uplands)
(02600-0068)

On November 14, 2008, the Conservation Commission requested an adjudicatory hearing appealing a superseding order of conditions issued by the Department of Environmental Protection. The SOC approved the construction of a 299-unit affordable housing project with associated parking, utilities, and drainage near Acorn Park in Belmont. The Conservation Commission has alleged that the project fails to comply with the DEP performance standards for stormwater

management, wildlife habitat, and bordering lands subject to flooding. At the request of the Board of Selectmen, Town Counsel withdrew the appearance in this matter and the Conservation Commission will proceed with the appeal without counsel.

4. Michael Egan v. Town of Belmont Police Department
MCAD Docket No. 07BEM01987
EEOC/HUD No. 16C-2007-01998
Donald Fournier v. Town of Belmont Police Department
MCAD Docket No. 07BEM01983
EEOC/HUD No. 16C-2007-01995
David Flewelling v. Town of Belmont Police Department
MCAD Docket No. 07BEM01985
EEOC/HUD No. 16C-2007-01997

These claims were brought by three former police officers who alleged age discrimination in connection with the Town's decision to preclude individuals who were over 65 from serving as special police officers. This policy was based on state law that has a mandatory retirement age for all police officers of 65 years old. The MCAD found that the mandatory retirement age was a legitimate non-discriminatory reason for precluding the individuals from serving as special officers. All three claims were dismissed, and appeals of the dismissals were also rejected.

5. Shea v. Town of Belmont
Cambridge District Court, C.A. No. 0752CV1379
(02600-0076)

This was an action against the Town seeking judgment in the amount of \$5,395.96 on a trustee summons involving a town employee. In March 2008, the Court denied the Town's motion for summary judgment and the matter was appealed to the District Court Appellate Division. The Plaintiff recently agreed to file a Joint Motion to Set Aside the Judgment and dismiss this matter against the Town on the condition that the Town will take the necessary steps when it is served with Trustee Process to appropriately attach the employee's wages.

6. Town of Belmont v. Geller Sport, Inc., et al.
Middlesex Superior Court, C.A. No. 07-3308
(02600-0074)

This was an action by the Town commenced in April 2007 to recover damages resulting from defects in the high school turf field construction project. This matter was dismissed on agreement of the parties, and a stipulation of dismissal was filed with the Court.

7. Verizon New England, Inc. v. N. Sacca & Sons v. Town of Belmont and JF2, LLC d/b/a on Target Utility Services
Boston Municipal Court, C.A. No. 06-01CV00482
(02600-0061)

This was a third party complaint filed by N. Sacca & Sons against the Town for indemnification for damages to underground cables manufactured by Verizon. The parties reached an agreement and the matter was dismissed.

PUBLIC FACILITIES PLANNING

BUILDING SERVICES DEPARTMENT

During calendar year 2008 the Building Services Department has continued its goal of providing maintenance and repair to the Town's buildings. Many operational repairs and improvements were made as part of routine preventative maintenance. Information regarding some of the larger projects as well as some of the capital projects that were accomplished are as follows.

Town Hall Complex – A drain was installed in the main drive lane in front of the Town Hall to alleviate the water pooling problem that made the main entrance and handicap parking spaces very slippery in the winter months.

Town Hall – The main entrance vestibules interior doors were completely rehabilitated after a lot of meticulous hand sanding and reconstruction.

In cooperation with the Belmont Dramatic Club a catwalk, stage lighting, and house lights were installed on the Auditorium stage.

Belmont Police Station – New A/C units have been installed in the IT areas and the Dispatch Center.

Homer Municipal Building – An emergency generator has been installed to support the Town's IT network and phone system in the event of a power outage. This was Phase I of a combined capital outlay. The second part of the funds will be spent to install a generator to support the IT network gear that is located in the Library.

A new front end for the Direct Digital Control System was designed, installed, and tested. This system controls the heating and cooling systems in the building. The original DDC system was never configured correctly by the HVAC vendor. Many of the problems experienced in the building are attributable to this system being installed incorrectly. When the new DDC system was installed and started it was discovered that the radiant heat had not worked since the building opened. The system immediately showed a pay back by better managing energy consumption and allowing us to trouble shoot other problems in the system.

Two portable AC units were installed on the third floor to cool the IT office and the IDF server room.

The main stairs have had corrective work be performed.

Roof and Envelope Program – At the conclusion of 2008 all of the Town's roofs, Town and School buildings included, will have been fully evaluated and repaired according to the plan that has been in place over the past several years. The capital outlay for these projects should now be complete and a preventative maintenance program will be required to try and prevent major repairs from being necessary in the future.

Beech Street Center – This is the chosen name for the new home of the Council on Aging. The building is currently under construction and is expected to open sometime in the spring of 2009. During the year the department met with representatives of the building committee and attended job meetings. The department also assisted the building committee with the planning and purchasing of telephone and security equipment by holding scope and specification review meetings with our consultants.

Security – The security plan that was accepted by the Board of Selectmen includes securing all of the Town's buildings with CCTV and card access. Phase I & II of security installation and implementation were completed in the Police Station and the Homer Building in early 2009. Phase I included the installation of devices in IT areas that were determined to be of the greatest value by the Town's security consultant. Phase I also included the installation of devices in the Police Station. Phase II included the installation of devices in the Homer Municipal Building. The second phase also included the new badging system that is going to be used by all of the Town's departments for printing Town ID's. These systems are now operational.

The Security Policy Advisory Group was formed by the Town Administrator for the purpose of recommending policies procedures, and priorities for implementation of security throughout the Town. This group represents both the Town and School Department. Building Services has become the facilitating department responsible for the overall administration of these new systems throughout the Town.

Respectfully submitted,
Wm. Kevin Looney, Manager

FACILITIES ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROJECT COMMITTEE

The Facilities Energy Management Project Committee was appointed by the Moderator in April of 2004 to initiate and oversee a project with an energy services company to achieve energy and water use efficiencies in Town buildings, with the capital investment to be paid for over ten years from the utility savings. The project involved upgrades to equipment in five town and seven school buildings. Construction was completed in April of 2006 and the contract is now in the third year of the Measurement and Verification Phase and loan repayment.

The Committee did not have to meet in 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Fallon, Chairman

PERMANENT BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Permanent Building Committee did not submit a 2008 Annual Report.

SENIOR CENTER BUILDING COMMITTEE

In January, 2008 the committee was pleased to announce the signing of the contract with Groom Construction Company who was chosen through the State bid process as the low bidder for the Senior Center construction project. They are a firm that has a good reputation for quality construction.

January and February were devoted to planning the construction process and mobilization. The Friends of the Council on Aging hosted a wonderful Ground Breaking Ceremony in March. Soon the trucks started to roll in and site preparation began.

Construction then moved into foundation work and drilling for the wells which will supply the water for the Geothermal Heating and cooling system. Once the slab was poured and cured we began to see the structure rise on Beech Street and we look forward to its completion in the spring of 2009. Construction can be a noisy and messy process and we extend our thanks to the neighbors for their patience.

Committee members, Nava Niv-Vogel (Council on Aging Director), Kevin Looney (Building Services Coordinator), our Project Manager, John Ciccariello, and our Clerk of the Works, Jon Donner have been keeping close watch on the project through weekly Site Meetings throughout the process. Committee members have also been working with John Catlin, the architect, on interior and exterior finishes as well as furniture and equipment selections.

The construction team has been working with the Green Roundtable in assuring compliance with LEED requirements and the committee is working with WSP, Flack +Kurtz to assist in the LEED coordination process as well as the final commissioning of the building. Early reports indicate that we will not only meet but exceed the points required for final certification as a LEED building.

We anticipate completion of the building in the spring of 2009 and hope to celebrate with everyone at a Grand Opening.

We thank Rob Jones for all his work on the committee and we have missed the valuable contributions of Mary Ann Johnson since her illness. We welcomed two new members to the committee – Paul Laffey and Bill Lovallo. We also are very grateful to Nava Niv-Vogel for all she contributes to this project.

On behalf of all of the members of the committee: Susan Burgess, Walter Guertin, Neil Hegarty, Paul Laffey, Bill Lovallo, Mary Ann Johnson, Penny Schafer, and Phyl Solomon as well as Janet Macdonald, Disabilities Access Liaison, I submit this annual report.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Pressey, Chairman

WELLINGTON BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Town of Belmont has employed an extensive process to prioritize its capital needs, with approval of the Board of Selectmen and Town Meeting and Town voters. This process has already seen renovation of the Town Hall, Homer Building, and School Administration Building, construction of two new fire stations, and the construction of a new Senior Center. A new Wellington School is the next priority capital project for the town.

A new Wellington has been discussed and planned for many years. The current Wellington School, the majority of which was built as the high school in the 1939, with an addition in 1963, is inadequate for an elementary school by its geometry and room layout. The building systems have outlived their useful life and will be costly to maintain and replace. A feasibility study

conducted in 2000 concluded that the current Wellington School cannot accommodate current educational approaches and programs, that all systems will have to be replaced and handicap access issues will need to be addressed. The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) conducted an audit of the school in 2007 and has now placed a reconstruction of the Wellington on a short list for review for approved state funding. While the MSBA has a stated preference for renovation whenever possible, the Wellington is one of the first exceptions that they have made to approve demolition and reconstruction. The Wellington School is now very close to approval for partial funding in the spring of 2009.

Timeline of history and hoped for progress:

When	What
2000-01	Feasibility study conducted by DRA, Inc
2004	Massachusetts School Building Authority created in response to State Legislative reform for school reconstruction assistance
2004	2nd Supt's Advisory Council on Future of the Wellington School report
Feb 2005	Town Meeting approves \$350k in design funds; Wellington Building Committee formed
May 2005	WBC selects Owner's Project Manager, Turner Construction
Jun 2005	WBC selects Architect, Jonathan Levi Architects / Burt Hill
Jan-Feb 2006	Public Meetings held to seek community input on schematic design
Feb 2006	Schematic design finalized
Apr 2006	Town Meeting approved a Letter of Intent to the Mass School Building Authority (MSBA) on behalf of the Wellington School and Belmont High School
Sept 2006	Mass School Building Authority (MSBA) issues new regulations on state financing eligibility
August 2007	Team from MSBA conducts site visit of Wellington
August 2007	School Comm designates Wellington higher priority than BHS
Nov 2007	MSBA Board approves Wellington as one of 83 out of 162 projects for review for a feasibility study
Feb 2008	Belmont officials meet with MSBA team to submit further information
Spring/Summer 2008	Review of enrollment projections and space needs with the MSBA staff
Nov 2008	WBC meets with architect to discuss revised schematic design to reflect reduction in footprint to 88,000 square feet and projected enrollment of 575 students
Dec 2008	Hire new OPM, PMA Consultants, to succeed Turner Construction
Jan 2009	Cost Estimates for construction completed by the architect and OPM and submitted to the MSBA
<i>Spring 2009</i>	<i>Possible Town Meeting Vote and Debt Exclusion Vote on the ballot</i>
<i>Winter 2009-2010</i>	<i>Construction begins subject to successful passage of spring votes</i>

The schematic plan for the new building calls for 88,000 square feet. This will accommodate a projected enrollment of 500 regular day students, from K to grade 4, and 75 special needs students in either the preschool program currently housed at the Winn Brook School or a LABBB class. This projected population accounts for a 5-track school (5 classes per grade) with 25 regular classrooms, plus three pre-K classrooms and 2 LABBB classrooms. Interior space in a new Wellington will accommodate the needs of elementary school population with larger classrooms, but a gymnasium and cafeteria and spaces designed for elementary and pre-school children. The current Wellington is 90,350 square feet.

A new Wellington School will accommodate a growing pre-school population and growth of the LABBB program. Currently housed at the Winn Brook School, the integrated pre-school has outgrown its current space. By shifting part of the program to a new Wellington, the State-mandated pre-school program can be accommodated. A new Wellington School is a benefit to the entire school system in the town, not just to the Wellington school community.

The new Wellington will be a neighborhood school, not an urban or suburban school. The current schematic design divides the physical structure into two distinct wings – preschool, K, 1 and grades 2, 3, 4 – to have the feel of two smaller schools. One could think of it as “upper” and “lower” schools, as we do with Chenery, but the separation for Wellington would be even greater. For example, there would be separate age-appropriate classroom space and play areas designed specifically for their respective groups. The two schools would share common space such as the gym, cafeteria, library, and administrative offices. Adequate space would ensure programming for music, art and gym for a larger student population. The new school is being designed as a two-story building, with a roof line no higher than the homes in the neighborhood.

The current Wellington School building is approaching the end of its useful life, with a number of major concerns (most of which are to be expected in a building of its age). The School Department spends a disproportionate amount of its repair and maintenance budget to keep the Wellington in operating condition. For 2007-2008, the School Department spent \$232 per pupil on maintenance for the Wellington, compared to \$94 per pupil for the Winn Brook which houses an equal number of students. The FY08 utility costs were \$307 per Wellington pupil compared to \$180 per Winn Brook pupil. Every study of the

needs of the Wellington School has concluded that a new building is the most cost-effective option. The new MSBA is directing municipalities to renovate existing buildings whenever possible, at a lower cost to the state than for new construction. However, in the case of the Wellington, the MSBA has determined that a new building is the best option, and it will provide state funds for a new building. The new building will be designed to address some current overcrowding issues at all the elementary schools; provide more space for special-needs programs; and provide additional capacity in case of increased future elementary-school enrollments because of future housing development in Belmont.

The amount of state reimbursement will not be known until formal MSBA funding approval of the project. Projected costs are in the \$40 million range, which would be bonded over 20 years after deducting State aid. The MSBA will provide payments that are a percentage of the costs of items that MSBA deems eligible to receive state funding. We anticipate having a complete understanding of the financial aspects of the project, including MSBA funding, in early 2009. Once approved, a municipality has 120 days to 1) pass a debt exclusion and 2) get a favorable vote of its legislative body (in Belmont's case, Town Meeting). It is possible that there will be a debt exclusion ballot question for the new Wellington at the April Town election (subject to a vote of the Selectmen to place it on the ballot). If passed, construction could begin in winter 2009-2010.

The members of the building committee, appointed by the Town Moderator:

- **Mark Haley**, Chair (Vice Chair of Winn Brook and Burbank Building Committees, member of BHS Athletic Field Building Committee)
- **Pat Brusch**, Vice Chair (Warrant Committee, Permanent Building Committee, Chair, Capital Budget Committee, several building committees)
- **Karen Pressey**, (Chair of Senior Center Building Committee, former School Committee member, former HR manager for School Administration)
- **Ike Papadopoulos**, Treasurer (future Wellington Parent)
- **John Bowe** (Chair, School Committee, Capital Budget Committee, IT Advisory Committee)
- **Greg Poulos** (Wellington parent)
- **Lucy Pullen**, Secretary (former Wellington parent, neighbor)
- **Mary McHugh** (former Wellington parent)
- **Phil Curtis** (Chair, Warrant Committee, former Wellington parent)
- **Joel Mooney** (Permanent Building Committee, Town Hall Complex and Chenery Building Committees, former Wellington parent)

School administration:

- **Gerry Missal** (Director of Finance and Administration, non-voting)
- **Amy Wagner** (Wellington Principal, non-voting)
- **Celeste Andrade/Laurie Graham** (Belmont Disability Access Commission, non-voting)

Hired to develop schematic design:

- Architects: Jonathan Levi / Burt Hill Architects
- Project Management: PMA Consultants

For more information on the New Wellington, including seeing schematic drawings, please visit the Belmont Public Schools website: <http://www.belmont.k12.ma.us/newschool/>

For more information on the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), go to: <http://www.massschoolbuildings.org/>

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Haley, Chairman

LAND USE AND NATURAL RESOURCE PLANNING

BELMONT CENTER PLANNING GROUP

The Belmont Center Planning Group did not submit a 2008 Annual Report.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT STUDY COMMITTEE

The committee was created to study whether the Town should adopt the Community Preservation Act ("CPA"), Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 44B, which allows a property tax surcharge with some level of state matching funds to be used toward open space, affordable housing, historic preservation and some recreational purposes, all within certain parameters. The committee performed research and listened to experts regarding the CPA. After completion of that work, the committee filed its written report dated October 1, 2008 with the Board of Selectmen containing the recommendation that the Town adopt the CPA at a surcharge of 1.5%, with exemptions for the first \$100,000 in property value and for low-income persons. That report is available for view on the Town's web site. The committee presented its report to the Board of Selectmen on October 6, 2008, and the Board of Selectmen voted to accept said report on January 12, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,
Adam Dash, Chairman

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission is an appointed Town board responsible for the implementation of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (WPA), a state law that is administered primarily by municipalities throughout the Commonwealth. While the regulation of activities within the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act is the primary function of the Commission, the Conservation Commission is also the responsible agent for Conservation lands in Belmont, and spends a great deal of time and energy in promoting and sponsoring the stewardship of Rock Meadow. With the considerable assistance of an active group of volunteers, the Commission also runs the Victory/Community Gardens at the southern end of Rock Meadow, and provides over one hundred low cost plots for the growing of produce or flowers.

Personnel

The Commission consists of seven (7) regular members, as well as several dedicated associate members. The members of the Commission, as well as the associates, commit to attending regular, monthly meeting of the Commission, as well as site visits to inspect each property subject to a wetlands permit. The Commission meetings are well attended, and the Commission notes that they continue to benefit from the participation of many well informed and interested Townspeople. Notices of meetings, agendas and meeting minutes are posted by the Town Clerk, and on the Town web site, and the Commission notes that all are welcome and participation encouraged.

Current Commission members are Nancy Davis, David Webster, James Roth, Margaret Velie, Faustino Lichauco, Martha Moore and Miriam Weil. Miriam Weil is chairperson and Martha Moore is vice-chairperson. We have two associate members, Priscilla Elliot, Jeffrey North and an unofficial newcomer, Barbara Gardner.

The Commission has a part time agent, Mary Trudeau, who keeps regular office hours in the Homer Building, located at 19 Moore Street, in the Town Hall complex. Her daily responsibilities include interacting with applicants, as well as being the interface between the Commission and residents. As the public face of the Commission, the Agent meets with applicants and assists them in preparing the documents they need to file. In doing so, she guides them through the often intricate process with skill and patience. This results in hearings that focus on substantive aspects of the application, rather than in addressing informalities in the application process. The Commission realizes the importance of providing assistance to property owners and potential property owners who must appear before us before conducting activities in wetland resource areas or buffer zones. We are dedicated to providing a clear understanding of the requirements under the WPA.

As an agent of the Commission, she is also empowered to monitor Applicant's activities, and to issue enforcement actions in connection with activities that violate the WPA. This has resulted in timely enforcement of the Act against activities that may have otherwise gone undetected.

Grants and Land Management Activities

The Conservation Commission has been administering state and federal grant funding to help carry out much needed maintenance and restoration activities of Belmont resources. In the past year, the Commission administered funds from two programs. These programs are summarized below.

NRCS Cost Share Program

As in recent years, much of the Commission's efforts have been towards the management of Rock Meadow, with the long term goal of restoring the traditional grassland character of the area. Several years ago, the Commission contracted with the Ecological Extension Service of the Mass Audubon Society to prepare a detailed ecological analysis of the meadow. This analysis, which was partially funded through Partners for Fish and Wildlife Service Program grant, represented the technical basis for the grant applications used to fund meadow restoration.

The report identified several issues, including the need to better manage the ecosystem to restore the early successional cover that historically characterized the Rock Meadow grasslands, as well as the need to control non native and invasive plant species within the meadow effectively.

Based on the report, the Commission developed a formal maintenance and management plan for the Meadow. With this management plan in hand, the Commission applied to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for a Wildlife Habitat Improvement Plan (WHIP) contract to fund a ten- year improvement program. WHIP is a voluntary program that encourages the creation of high quality wildlife habitats to support wildlife populations of local significance. The Commission worked with the NRCS to develop a wildlife habitat development plan, which ultimately became plan the basis of the cost-share agreement between NRCS and the Town.

The estimated cost of the ten year management plan was approximately \$79,000 dollars. The Commission received approximately \$50,000 dollars over the next ten years in NRCS funding for this project, leaving the Commission with a commitment of approximately \$30,000 dollars. The Commission sponsored a bill at Town Meeting to establish a revolving account with seed money (the \$30,000 dollars) for grant-sponsored activities. The bill was passed unanimously, and the account established.

The management/restoration project is already underway. As in past years, Polatin Environmental Services was contracted to carry out the majority of the activities prescribed in the plan. The activities began with mowing and cutting back of invasive species such as buckthorn, Black Swallowort and Japanese knotweed. Ailanthus trees were chemically treated in preparation for subsequent removal, and other woody vegetation was cut or mowed to restore more than 20 acres to a meadow condition. The restoration activities are being closely monitored by Mary Trudeau, the Conservation Commission's agent, as well as representatives of NRCS.

Trails Grant

In September of 2006, the Commission cosponsored a *Rails to Trails* grant application with the Friends of the Western Greenway, New England Mountain Bike Association and the Massachusetts Audubon Society. The Commission successfully secured this grant. Beginning in fall of 2007, this grant funded maintenance and improvement of over 2 miles of existing trails, the reconstruction of the bridge linking the Meadow to the Met State campus, construction of over two hundred feet of boardwalk across low lying areas, as well as the purchase of a brush cutter to aid in the maintenance of the Meadow.

Victory Gardens and Rock Meadow Activities

The Commission worked with longtime volunteer farmer/manager Bruce Westgate to manage the Victory Gardens. The Victory Gardens are located in the southeast corner of Rock Meadow, and provide plots for up to about 100 local gardeners. Although garden membership has fluctuated through the years, it was apparent that several plots had become overgrown, others were not being maintained by renters, and that there were vacant gardens in need of new gardeners. Through increased advertisement and publicity, approximately 40 new gardeners were added to the rosters last year. In addition to recruiting new users, the Commission felt strongly that the gardens needed some investment of time and money to mitigate for and decided to increase the fees for renting a plot from \$12.00 to \$25.00. This fee increase brought the garden rentals in line with other programs of this type in the area. The funds are to be used to pay for the water bills, as well as to fund improvements in the garden areas. While each plot is individually managed, the Commission provides water and compost to the gardens and is interested in restoration of the path system and fencing of the plots. The Commission is also hoping to use any excess funds to contribute to the maintenance and restoration of Rock Meadow.

The Commission informally surveyed gardeners last summer, and found a common desire amongst the farmers for a kiosk/announcement board. This is in line with Conservation Commission plans for improvement of signage in the Meadow, and was installed last year. Grant funding also allowed for the purchase of a bench, which was installed in the garden last summer. The gardeners have also expressed some interest in community building and the Commission will work with the gardeners to implement these goals.

An important component within the gardens is the volunteer contributions that allow for the continued operation of the program. In addition to the long term stewardship of Bruce Westgate, several gardeners were enormously helpful. In particular, Geno Volpe maintains the watering system, Victoria Thatcher was immensely helpful in garnering support for the gardens and in organizing the work day, and Maria Leza provided continuous eradication of invasive plant species within Rock Meadow and the gardens.

Joe Finn, a local birding expert, continued his Bluebird nesting work in Rock Meadow. Joe established and maintained over twenty bird boxes last summer, resulting in several nesting pairs and subsequent broods of Bluebirds. Joe is one of the volunteers who adds technical expertise and energy to the Commission's efforts to increase the value of Rock Meadow for wildlife habitat.

Additionally, two Boy Scouts used projects in the gardens to obtain their Eagle Scout certification. Ben Dearden, Sam Dearden, Kirk Dearden and Doug John worked to construct and install kiosks and benches throughout the meadow and gardens. The second project involved trail construction and invasive species control in the garden, and was the Eagle Scout project of Sam Martin. Sam organized a work party that cleared huge amounts of debris and overgrown paths, and built and installed a carved wooden sign for the gardens. The Commission reaped over one hundred fifty volunteer work hours through these projects, and was extremely grateful for the obvious improvements made through the scouting projects.

While the USDA WHIP grant has provisions for the control of invasive plant species, we also have a local volunteer who spends hundreds of hours every year attacking the Bittersweet vines in Rock Meadow, and adjacent woodlands. Dr. Maria Leza has been tireless in her efforts to control the tenacious vines, and the results of her cutting program are visible in many corners of the Meadow. Dr. Leza is a long time Community gardener and has mentored several new gardeners in the art of organic gardening.



Deb Hartman, an abutter to Rock Meadow, contributes to the stewardship of Rock Meadow in more ways than can be described in this report. She has organized fund raising for mowing and maintenance activities, and worked with the Commission this year to organize the implementation of the DCR Rails to Trails grant bridge and boardwalk construction projects. On a personal level, Deb has continued to commit to maintaining the paths in Rock Meadow, and with the assistance of her husband, regularly mows the various walking trails.

While the DCR grant was a joint effort between the Commission, Habitat and New England Mountain Bike Association (NEMBA), the efforts of Mike Tabaczynski, Tom Grimble, and their band of talented carpenters deserve a special "shout out". Mike and Tom are well known throughout the region for their tireless efforts to assist towns in creating and maintaining accessible paths through public lands. On behalf of the NEMBA, Mike and Tom planned and executed the work parties that constructed the Grant projects. Through their efforts, 575 volunteer hours were logged in the construction of the new Bridge across Beaver Brook and the two hundred plus feet of boardwalk. These improvements are truly a testament to volunteer efforts and the commitment of the Belmont community to the improvement of public access to Rock Meadow.

Public Hearings

The Commission meets monthly to review applications for work within the jurisdiction of the Commission. Any project within one hundred feet of a wetland requires the review of the Conservation Commission and the issuance of a permit under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act. The review and issuance of permits is time consuming, requiring extensive review of proposals, site visits and occasionally the use of experts to evaluate a particular project.

This past year, projects included several single family homes, additions to a few existing homes, permitting for the bridge and boardwalk projects in Rock Meadow, as well as the continued review of a large residential housing project proposed on the "uplands" site, located between Route 2 and Little Pond.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Weil, Chairman

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

During 2008 the Belmont Historic District Commission was busy performing its dual role as the administrative body responsible for preserving the integrity of the Pleasant Street and Common Street Historic Districts and as Belmont's historical commission with the duty of advising the Town on how to protect and preserve its historic resources, especially its most significant older buildings and surviving landscapes.

Within the Pleasant Street Historic District, the Commission continued to be involved in three major activities. First, it continued to assist both residents and Town administrators in preserving the historic character of their buildings and landscapes and in making appropriate alterations and additions when necessary. Numerous public hearings were held during the year to discuss and/or review plans for changes and additions and to cite historical precedents that might assist owners in designing these improvements.

Second, to better serve these residents, the Commission carried on with the development of a revised, clearly defined set of guidelines for them to follow in maintaining and improving their houses. Based on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, this revised set of guidelines has been submitted to an outside editor so that it can be refined and finalized for release in 2009.

Third, the Commission continued to monitor the work on the Pleasant Street Reconstruction Project to ensure that the agreed-upon specifications for the appropriate reconstruction of historic stone walls would be followed in those sections where the road had to be widened. The Commission also collaborated with the Shade Tree Commission and the Tree Warden to make sure that the new trees that were planted were appropriate to the Historic District and to environmental conditions.

In its capacity as the Town's historical commission, the Commission was involved in the following activities:

First, in association with the Belmont Shade Tree Committee, and in cooperation with the Community Development Department and its engineering and landscape consultants, the Commission offered its support for the planning of streetscape improvements along the Belmont Street/Trapelo Road Corridor, particularly with respect to both new and historic patterns of residential, commercial and transitional forms of development, in an effort to protect and enhance the historic architectural and landscape resources which may be impacted by the project.

Second, the Commission continued to implement the Historic Preservation Agreement that the Town reached with McLean Hospital by reviewing plans and renovations of its historic buildings. Also, the Commission continued to advise McLean

representatives on the design and construction of Olmsted Drive for compliance with the agreed upon terms for its design, the restoration of impacted landscapes, and the reconstruction of stone walls.

Third, in association with the Friends of the Benton Branch Library and the Oakley Neighborhood Association, the Commission worked to help find new community uses for the historic building in order to preserve it. Also, the Commission submitted revised state inventory forms to the Massachusetts Historical Commission to enable that commission to declare the building to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Additionally, the Commission: (1) met with Planning Board, Community Development Department, and citizen advocates of a proposed Historic Accessory Building Preservation By-Law to discuss issues and recommendations for the bylaw which is intended to preserve Belmont's historic barns through creative adaptive re-use; (2) provided input to the Belmont Police Station Feasibility Committee on their preliminary plans affecting the historic Police Station and Municipal Light Building, both early 1930s handsome brick buildings in Colonial and Georgian Revival styles, respectively; and, (3) met with the developer of a proposed major development in Cushing Square to urge consideration of designs that could preserve the historic S.S. Pierce Building.

Looking to the future, the Commission will (1) continue to work on the projects already underway and listed, in part, above; (2) continue to serve in an advisory capacity to the Planning Board in developing a demolition delay bylaw for Belmont; and, (3) respond as rapidly as possible to all Massachusetts Historical Commission requests for comment on proposed construction projects that might affect Belmont resources listed on the Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth.

Members will also continue to serve as representatives of the Commission on other Town committees, including Rick Pichette on the McLean Land Management Committee and Peter Gunness and Lisa Harrington on the Community Preservation Act Feasibility Committee.

With regard to the Commission's membership, long-time member Linn Hobbs retired after many years of distinguished service; then, in July, Allan Vanderley was appointed and Michael Smith was re-appointed for three-year terms by the Board of Selectmen.

The Commission wishes to thank everyone who has helped to preserve Belmont's rich legacy of fine buildings, beautiful landscapes and other historic resources over the course of the year. We look forward to your continued advice and assistance in 2009.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Cheek, Co-Chairman
Michael Smith, Co-Chairman

MCLEAN LAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The McLean Land Management Committee, created by the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Belmont and McLean Hospital, consists of nine members (Chairman Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Martha Moore, Carla Moynihan and Richard Pichette from Belmont, Michele Gougeon, Andy Healy, Frank Keefe and Steve Kidder from McLean Hospital and Wesley Ward from The Trustees of Reservations, holder of the Conservation Restrictions). Upon the resignation of Carla Moynihan over the summer, the Board of Selectmen named Harlan Carere in November.

The work of the Committee is funded by the McLean Open Space Maintenance Fund created by the McLean transaction and by the revenue from the cell tower in the inactive cemetery land as well as by grants from conservation groups.

During 2008, the committee continued to enjoy a fruitful partnership with abutting neighbors, members of the New England Mountain Bike Association and the Judith K. Record Memorial Conservation Foundation and other members of the extended Belmont community.

Principle work conducted during 2008 continued to implement the overall goals and objectives of the committee as well as the outline of work highlighted in the ecological management plans developed by BSC and Audubon Extension Service. These fall into two categories:

1. Working Groups- Plans To Be Implemented in 2009:
 - a. Parking/Access/Signage – With plans to demolish the house located at 251 Mill Street, the main identity of the property shifts from Concord Avenue to Mill Street, requiring careful planning for creation of a small parking area and proper signage and access;
 - b. User Survey – Survey form and method prepared. Informal survey of users scheduled for February 2009, formal survey planned for spring, likely April, 2009;
 - c. Maintenance/Security/ Enforcement – Research and comparison with like properties, learning from their successes and failures to incorporate into the protection plan for the property given financial restrictions;

- d. Trails –Using the Pressley and Audubon reports, make priority recommendations for changes, closing, opening, rerouting trails consistent with the conservation values and public access goals of the committee.
2. Routine Maintenance - Using the report prepared by Audubon, continue to restore the meadows on the property by mowing to control the invasive species such as buckthorn and selectively use herbicide to control the poison ivy in the Pine Allee and the knotweed and black swallow wort as well as replanting edges in the Great Meadow. Gates will be replaced; the access road from the telecomm tower will be blended to eliminate excessive runoff onto the Open Space.

We are grateful for the cooperation of the Office of Community Development for their incorporation of an appropriate pedestrian crosswalk on Mill Street at the location recommended by Pressley to connect the McLean Open Space to Rock Meadow. This was accomplished during the summer 2008.

The Committee encourages all members of the Belmont community to enjoy the McLean Open Space during 2009. Go to the Town's website, review the trails maps and take a "Walk into the Wild".

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Chairman

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council did not submit a 2008 Annual Report.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Full Time Personnel

Glenn R. Clancy, P.E., Director
Jay Szklut, Planning & Economic Development Manager
Jeffrey A. Wheeler, Planning Coordinator
George W. Mahnke, Inspection/Enforcement Officer
Philip D. Harris, Inspection/Enforcement Officer 3/10/2008
Ara Yogurtian, Resident Engineer
Pauline M. Daniels, Administrative Coordinator
Karren Lee, Administrative Assistant I
Maria Reddington, Administrative Secretary

Part Time Personnel

John D. MacDonald, Plumbing and Gas Inspector
Mary Trudeau, Conservation Commission Agent
Geraldine Cummings, Permanent Volunteer

ENGINEERING DIVISION

Atlas

In 2008 The Office of Community Development began to update the Assessor's Atlas and to make it available through the Towns Geographic Information system (GIS). In the future the atlas will be available electronically to anyone looking for lot and owner information.

Board of Assessors

Along with the preparation of the Atlas, the Department provided other information at the request of the Assessors including computing the areas of parcels of land, supplying Atlas prints for tax abatement cases and consulting with the Assessors' Department staff.

Conservation Commission

During 2008 the Engineering Division provided copies of various Wetland area maps as requested and assisted the Commission with various questions concerning proposed projects in the wetlands.

In 2008 the Resident Engineer provided technical expertise and construction monitoring of Town projects within sensitive wetland resource areas associated with the replacement of culverts on Clifton Street and Concord Avenue. In addition, assistance was provided during the public review of Town-owned land off of Woodfall Road during the pre-option review of the sale of the property.

Electric Light

As in previous years when requested, various plans were prepared showing all underground utilities to assist the Electric Light Department with the layout of utilities.

Pavement Management

In 2008, Baker Street, Cross Street (from Channing Road to Broad Street), Moore Street, and Mill Street (from Concord Avenue to Stanley Road) were reconstructed. The following roadways were crack sealed and patched.

Name	From	To
Crack Seal & Patch		
SLADE ST	TRAPELO RD	UPLAND RD
MARSH ST	800' W OF EVERGREEN WAY	PARK AVE CIR
UNDERWOOD ST	CONCORD AVE	HITTINGER ST
FARM RD	CHANNING RD	ALEXANDER AVE
RANDOLPH ST	MADISON ST	BOW RD
SKAHAN RD	ELM ST	HARVARD RD
MARSH ST	CONCORD AVE	WINTER ST
CLARENDON RD	HARVARD RD	ELM ST
MILL ST	STANLEY RD	McLEAN DR
SLADE ST	UPLAND RD	COMMON ST

The roadways listed below were crack sealed only.

Name	From	To
Crack Seal		
BOW RD	SCHOOL ST (S)	SCHOOL ST (N)
IVY RD	LAWRENCE LN	RICHMOND RD
UPLAND RD	BEECH ST	SLADE ST
BAY STATE RD	GILBERT RD	COMMON ST
DEAN ST	CHANNING RD	JASON RD
LINCOLN ST	WASHINGTON ST	BOW RD
THOMAS ST	WAVERLEY ST	CLARK ST
HOITT RD	BRIGHTON ST	NEWCASTLE RD
WILLOW ST	TRAPELO RD	CUSHING AVE
CLYDE ST	WATSON RD	BECKETT RD
ORCHARD ST	ORCHARD CIR	SCHOOL ST
ORCHARD ST	CONCORD AVE	STONE RD
OXFORD AVE	BELMONT ST	CAMBRIDGE TOWN LINE

Health Department

The Office of Community Development continued to work very closely with the Health Department in 2008. Many of the public safety issues that are addressed by the Building Inspector also involve the Health Department. Additionally, the Director of Community Development works very closely with the Health Department assisting with the review of proposed septic systems under the Title V Regulations. The Department also works closely with the Health Department to review plans for new restaurants.

Plan Work

Numerous plans and sketches were made for various town departments, boards and commissions.

Police Department

The Department worked closely with the Traffic Division in 2008 on several projects such as traffic pattern realignments and crosswalk locations as requested by different neighborhoods in Town. The Department also worked closely with the Police Department during numerous reviews of proposed developments that would impact traffic in Town. In addition, the Department prepared maps of the Town and provided court testimony to assist in court hearings.

Sanitary Sewers

During 2008 private contractors made 21 connections to the sanitary sewer. The Department continued to provide various information as requested.

Storm Sewers

Private contractors made 4 connections to residential properties and the Department took measurements and locations of the sewers for permanent records.

Town Clerk

Restriction lines, 150 feet from election polling places, were marked out at each of the eight precincts at the request of the Town Clerk.

The Department also assisted the Town Clerk in selecting the proper house number for new or converted dwellings by providing technical assistance and plot plans of the property.

Traffic Advisory Committee

In 2008 the Director of Community Development attended monthly meetings as staff liaison to the Traffic Advisory Committee. Truck traffic, intersection redesign, Trapelo Road redesign as well as many other concerns was discussed at these meetings. Information and support was given to the Committee by this department as needed.

Water Department

The Engineering Division performed various functions for the Water Department including locating sanitary sewers and storm drains for repair and/or replacement of domestic water lines and main lines.

Notifications of new sanitary sewer house connections were sent to the Water Department to update the sewer use master list for billing purposes. Additionally, all phases of the Water Department's 30-Year Plan are closely coordinated with the Engineering Division in order to ensure coordination of utility replacements or upgrades as well as pavement restoration.

BUILDING DIVISION

During 2008, this division processed 826 building permits, received 62 possible zoning violation complaints, 12 possible building code complaints and 34 general bylaw violation complaints. Estimated total building construction value was \$39,145,549. All alleged zoning and building code violation complaints received during the year were investigated and notifications were sent to the parties involved. Through the cooperation of the Fire Department, the Building Division is notified of every fire in which possible structural damage is evident. Immediate inspections are made and recommendations given to the owners or builders.

Income for the calendar year 2008 from Building Permits totaled \$506,992. and income from Plumbing, Gas, Board of Appeal, Certificate of Inspections, Home Occupation, Signs, etc. totaled \$57,175. Total income received by this division was \$564,167.

During 2008, 580 plumbing permits were issued to properly licensed persons. Inspections were made on all work for which permits were issued and other inspections were made at the request of the property owner. Total income received was \$29,462.

During 2008, 365 gas permits were issued for which all necessary inspection and re-inspections were made. Total income received was \$8,813.

State Building Code

During 2008, as part of the duties required by the Massachusetts State Building Code, this division inspected 114 public buildings and spaces, (schools, hospitals, restaurants, public halls, day care centers etc.) for compliance with safe egress, emergency lighting and maximum capacity. The Code requires on-site inspections. Mandatory fees collected during 2008 totaled \$4,070.00. As a means of keeping informed with the State Building Code and its ongoing changes and amendments, representatives from this division attended several state sponsored workshops during 2008.

PLANNING DIVISION

Zoning Board of Appeals

Liaisons for these Boards were the Planning and Economic Development Manager and the Planning Coordinator.

During 2008, the Zoning Board of Appeals heard 42 (32 residential/10 commercial) cases for Special Permits and/or Variances with the following results (some of these cases involved more than one application):

TOTAL CASES	42
Special Permits	32
Variances	13
Appeals	4

DECISIONS	
Withdrawn	2
Denied	8
Granted	32

Planning Board

The Planning Board heard 6 applications for Design and Site Plan Review approval. These cases included installing cellular antennae, waiving parking requirements, reviewing commercial developments, and freestanding signs.

Total application fees for both the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board were \$8,800.00.

Respectfully submitted,
 Glenn R. Clancy, P.E., Director of Community Development

PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board continued to have a full agenda in 2008, holding hearings on and bringing before Town Meeting four amendments to the Zoning By-Law and continuing work on two other amendments, initiating a public process to consider the future of Waverley Square, and moving forward with Comprehensive Planning for Belmont.

The Board included Jennifer Fallon, Chair, Andres Rojas, Clerk, Sami Baghdady, Karl Haglund, and Carla Moynihan. Ms Fallon and Mr. Haglund were reappointed by the Board of Selectmen for three year terms. Representatives from the Board to other boards included: Traffic Advisory Committee, Mr. Haglund; Belmont Housing Trust, Ms Moynihan; Belmont Center Planning Group, Mr. Baghdady; Capital Budget Committee, Ms Fallon; Capital Projects Overview Committee, Mr. Rojas.

Amendments to the Zoning By-Law included clarifying language for accessory building setbacks, tightening the rules governing window signs in commercial properties, and a citizen’s petition to rezone a parcel at 40 Brighton St. to allow a commercial development. A proposed amendment to require a special permit for new banks and financial institutions in commercial zones did not receive Town Meeting approval.

The Board considered an amendment allowing commercial establishments to use agreements for use of House of Worship parking lots to fulfill their parking requirements. The Board decided not to bring this amendment to Town Meeting in 2008 but will continue to explore this opportunity. The Board also continued reconsideration of the Historic Accessory Building By-Law, meeting with the proponents of the proposal and the Historic District Commission to review Town Meeting questions and concerns and the experience of other communities with similar historic preservation regulations. It was decided to split the bylaw into two parts, one allowing home office use and one providing for the creation of one accessory dwelling unit. The Board expects to bring these two amendments to the 2009 Annual Town Meeting.

To better inform Town Meeting members about Zoning By-Law amendments, the Board held a forum before the Town Meeting to present and answer questions on the proposed amendments included in the Warrant. This was well received and the Board plans to establish this as a regular part of its Town Meeting preparation.

With the planning staff, the Board began an important initiative to engage the community in considering the future of Waverley Square. Working with a consultant to form a steering committee representing interested parties and guide the public process, a series of public discussions with residents and business and property owners was held to develop consensus about the community’s vision for the Waverley Square area and to consider alternatives for its future development. This process will continue in 2009 with the possible development of zoning amendments for consideration by Town Meeting.

Other significant projects included final permitting of the redevelopment of the former Belmont Center Fire Station, the Town’s Senior Center, and the commercial property at 359-363 Pleasant St, reconfiguring parking for a new bank branch in the building. The Board also reviewed and approved the update to the Town’s Open Space and Recreation Plan and worked with staff to draft and approve rules and regulations further defining the process and design guidelines for developments proposed under the Cushing Square Overlay district. Working with the Belmont Housing Trust, the Board also began the work of drafting rules and regulations for the Board of Selectmen’s approval and adoption for implementing the Inclusionary Housing By-Law, establishing the process and the definition of “comparable unit” under this bylaw.

The Board presented to the Board of Selectmen a memo on the Town’s residential parking policies which include limits on the number of vehicles parked in a driveway and limits on front yard parking both in the Zoning By-Law and the overnight on-street parking ban found in the general by-law. The Selectmen requested further public input, and the Board developed a plan for broad public discussion of the issues, including a survey and two public forums followed by analysis and discussion at the

Planning Board table, which was introduced at the fall Special Town Meeting and will be implemented early in 2009. The Board of Selectmen also requested that the Board gather input on parking regulations for Houses of Worship and School parking lots. Public meetings with all interested stakeholders focusing on those issues will also move forward in the first few months of 2009.

This year the Board began the process for developing a Comprehensive Plan for the Town. Belmont's last such plan was adopted in 1963. In requesting the funding, the Board argued that the Town is facing important decisions about capital projects, that significant private development is both underway and proposed, and that the Town is facing extreme fiscal constraints. All of these raise the question of whether and how the Town can continue to provide all of our services. The Planning Board believes that Comprehensive Planning will engage the community in substantive public discussion and assessment of alternative priorities, helping us to build consensus around policies to guide the steps the community will take to preserve and improve the assets and character of our Town in the future. Town meeting approved the budget with funds to initiate the process. With funding appropriated, the Board drafted a set of outlines identifying issues and questions concerning various areas to be addressed by the Comprehensive Planning process, including economic development, housing, transportation, sustainability, historic preservation, open space and recreation, and regional issues. Board members met with fourteen other Town boards and committees and the Town's department heads to introduce the proposed process and seek input for developing the scope for the plan. An RFQ for consulting services was developed, and the firm of Larry Koff and Associates was hired to undertake the project. The work of information gathering, analysis, and planning for public participation has begun. We invite and look forward to your participation as the process moves forward in 2009.

The sincere thanks of the Board go to the staff of the Office of Community Development and, especially, to Jay Szklut, Planning and Economic Development Manager, and Jeffrey Wheeler, Planning Coordinator, for their support and guidance throughout the year.

The Planning Board welcomes and urges public participation. The Board's meeting notices and current information on active projects are posted on the Planning Board's webpage within the Town's website. Comments and questions are welcome and can be sent to jsklut@town.belmont.ma.us or to jwheeler@town.belmont.ma.us.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Fallon, Chairman

PLANNING DIVISION

2008 marked the beginning of an exciting new initiative directed by the Planning Board and supported by Planning Division Staff. Staff drafted a Request for Qualifications for a consultant to assist the Town in developing its first Comprehensive Plan since 1963. The firm of Larry Koff and Associates was hired. Prior to the issuance of the RFQ, staff and Planning Board members met with various Town Boards and Committees to ascertain the concerns and issues facing each of them. This information was distilled by staff and incorporated into the RFQ.

Cushing Square continued to be a major focus of the Division's workload in 2008. Together with the Planning Board, the Division worked with residents and drafted a Warrant Article to allow the Board of Selectmen to issue a Request for Proposals for the disposition of the Cushing Square Public Parking lot and the closing of Horne Road from Williston to Common Street. Upon passage of the Article, Division staff drafted the RFP, reviewed submittals, and made a recommendation to the BOS. The selected developer met with Division Staff several times over the course of the year seeking input and guidance prior to submitting a formal project proposal to the Town's Planning Board.



Planning Division staff worked with property owners and developers on several building projects during 2008. Most notably, staff provided recommendations and guided Leader Bank through the site plan review process resulting in the opening of the Bank on Pleasant Street. The project required staff to work with bank officials to design a drive through facility that conformed to existing zoning regulations. Staff also met with a development team interested in securing air rights over the Waverley Square MBTA Commuter Rail Station to allow construction of a mixed use retail/office/parking building above the "triangle" lot. After several meetings with Waverley Square residents, the prospective project was

dropped. Also during 2008, final approvals for the redevelopment of the Belmont Center Fire Station were issued. Staff worked with the Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Belmont Center Planning Group, and the Historic District Commission to gain these approvals.

The Planning Division continues to administer and monitor the McLean Hospital development. Northland Development Corporation completed construction of Phase I and sold approximately 35 units; Phase II construction has commenced. Brookdale Senior Living Inc., continues its pre-sale program. The construction of Olmsted Drive, the driveway accessing the Retirement Community and the Research & Development complex, is complete. The Division hired the engineering firm of Fay, Spofford and Thorndike to review the driveway and associated storm water management facilities construction and to monitor the roadway and drainage construction of Northland's phase II construction. During 2008, Waverley Woods, the affordable housing development in Zone 6 began tenant selection procedures and the first new tenants occupied the site.

Planners continued to focus on implementing the recommendations within the Belmont Economic Development Plan, commonly referred to as the "Corridor Study". Specifically, staff, under the direction of the Planning Board, initiated a



Waverley Square Revitalization and Zoning Implementation project. Staff developed a request for qualifications to solicit the assistance of a consultant in drafting a revitalization plan and subsequent zoning amendment intended to implement the plan. The Planning Board hired "The Cecil Group" as consultant and together staff and the consultant have held three public meetings in the Square, interviewed several business owners and formed a Waverley Square Steering Committee. The planning division is on track to present a zoning amendment for Waverley Square at the 2009 Annual Town Meeting.

The Planning Division organized two forums dealing with parking in the Town's commercial areas. Jason Schreiber, from Nelson Nygaard Inc. discussed the parking situation in Belmont Center and Cushing Square and introduced attendees to approaches to downtown parking used in other communities. Planning Division staff notified local business owners to come and discuss their issues and to

listen to alternative approaches. Among the suggestions offered by Mr. Schreiber were re-establishing parking meters along Leonard Street, improved signage to Belmont Center Parking Lot, use of reverse angle parking in the commercial centers. Mr. Schreiber also discussed construction and cost of parking structures and the benefits of creating Commercial Center Business Organizations where parking funds could be channeled and decisions on center improvements concentrated. Staff will continue to explore some of these parking alternatives and will hold public discussion with residents and business owners to implement the preferred alternatives.

An ongoing responsibility of the Planning Division is to provide staff support to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals. Staff provides administrative support including recording of minutes; posting of meetings, maintaining files, and drafting of decisions. The Planning Board convened 20 times during the year while the Zoning Board met 16 times. Staff also provided research support when requested. During 2008, staff reviewed the Town's policies regulating residential parking and prepared a report for the Planning Board. Based on that report, a memorandum was developed by the Planning Board and submitted to the Board of Selectmen for action. The Board requested that staff together with the Planning Board meet with residents to discuss proposed changes to the parking regulations.

During 2008, the Planning Division promoted zoning changes clarifying the definition of a window sign, allowing business to count parking spaces in nearby "church parking lots" to fulfill the business's parking requirements, and allowing banks only by special permit throughout the Town. Only the first of these three proposed amendments passed. The division also provided assistance to a pair of residents trying to rezone a property through the use of a citizen's petition zoning amendment.

The Division is also responsible for the documentation required as part of the Town's membership in the WestMetro HOME Consortium. Through this federally funded affordable housing program, the Town receives approximately \$100,000 each year. Currently, the money is being used for the Waverley Woods Affordable Housing Development. Staff support was also provided to the Capital Projects Overview Committee. That Committee is looking into the possible re-use of the Town's incinerator site. Planning Division staff is working with Town Counsel to confirm Town ownership of the parcel. Staff also represents the Town at various meetings with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). MAPC is the regional planning agency responsible for guiding transportation funding and planning and holding regional planning forums.

A significant ongoing responsibility of the Planning Division is assisting the public on all land-use related questions, reviewing development proposals, acting as liaisons to other departments and committees, attending meetings of other boards and committees, and being available to respond to other planning/zoning related issues. Staff includes Planning and Economic Development Manager Jay Szklut and Planning Coordinator Jeffrey Wheeler.

The Planning Division commits to providing a high level of service to the public in 2008. The Division is part of the Office of Community Development which is located on the second floor of Homer Building within the Town Offices complex. Office hours remain Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Residents are also urged to visit the OCD web page at www.town.belmont.ma.us for current information on active projects and for a copy of the Belmont Zoning By-Laws.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Szklut, Planning and Economic Development Manager
Jeffrey Wheeler, Planning Coordinator

SEWER AND STORMWATER COMMITTEE

The Sewer and Stormwater Committee did not submit a 2008 Annual Report.

SHADE TREE COMMITTEE

The Shade Tree Committee did not submit a 2008 Annual Report.

SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Overview

The Solid Waste and Recycling Advisory Committee (SWARAC) works in conjunction with the Town to address financial, environmental, and technical issues associated with yard waste, trash, and recyclables. While not as large as the school budget, trash and recycling constitutes a multi-million dollar budget line item for the Town. It is also an arena that is subject to rapidly changing market and regulatory conditions.

Main Areas of Activity

1. **Expanded curbside recycling.** Over the past year, SWARAC has successfully expanded the Town's curbside program to include corrugated cardboard, milk cartons, and aseptic containers (juice boxes). This expansion was done at no additional cost to the town. In fact, because the town must pay roughly \$70/ton of refuse shipped for incineration, boosting recycling has the potential to save the town tens of thousands of dollars under our existing contract terms. The effort to expand recycling has also involved outreach and program publicity, using such methods as the Town newspaper, inserts in the Belmont Municipal Light Department bills, signs in businesses and on the roads explaining program changes, and handouts at Town meeting.

2. **Continued roll-out of school and municipal recycling.** The Committee has continued to expand recycling to all Belmont schools and to build relationships and networks inside to school to ensure the program is a success. The schools are large volume generators of waste. In addition to providing both environmental and fiscal benefits to the Town, the involvement of the student in the recycling effort provides also provides an educational opportunity. Basic recycling now exists in other municipal buildings, and we hope to expand these over the coming year.

3. **Evaluation financial and marketplace changes that affect Belmont's future contracts.** Belmont's trash, recycling, and disposal contracts will all be renewed over the next couple of years. The environment in which this will happen is quite different from earlier periods. Haulers are pushing many towns towards "single stream" recycling, which mixes more materials at curbside. The trade-offs in this approach need careful evaluation. Many firms in the solid waste sector are under great financial strain as well, due to plummeting values for recycled commodities, and for electricity produced as the incinerator we send our trash to.

Financial pressure is greatly heightened within the Town as well. The Committee has begun work to examine alternative options for financing trash and recycling services, including waste bans, pay-as-you-throw systems that would change the incentives of participants in the system to recycle. We are fortunate to have obtained an in-kind grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to assist in this effort as we attempt to more clearly identify the costs and benefits of these and other options. SWARAC is also examining the possibility of pooling efforts with other towns to obtain the redemption value of deposit cans and bottles that are collected by the Town's current program.

We look forward to working with Town officials on these issues during the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Koplow, Chairman

TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Traffic Advisory Committee has continued in its efforts to advance the Trapelo Road project by working with our neighbors, Waltham and Watertown, to get the road project on the state TIP (Traffic Improvement Project) budget. Town staff and the Traffic Advisory Committee have had numerous meetings to garner the support of not only surrounding towns, but the Belmont community, which is essential for State support of the project. The project is moving along, however, with the advent of tighter State budget restrictions, it is moving slower than anticipated. We held a 25% public hearing and are moving along to the next stage of completion with the BSC Group.

The Cross Street construction redesign was completed and construction begun. Public hearings were held and with the help of neighborhood input, small, but significant, changes were made. Vehicular speed was a major concern in the area. As a step in remedying this problem, we included pedestrian safety measures such as safer crosswalks, tighter intersections, and neckdowns. We narrowed the intersection of Cross and Channing. We included stop signs and placed them at appropriate locations to improve vehicular safety. With the construction of a safer road and tighter intersections the Committee determined speed would be reduced slightly.

We have recently been able to automatically add traffic calming measures to road and intersection improvements. Due to the efficiency of Glenn Clancy in the Office of Community Development in implementing such traffic calming measures, the Committee did not require monthly meetings in 2008. The TAC is recommending that the Committee meet as a "call-up" committee whenever the Selectmen and the Office of Community Development need us for discussion, public hearings and public input on major as well as minor road issues.

The members of the Committee work very hard in conjunction with the Belmont Police Department to make the Town of Belmont a safer place for pedestrians and vehicles. I would like to thank them for their hard work, dedication, and volunteering their time.

Respectfully submitted,
MaryJo O'Connor Frisoli, Chairman

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals is the permit granting authority within the Town of Belmont and derives its jurisdiction from the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40A. The Board meets on the first Monday of each month and more frequently when needed. Residents or businesses seeking relief in the form of a Special Permit or a Variance initiate most matters that come before the Board. In 2008 the Board did hear several appeals of determinations by the Building Commissioner. Staff support is provided by the Office of Community Development.

Since 2008 has been different than other years for the Board, I digress from the usual report and elaborate on personnel events. After a lengthy period of continuity in membership, a number of personnel changes occurred during 2008.

There are five members appointed to the Board. At the beginning of 2008 they were William D. Chin, Chairman, Anthony L. Leccese, Rebecca Vose, Arthur P. Kreiger, and Eric A. Smith.

Anthony L. Leccese retired in June after the completion of his term. Nicholas A. Iannuzzi, Jr., an associate member, was appointed a member to fill the vacancy.

In October, Rebecca Vose, another long time member, resigned in order to fill a vacancy on the School Committee. Rebecca was replaced by the appointment of Adam Dash, who had been appointed to complete Nicholas A. Iannuzzi, Jr.'s term as an associate member.

Eric A. Smith accepted appointment to the Warrant Committee. Eric was replaced by the appointment of Joseph G. Destefano.

The Board thanks Tony, Becky, and Eric for their service to Belmont and for their contributions to the Board.

There are three associate members appointed to the Board. At the beginning of 2008 they were Martin L. Cohen, Nicholas A. Iannuzzi, Jr., and Patrick D. Dignan.

Martin L. Cohen was reappointed in June. Nicholas A. Iannuzzi, Jr. was appointed a member, as was his replacement, Adam Dash. Patrick D. Dignan did not seek reappointment.

The Board continued its policy to allow associate members to participate in hearings and deliberate, but not vote except in the absence of a member.

The demand by residents for more living and/or recreational space continued throughout 2008.

As in prior years, the Board was aided by, and appreciates, the valuable and extensive help provided by the Town's Office of Community Development and, in particular, Jeffrey A. Wheeler, the Town's Planning Coordinator; Pauline M. Daniels, Administrative Assistant; and Karren Lee, Administrative Assistant. The Board also thanks the other Town departments and boards that provide guidance and leadership on various occasions.

Respectfully submitted,
William D. Chin, Chairman

PUBLIC SAFETY

BOARD OF HEALTH

David B. Alper, D.P.M.
Chairman

Robert M. Eisendrath, M.D.
Vice-Chairman

Donna S. David, R.N., M.N. (1)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Donna Moultrup, R.N., C.H.O., Director
Stefan Russakow, M.A., R.S., Assistant Director & Sealer of Weights and Measures
John Maguranis, Animal Control Officer & Veterans Services Officer
Ellen O'Doherty, Administrative Assistant & Clerk of the Board
Janet Amdur, LICSW, Outreach Worker
Lauren Becker, Youth Services Coordinator
David Neylon, R.N., Public Health Nurse (2)

Disease prevention and health promotion are the primary goals of the Health Department and are overseen by a three member elected Board of Health. State and federal departments of health mandate certain activities and suggest others based on research and national statistics. The Guidebook for Boards of Health guides local officials in mandated and suggested activities, considering local conditions and available resources.

The Board of Health was extremely pleased this year to negotiate with the Town of Lexington to share a public health nurse. The new nurse works 35 hours per week, three days in Lexington and two days in Belmont. Each town has the ability to request emergency services whenever needed. This nursing arrangement started at the end of August and there has been excellent collaboration and cooperation between the two health departments since that time. Future collaborative arrangements are being discussed with both the Lexington and the Arlington health departments.

Food sanitation is one of the most important activities of the Health Department because of the potential for serious foodborne illness. There are approximately 78 food service establishments in Town, including retail food stores, restaurants, catering establishments, bakeries and schools. Between one and three inspections are done at each of these establishments throughout the year depending on the relative risk of the operation and their level of compliance. Ice cream trucks, mobile food trucks, church halls and temporary food service events add approximately thirty additional inspections. Over 230 food service inspections are done each year. There were five food establishment closures this year, one of which will be relocating after renovating new space. There were three new food service businesses opened and one that changed owners. The Farmers' Market continued to be an asset to the community, but required regular involvement due to their weekly "guest" food vendors. 51 "Waivers" were issued to community groups, including the schools, for events during which food was served. These events are low risk operations, bake sales, potlucks or combinations of all of these and the waiver process gives the Health Department an opportunity to make sure that the food operation is as safe as possible.

A newsletter to food service establishments is published once or twice each year; an anti-choking workshop and an annual seminar are conducted for food service staff. This year's seminar featured a staff member of Ming Tsai's Blue Ginger Restaurant in Wellesley speaking on the issue of food allergies and how that restaurant tries to cater to its clients with allergies. Additional Food Managers have been certified this year due to Belmont's more strict regulation of requiring a Certified Food Manager on site all the hours that the establishment is open.

The Health Department, under the authority of the State Sanitary Code, 105 CMR 410.000 Minimum Standards of Fitness for Human Habitation, responds to residents' complaints concerning possible health and safety violations in rental housing. After an inspection is done, an Order Letter is written to the property owner. The Health Department frequently facilitates negotiations between tenants and landlords, so that violations can be corrected as quickly as possible. Cases are occasionally resolved after court intervention. There were 18 new housing complaints during this year and the resolution of seven from the previous year.

In addition to housing complaints, the Department responded to approximately 120 additional complaints that included inappropriate garbage/rubbish storage and disposal, air quality concerns, electric sanding, rodent problems and general safety issues. The Department is also responsible for inspecting 3 tanning salons, 4 day camps, and 11 swimming pools at 6 sites. Although the Board of Health promulgated Body Art regulations in 2001, there are no establishments in Town currently. There are two facilities with biotechnology permits. Local Massage/Muscular Therapy regulations were rescinded this year and the State assumed responsibility for both therapists and the establishments.

The Health Department is still in the process of promulgating hazardous materials regulations. The project has been on hold for a variety of reasons but should be completed in 2009.

The Board of Health is responsible for subsurface sewerage systems in the Town, under the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) regulations, commonly known as "Title 5." Soil testing, review of plans and oversight of construction are

responsibilities of the Health Department. As properties are renovated or replaced, a significant number of them are connecting to Town sewer. With low-flow pump systems, additional homes are able to connect to Town sewer that would not have been able to previously with traditional methods. There were at least six such connections this year. There are now inservice education requirements for certification every three years as System Inspectors and Soil Evaluators. Both the Director and Assistant Director are System Inspectors and the Assistant Director is also a Soil Evaluator.

The Department of Early Education and Care (DEEC) oversees child care facilities in the State and Belmont remains one of its "delegated communities." As such, the Health Department licenses the group day care, nursery school and after-school programs in the Town. One group day care and one school age program closed this year, while one new group day care opened. Three group day cares and four school age programs were re-licensed. The Health Department is responsible for licensing these programs every two years and for complaint investigations. Family day care homes, both regular programs with no more than six children, and large family day cares with no more than ten children, are licensed directly by the DEEC. Legislation was passed by the State this year requiring the few remaining "delegated communities" to return the licensing responsibilities to the State. The Director met with DEEC in December to make plans for this transfer by the end of June, 2009.

The Board of Health retains its contract with CareGroup Home Care for nursing services at Town-sponsored clinics. The new Public Health Nurse and the Director were able to conduct most of the flu clinics this year without additional help. CareGroup did assist with the two Senior Center clinics during which approximately 150 residents were vaccinated. Flu vaccine was plentiful this year and many were able to receive vaccinations at their doctor's office or at other commercial settings prior to the Health Department clinics. Belmont was the host of the regional flu clinic this year during which 989 participants of all ages were vaccinated within a two hour period. Communicable Disease follow-up is one of the most important roles of the Health Department. There were several cases investigated this year including cases related to the national tomato and tainted hamburger recalls. The goal of the Health Department is to make sure that our residents get appropriate follow-up care and that we determine, and stop if possible, the source of the disease. This takes excellent coordination between the local and state health departments. This was greatly assisted this year with the State's new computer program, MAVEN, Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Network. Four members of the department were trained to receive and relay information concerning communicable disease on this very secure, restricted website.

The Public Health Nurse and Administrative Assistant collaborate to prepare the materials for the anti-smoking program presented to all 3rd graders by the School Nurses. This program existed in the elementary school health curriculum prior to State funding and it has been continued throughout the ups and downs of the State tobacco funding. Compliance Checks to insure that tobacco retailers are not selling tobacco products to individuals under the age of eighteen were carried out through a tobacco collaborative, for which Belmont is the lead agency. There were very mixed results this year and retailers paid over \$2,500 in fines for tobacco violations.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

The Animal Control Officer logged over 4,300 miles as he patrolled the parks, streets and conservation areas of the Town. Approximately 26 dogs and 17 cats were put on quarantine due to bites; 26 animals because they did the biting and 17 because they received a bite. Three animals and birds were rescued and four animals were euthanized usually due to severe injuries. The ACO made 158 home visits; was dispatched by the Police Department 59 different times and 60 times by Health Department staff. Twelve dogs and 37 cats were reported missing to the ACO or the Health Department; very similar to last year's numbers. All but one of the dogs were found and returned to their owners by the ACO; many of the cats return on their own without ACO involvement so the number of returned cats, 13, is lower than the number missing. Several bats were submitted to the State Lab for rabies testing and all were negative. Belmont again participated in the statewide push to vaccinate pets by holding a rabies clinic for dogs and cats on the first Saturday in April. The ACO continued to be very active throughout the State giving presentations on coyotes to residents, legislators, schools and other towns.

The Health Department's Administrative Assistant again facilitated the elementary school dental program. The Kindergarten classrooms were supplied with materials for four units on dental health during a specific month assigned to each school. Books, tooth models, plays, videos and other materials to be shared are delivered to each school at the beginning of its "Dental Health Month."

The Outreach Worker continued providing individual and family therapy, case management, and crisis intervention services to provide support to Belmont families. Basic necessities such as food and housing have become an increasingly high priority and the Outreach Worker works closely with community groups such as the Salvation Army to help with these needs. The number of families in need and the complexity of the needs are ever increasing. The Girls' Group continues to be a very positive experience for participants. The Outreach Worker is also an active member of the Community Coalition for Youth Safety, a group facilitated by the Health Department to assist in educating parents and students about risky behaviors and how to reduce the negative impact on families and the community. A letter from this group accompanied by a brochure entitled, "7 Ways to Protect Your Teen from Alcohol and other Drugs" was sent to all 9th grade parents in the fall again this year. The Outreach Worker will be carrying on programs that were done collaboratively with the Youth Services Coordinator in the past.

Belmont continues its participation in the Minuteman Hazardous Products Facility located in Lexington. Eight towns comprise the core group operating the facility, although it is open to all towns with either the town or the resident paying the fee. It was also open to small businesses again this year, and the Health Department did send information to possible small quantity generators identified in the community. Belmont continues to pre-register through the Health Department office to insure that the program stays within its budget and approximately 20 families participate in each collection. Informal surveys indicate that

as many as one third of the participants from Belmont are participating for the first time. The site continued to be open seven Saturdays and one Sunday, April through November. A new pricing structure was negotiated with the vendor this year and the cost has been much more manageable and within the budget.

Belmont is one of approximately 25 cities and towns that comprise the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project. It has been in existence since 1946 with Belmont being one of the original five towns. Each city and town contributes funds towards the overall maintenance and administration of the District and then additional funds cover specific services provided to each community. Mosquito control specific to Belmont includes adult mosquito surveillance by trapping, helicopter Bti (*Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *israelensis*) application in a small area of Beaverbrook Reservation and catch basin larval control. Because the land area of Belmont is quite small, one benefit of the Town's support of the District is the mosquito control activities actually carried out in adjacent towns with large areas of wetlands.

The threat of West Nile Virus, carried primarily by container-breeding mosquitoes, continues to affect the workload of the Health Department. Dead crows and blue jays with no signs of trauma are still being sent to the State lab to be tested for the virus, but once the number reaches two, they do not continue to test. There was only one bird tested from Belmont this year and it was negative. There were positive birds and mosquito pools in adjacent communities, but none reported here. East Middlesex Mosquito Control was supposed to treat all of the catch basins twice during the summer, but due to staffing issues, three Health Department staff members worked for a couple of days assisting.

Emergency preparedness continues to be an important aspect of the Health Department's work. Work on a Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC) in conjunction with the Fire and Police Departments and the DPW continued. The Health Department continued to facilitate the Emergency Planning Group involving many Town departments and concentrates on emergency planning from a local government viewpoint. Participation in the Public Health Region 4b group not only encourages collaboration with surrounding communities but also allows the Health Department to receive some grant money to assist in emergency planning. Belmont was the host for the regional flu clinic held November 22nd at the Belmont High School. Anyone over the age of six months was allowed to participate. The towns of Arlington, Brookline, Newton, and Watertown, Belmont's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers, the Auxiliary Police, the Council-on-Aging and Emergency Planning Group all cooperated over a three week period to plan this clinic as an emergency preparedness exercise. It took five hours of set-up the Friday night before and nine ours the day of to vaccinate almost 1000 individuals and families. It was a huge success by anyone's standards.

Cable TV and the local newspaper continued to be used to share information concerning programs, clinics and health education. The Action for the Community Elderly (A.C.E.) Committee continues to provide opportunities for representatives of agencies serving the elderly in Belmont to network and offer support to each other. It is anticipated that this networking group will be chaired by the Council-on-Aging Director in 2009 after the move into the new Senior Center. Participation in the Massachusetts Health Officers' Association (MHOA), the Massachusetts Environmental Health Association (MEHA), the Regionalization Working Group and the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards (MAHB) helps insure that the Department has the most current information for Belmont's residents.

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The lack of a formalized training program for this position is still hampering the Department's ability to obtain full certification. The Assistant Director is acting as the Sealer of Weights and Measures for the Town. There are approximately 300 devices that need to be sealed each year including 109 gasoline meters at thirteen gas stations; 18 taxicabs; scales at 5 pharmacies; scanners at three businesses and other miscellaneous measuring devices.

YOUTH COMMISSION

The Youth Commission continued to sponsor its very successful programs, the Youth Center at Butler School on Friday nights, movie afternoons during vacation weeks, "Belmont Unplugged" which encouraged families to unplug from electronic devices like computers, TVs, etc. and share family activities, and the end of the year family barbecue. Lauren Becker, Youth Services Coordinator, finished her schooling and accepted a full-time position in her field. Budget constraints due to increased fuel charges caused the Town to make several difficult decisions. One was to cut the Youth Commission budget. The Board of Health negotiated the transfer of the most successful Youth Commission programs to the Recreation Department, with some funds being provided by D.A.R.E., Inc. The Outreach Worker will continue the Golden Shoes and the Girls' groups. Lauren Becker stayed on as the Youth Center Coordinator and planned to do that through the 2008-09 school year, unless a replacement could be found for her position. After salvaging the Youth Commission many years ago, the Board of Health is very disappointed that the Youth Commission has been dissolved but hopes that in better fiscal times, the program can be expanded again.

VETERANS SERVICES

In 1946, the Massachusetts legislature created the Office of Veterans' Services and formalized Chapter 115 of the *Massachusetts General Laws*. The mission of the Department of Veterans' Services is to advocate on behalf of all veterans, and to provide quality service and benefits to those veterans and their dependents in need of emergency financial and/or medical assistance. The Town of Belmont, through the Board of Selectmen's appointment of the Veterans' Service Officer, continues to demonstrate its concern and compassion for those men and women who have served our country with honor.

The Veterans' Services Officer is normally the first individual a veteran or dependent contacts for advice and assistance. Being a veteran does not mean benefits are automatic. The eligibility to receive entitlements from the Department of Veterans'

Services and Veterans' Affairs must be determined and proven in accordance with strict State and federal laws, rules and regulations. Benefits are intended to be temporary in nature and not full time permanent support.

2008 was the fourth full year that the Veterans' Services Officer operated out of the Health Department. Regular office hours are from 10 am to 12 pm on Tuesday mornings. In addition to providing general support to those veterans who inquired during the course of 2008, the VSO and other Health Department staff members also planned and participated in many events honoring our veterans such as the Memorial Day Parade, Veterans' Day and Flag Day ceremonies, and school visitations. The VSO attended two veterans' conferences during the year in addition to monthly meetings. This office continues to be the liaison to the Belmont Allied Veterans Council, comprised of representatives of Waverley VFW Post 1272 and American Legion Post 165, insuring strong communication between all veterans and this office. The Veterans' Services Officer was very active this year working with the veterans on issues surrounding the VFW Hall on Trapelo Rd.

Finally, the staff and Board of Health members would like to thank the other Town departments, boards and commissions for their support and assistance throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna L. Moultrup, RN, CHO

- (1) Donna David, R.N., M.N., was elected to her sixth term in April.
- (2) David Neylon, R.N., was hired as the shared Public Health Nurse.

CASES OF REPORTABLE DISEASES BY YEARS 2000-2008

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
Animal Bites	26	15	12	13	9	7	6	2	26
Campylobacter	4	8	10	12	6	11	7	16	13
Chicken Pox	5	1	1	7	2	2	15	6	3
E Coli:0157:H7									3
Giardiasis	3	5	5	2	4	1	2	3	6
Hepatitis	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	1
Lyme	7	4	3	4	10	5	14	9	18
Pertussis	7	5	1	1	2	3	1	6	4
Salmonellosis	6	2	2	0	4	1	3	2	4
Shigellosis					1	1	1	0	3

Cancer Deaths 2008

Breast	4	Prostate	0
Lung	10	Colon	2
Stomach	0	Pancreas	3
Ovary	0	Remaining Sites	18
		Total	37

Breakdown by age and gender available in the Health Department. This total will not correspond to the total under "All Cancers" in the death statistics below because this total includes more than the primary cause of death.

Deaths of Belmont Residents 2008

Heart Disease	32	All Cancers	37
Cerebrovascular Disease	10	Pneumonia & Influenza	22
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	6	Diabetes Mellitis	1
Liver Disease/Cirrhosis	0	Atherosclerosis	6
Accidents, Suicides, Poisonings, Violence	6	Alzheimers/Dementia	25
Birth Injuries, Newborn Infections, Congenital Malformations	0	All Other Causes	40
Deaths recorded in the Town Clerk's office as of 2/05/09.		Total Deaths	185

2008 Permits and Licenses Issued

Animal Permits	4	Milk Licenses	29
Bakery Registrations	2	Mobile Canteen Licenses	7
Biotech License	2	Review, Septic Plan	0
Burial Permits	91	Rubbish Disposal Permit	35
Child Care Licenses	5	School Age Programs	4
Day Camp Licenses	4	Septage Hauler Permits	6
Disposal System Con. Permit	1	Swimming Pool Licenses	11
Dumpster Annual	74	Tanning Facilities	2
Food Establishment Permits	114	Temporary Dumpsters	221
Funeral Director Licenses	5	Tobacco Permits	22
Installer's Permit, Title 5	0		

Health Department Receipts through 12/31/2008

Animal Permits	225.00
Biotech Permit	200.00
Burial Permits	900.00
Citations, Animal	900.00
Citations, Dumpster	200.00
Citations, Nuisance	150.00
Citations, Food Service	875.00
Citations, Tobacco.....	2900.00
Citations, Abrasive Blasting.....	500.00
Copies Fees	0.00
Day Camp	745.00
Day Care Licenses	1450.00
Dumpster Permits.....	5145.00
Food Establishment Permits	10335.00
Food Service Seminars	455.00
Milk Licenses.....	290.00
Mobile Food Trucks.....	250.00
Flu Clinic Receipts.....	3157.14
Funeral Director Licenses	500.00
Rabies Clinic	585.00
Rubbish Haulers.....	1565.00
Sealer of Weights & Measures Fees.....	1503.00
Swimming Pools.....	475.00
Septic Plan Review	0
Installation Permit.....	0
Percolation/deep Hole Observation.....	0
Disposal System Construction Permit	0
Septage Haulers Permits	600.00
Tanning Facilities	150.00
Tobacco Sales Permits	<u>950.00</u>
Totals.....	\$35,080.14

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

The Belmont Emergency Management Agency (BEMA) is an extension of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), established by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to coordinate emergency services with various state, local and federal agencies during a state of emergency or alert. During such emergencies/alerts, MEMA operates from their headquarters in Framingham and communicates with local emergency management agencies, such as Belmont's, via radio, fax, message beepers, the Internet and telephone.

2008 was a busy year for the Agency. We added several members to our CERT team and continued to provide in service training to our existing membership. Major activities this year include the fall Flu Clinic run by 5 local health departments, including Belmont. A dozen CERT members participated and contributed to a very successful test.

Some of the key accomplishments of this year include:



- The agency monitored Town emergency activities to maintain a readiness for a situation appropriate response.
- The Agency participated in Emergency Planning surveys required by Federal and State Agencies.
- 7 Members are now licensed HAM Radio Operators. The Emergency Operations Center is now equipped with a HAM Radio for voice communication and a PACKET radio for data transmission. Both of these tools represent a significant improvement to our overall communications capabilities.
- The Agency conducted 1 Community Emergency Response Team training program. The training was well received and it is anticipated that additional grant funds will be available to continue this training. We are pleased to report we now have 90 Citizens trained as Community Emergency Response Team members. As part of our CERT training,
- Presented Preparedness Awareness presentation at several civic groups;
- Continued working with management from the 9-1-1/Joint Public Safety Communications center to familiarize staff with

the equipment in the Emergency Management, Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC is an asset of the town and when necessary, can be used by the Public Safety Dispatchers.

I would like to thank Assistant Fire Chief Angus Davison who serves BEMA in the capacity of Assistant Director of Emergency Management. Chief Davison provides invaluable assistance to myself, the Emergency Management Agency and the Citizen Corps Council in Belmont.

Special thanks go to Fire Chief David Frizzell, Fire Lieutenant Rick Nohl, Fire Captain David Demarco, Fire Fighter Ross Vona and administrative assistant Kim Haley for their continued support to BEMA and the CERT program in Belmont.

While many volunteers are active in the Citizen Corps Council programs, such as the CERT program, I would like to single out a few volunteers that consistently participate in all events as well as the management and strategy meetings. This includes Ernie Fay, Viktoria Haase, Patricia Mihelich and Ellen Block.

Lastly I would like to announce that Mr. John Steeves, a tenured member of the Emergency Management for his valuable assistance in staffing the Emergency Management Communications center.

Respectfully submitted,
Leo J. Saidnawey, Director

FIRE DEPARTMENT

I wish to express my appreciation to the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, Department Managers, the Fire Station Building Committee and the Officers and Firefighters of the Belmont Fire Department for their continued support, cooperation and assistance during 2008. The Fire Department, after receiving preliminary approval from The Board of Selectmen, has embarked on a feasibility study on the best way to provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) to the Residents of the Town.

ROSTER OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF

David L. Frizzell (EMT)

ASSISTANT CHIEF

Edward Angus Davison (EMT)

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Captain John A. Pizzi (EMT)

ASSISTANT FIRE PREVENTION/TRAINING OFFICER

Lieutenant Stephen Hodgdon

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Kimberly A. Haley

PART TIME ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Wendy McDonald

CAPTAINS

David J. DeMarco (EMT), Kenneth Gardiner, Jr. (EMT), Wayne L. Haley (EMT), John J. Mooney (EMT)

LIEUTENANTS

Agostino D. Azzone (EMT), Edward R. Corsino, Jr. (EMT), John Forte (EMT), Geoffrey Harvey (EMT), Richard Nohl (EMT), Laurent Roy (EMT), Daniel Scannell (EMT), Scott Spuria (EMT), Andrew Tobio (EMT), David Toomey (EMT)*, Steven Whalen (EMT), Stephen Wilcinski (EMT) (*Denotes temporary Lieutenant)

FIREFIGHTERS

David Alesse (EMT), Joseph Baptista (EMT), Gerard M. Benoit (EMT), James A. Bing (EMT), Thomas Biondo (EMT), Brian Campana (EMT), Shaun Campana (EMT), Brian Corsino (EMT), Jason P. Corsino (EMT), Scott D'Entremont, Elijah Debnam (EMT), Thomas Deneen (EMT), Christopher Drinan (EMT), Ace Elefteriadis (EMT), Charles H. Foote III (EMT), Robert A. Fowler, Jr. (EMT), Andrew Goneau (EMT), Christopher Hadge (EMT), Dana Harrington (EMT), William A. Kaufman (EMT), Anthony D. Lynch (EMT), John D. MacDonald (EMT), Michael J. Madruga (EMT), Dennis Maher (EMT), James T. McNeilly (EMT), Tracy Mullen (EMT), Richard J. O'Brien, James J. Papadinis (EMT), Michael D. Reilly, Steven Reilly (EMT), Sean Ryan (EMT), Christian Tocci (EMT), Ross Vona (EMT), Robert K. Wollner (EMT)

Appointments

On May 19, 2008 James Bing was appointed as a Firefighter.

On May 19, 2008 James McNeilly was appointed as a Firefighter.

On October 27, 2008 Michael Madruga was appointed as a Firefighter.

On October 27, 2008 James Papadinis was appointed as a Firefighter.

Retirements/Resignations

The following retirements occurred during 2008:

On August 3, 2008 Firefighter Michael Coates retired with 22 ½ years of service.

On October 31, 2008 Firefighter Ronald Gaudet retired with 29 years of service.

On November 3, 2008 Firefighter Joseph Holleran retired with 28 years of service.

Promotions

On January 14, 2008 David Toomey was promoted to Temporary Acting Lieutenant.

Apparatus Presently Operated by the Fire Department

		Location
Engine 1	2003 Emergency One 1250 GPM Class A Pumper	Headquarters
Engine 2	2005 Emergency One 1250 GPM Class A Pumper	Station 2
Engine 3 (Reserve)	2007 International/Emergency One 1000 GPM Custom Pumper	Headquarters
Engine 4 (Reserve)	1988 Emergency One 1250 GPM Class A Pumper	Station 2
Ladder 1	1999 Emergency One 110' Aerial Ladder	Station 2
Rescue 1	2007 Horton Rescue 555C Type 1 Ambulance	Headquarters
Rescue 2	2002 International/AEV Type 1 Ambulance	Headquarters
Boat	Inflatable Rescue Boat with trailer	Station 2
Tech Rescue	18' Cargo Trailer for Technical Rescue	Headquarters
Light Trailer	6 KW Light Tower Trailer	Headquarters
Squad 1	1999 Ford F450 (transfer from DPW)	Headquarters
Car 1	2007 Ford Expedition– Chief's Vehicle	Headquarters
Car 2	2007 Ford Explorer – Assistant Chief's Vehicle	Headquarters
Car 3	2004 Ford Expedition – Shift Commander's Vehicle	Headquarters
Car 4	2000 Ford Crown Victoria – Fire Prevention Vehicle	Headquarters
Car 5	1998 Ford Explorer – Fire Prevention/Training Vehicle	Headquarters
	<i>Note: Reserve apparatus not staffed</i>	

Fire Alarm Record

2000 – 2885 Calls	2004 – 3000 Calls
2001 – 3220 Calls	2005 – 3143 Calls
2002 – 2952 Calls	2006 – 3054 Calls
2003 – 2987 Calls	2007 – 3143 Calls

The Fire Department responded to **3140** calls during 2008.

These calls are divided as follows;

A sample of fires and incidents responded to in 2008 are as follows;

Structure Fires.....	169
Working Fires	5
Second Alarm.....	1
Third Alarm.....	1
Fourth Alarm	0
Outside Fires.....	10
Refuse Fires.....	8
Vehicles Fires.....	5
Fire/Explosion/Other.....	0
Motor Vehicle Extrication.....	4
Carbon Monoxide Activation	64
Spill, Leak, No Ignition.....	83
Hazardous Electrical Equipment	64
Over Pressure or Rupture	1
Bomb Scare	0
Hazardous Conditions – Other	6
Smoke Scare.....	29
Good Intent Calls	233
System Malfunction	295
Unintentional Alarms	228
Malicious False	19
Service Calls-	163
Water Calls.....	59
Assist Police Department	31
Mutual Aid Given Out of Town	96
Mutual Aid Received into the Town	42

Fire Prevention Bureau

The Fire Prevention Bureau, located at Fire Headquarters, is currently under the direction of Captain John A. Pizzi. He is supported by Lt. Stephen Hodgdon, who in addition to being in charge of the Fire Department's training division assists in the work of the Bureau, and by Wendy McDonald, part-time Administrative Assistant.

The Fire Prevention Bureau provides a systematic inspection program of commercial establishments, schools, institutions, as well as residential occupancies. They are inspected for the purpose of removing hazards, correcting conditions, and ensuring compliance with all Massachusetts General Laws, the Code of Massachusetts Regulations, and Town By-Laws that are under the authority of the Belmont Fire Department. As part of this effort, the Bureau reviews applications and issues permits requiring that all hazardous work done in Town is in accordance with Massachusetts Fire Prevention Laws and Regulations.

Pursuant to this, the Bureau provides planning consultations to permit applicants (architects, contractors, lessees, business owners, property owners, or legal representatives) and conducts substantive conversations with residents who have general questions or specific concerns regarding fire safety.

The Fire Prevention Bureau is enacting an aggressive education and compliance campaign regarding the new Massachusetts State Building Code, Seventh Edition, Life Safety and Fire Protection Systems Chapters. This is a major undertaking for the Bureau. The Fire Prevention Bureau also compiles the information mandated by Federal law requiring notification, permitting, and site inspections of underground tanks.

The Fire Officers assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau attend monthly meetings and seminars of the Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts, New England Association of Fire Marshals, and the Department of Fire Services. In addition, the Fire Prevention Bureau works in conjunction with the Office of the State Fire Marshal, Department of Fire Services, to obtain the latest information for implementation and enforcement of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 148, Massachusetts Fire Prevention Regulations 527 CMR, and Fire Protection sections of the State Building Code 780 CMR.

In the interest of life safety and property protection, all citizens of the Town are encouraged to contact the Fire Prevention Bureau with any concerns pertaining to fire protection and safety.

Dollar Value Saved & Loss Analysis:

Total value of Property involved in incidents	= \$10,971,000
Total of Property Losses in incidents	= \$ 855,650
Total of Property Saved in Incidents	= \$10,115,350

Permits Issued

General	25
Blasting	3
Building Permit Plan Review/Permit to Proceed	73
Propane Use/Storage	13
Smoke Detector (26F)	233
Oil Burner/Tank Installation	47
Tank Truck (FP44)	66
Tank Removal	78
Underground Storage Tank (FP290 Part 3)	7
Cutting and Welding	8
Fire Alarm Contractors Permit	3

Inspections

Smoke Detectors	146
Above/Underground Tank Removal/Install	96
Tank Truck	66
McLean	29 and 12 Fire Drills
Public and Private Schools	50 and 100 Fire Drills
Nursery Schools, Pre-schools, Day Care Ctrs	38
"Red Tag" Equipment Systems	115
Restaurants / Liquor Licenses	10
Assembly	21
Other (Nursing Home, Lodging Houses)	17

Respectfully submitted,
Captain John A. Pizzi, Fire Prevention Bureau

Belmont Fire EMS Report

Total Number of Ambulance Responses (Medical and Non-Medical Responses)	1,817
Total Number of Transports	1,294 (1,180 BFD, 114 WFD)
BLS Transports	51% (582 BFD, 82 WFD)
ALS Transports	49% (598 BFD, 32 WFD)
Private BLS Transports	4% (45 Patient Transports)

Mutual Aid Given	313
Mutual Aid Received	150

The Belmont Fire Department has a total staffing of 47 Emergency Medical Technicians and 7 First Responders. Recertification requires that each Emergency Medical Technician participate in a minimum of 28 Continuing Education and 24 Refresher Course hours for a combined total of 52 hours every two years. As a ruling by the Chief of the Department, each First Responder must participate in Department Emergency Medical Technician training in order to recertify every two years. Each Fire Department Emergency Medical Services responder has been trained and certified in the new Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Automated External Defibrillation pursuant to the guidelines set forth by the American Heart Association relating to Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers. Recertification and training occur every year.

At the approval of the Department of Public Health (DPH), Office of Emergency Medical Services and the Food and Drug Administration, Belmont fire apparatus are classified to transport up to six different medications. Fire Department Emergency Medical Service providers have been trained to administer these medications as well as to administer the Mark 1 Kit in the event of a terrorist action.

The Belmont Fire Department stands as one of the first Fire Departments in the Metropolitan Boston area to have received Albuterol, Mark 1, Glucometer and Pediatric defibrillator training. The services that are rendered by the Firefighter/EMT are valuable respective of the overall operation of the Department. The dedication to duty that EMTs and First Responders show in their day-to-day operations are commendable and serve as a testament to the quality of care and service to our community.

The Belmont Fire Department works closely with the Department of Public Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services, Metropolitan Boston EMS Council, South Middlesex Emergency Medical Services, and the Food and Drug Administration in order to assure full compliance with all laws, regulations and standards applicable to provision of Emergency Medical Services pursuant to the standard of care set forth by the Commonwealth.

Respectfully submitted,
Captain David J. DeMarco, EMT IC, EMS Coordinator

Training Division

The Training Officer works in conjunction with the Chief of Department David L. Frizzell, the Department of Fire Services/Massachusetts Fire Academy and other public and private organizations in order to provide a systematic and continuous supply of quality training and information to the members of the Belmont Fire Department. Training activities are conducted in accordance with professional standards set forth by the National Fire Protection Agency and the Office of Emergency Medical Services for the State of Massachusetts.

The training Officers responsibilities include equipment maintenance; selection and organization of fire department training booklets and materials; and the keeping of complete and accurate training records on each member of the Belmont Fire Department. Additional duties include support of the Fire Prevention Bureau and manpower support in Fire Suppression.

During 2008 the members of the Belmont Fire Department performed training in the following areas: Ladder operations; Ladder pipe procedure; Air bag training; Jaws of Life Training; Ground ladder operations; Firefighter Search and Rescue; Thermal Imaging Training; Forcible Entry Training (specifically hand and mechanical tools); Rapid intervention Team Training at Mclean Hospital sight; Driver Training Recertification; Auto Extrication; Safe Lifting Practices; BFD Radio Communication Procedure; New Recruit Training; Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Training; MBTA Natural Gas Bus Training; Pump Training and Drill, on New Engine; Annual Hose test and Maintenance.

Currently, all members of the Department are trained and certified in CPR and AED use by the American Heart Association. Fifty members of the Department are Emergency Medical Technicians. CPR, AED and First Responder recertification training occurs annually and EMT recertification training is hosted by the Department biennially.

Respectfully submitted,
Lieutenant Stephen C. Hodgdon, Training Officer/ Assistant Fire Prevention Officer

Metro Fire

The Fire Departments of 34 greater Boston communities and Massport, with the support and approval of their local governments comprise the Metro Fire District 13 Association. Metro Fire membership increased this year with the addition of the Town of Randolph.

Formed in 1980, the Association is enacted under provisions of the Massachusetts General Laws. Its service area encompasses the urban area within the Route 128 perimeter, serving an area of 351 square miles and a population of approximately 1,883,000. The premise for Metro-Fire is the realization that no urban community can completely self protect. This is the basis for mutual aid among the communities. A very natural extension of this concept is the mutual sharing of a single or limited number of specialized resources. In the fire service, there are many instances requiring specialized equipment that are vital to a given situation, but only occasionally used. Metro-Fire is providing the mechanism for these types of resources to be available on a cooperation-shared basis. Some of these resources include a Metro-Fire hazardous material response team. The team is available on a 24-hour basis to respond to hazardous material incidents that are beyond the capabilities of any one individual community to control. All members of the team have attended an extensive 160-hour training

course and participate in monthly training sessions throughout the year. The Belmont Fire Department is extremely proud in having one member from the Department, Lieutenant Edward R. Corsino, Jr., on the Metro-Fire HazMat team. His knowledge, interest and dedication to the program are a credit to the department.

In addition to the HazMat team and trucks, there is an incident command vehicle with a communications center on board. In addition, a heavy rescue for all transit accidents, a confined space/collapse/tunnel rescue unit, an air supply unit, foam bank and the extensive training film library. We also have access to the S.A.F.E. House trailer for training young people in fire safety at home. In an emergency situation, the vehicles can be delivered to the community in need. That community must then supply the personnel to operate it.

Lastly I was appointed as the Metro Fire-District 13 member to the Statewide Fire Mobilization Task Force Committee. This Committee holds monthly meetings to develop and oversee the Statewide Mobilization Plan. This plan allows for additional systematic mutual aid for an incident(s) that either through its scope or duration depletes the local districts resources.

Recommendations from the Chief

That the Town continues to support the Department in its Capital and Operational needs to protect the citizens of the Town as the requests for services are expected to increase with the commencement of development at McLean Hospital and the future development of the Uplands.

That the Selectmen and Warrant Committee explore the potential of a Regional Fire Department (including dispatch functions) with neighboring communities as a way to increase the protection and enhance the delivery of Fire and EMS services to the Town.

Respectfully submitted,
David L. Frizzell, Chief of Department

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

In compliance with Federal Regulations, the Town of Belmont established a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) in 2003. The LEPC is the local body that handles emergency planning and community right-to-know reporting on hazardous and toxic chemicals. The LEPC is comprised of Town Departments, industry representatives and community members.

In 2006, the Commonwealth launched a new on-line tool for the Town and LEPC to update and maintain its Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. This was used through the year to maintain and update the plan. The latest information from the reporting sites has been entered and catalogued in this database. This on-line reporting tool was supposed to be updated by the Commonwealth in 2008 to make it more user-friendly and provide more comprehensive information, but that has not come to fruition yet.

At the end of 2006 the Battle Road Regional Emergency Planning Committee (BRREPC) was formed. This regional approach originally involved the communities of Arlington, Bedford, Belmont, Burlington, and Lexington. Through this regional effort, the 6 communities combined their efforts and resources to develop a Regional plan and apply for Regional Development and Training funding, which is more readily available from the Federal Government and its agencies. The Regional Committee has been working in cooperation with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency in bringing this new venture together. The BRREPC achieved Start-Up certification in 2008 and took part in a multi-agency disaster drill in Lexington on January 11. This exercise was quite an undertaking and involved at least 10 different local and state agencies and 2 private companies. Belmont Fire, Belmont Emergency Management, Belmont Health and Belmont DPW were represented and took part in the exercise. The outcome of the exercise is still in the final stages of review and further exercises are planned.

The success of the Committee's formation and success has attracted the communities of Watertown, Newton and Brookline to also join us. The Committee hoped to achieve full certification in 2008, but that goal looks like it will have to wait until 2009.

I would like to thank the members of the Committee for their work and input during the past year. I believe that this new regional approach will help our Committee to enhance its local planning efforts.

Respectfully submitted,
Asst. Fire Chief Angus Davison, LEPC Chairman

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Belmont Police Department continued working through its transition and reorganization process well into 2008. This reorganization began at the end of 2007 when the Board of Selectmen promoted six members of the Department. Following the promotions, interviews were conducted for key positions within the Department culminating in assignments to the following positions:

Captain J. Peter Hoerr was appointed to the position of Captain, which has overall command of the different Patrol platoons within the Patrol Division as well as the Traffic & Records Division and handles other duties such as professional standards

investigations. Lieutenant Brendan O'Leary was selected as Commander of the Detective Division. Sergeant Barry Ward was selected to be the Court Prosecutor and department liaison to the court system. Brendan Young and Kristine Kennedy were selected to be Detectives. Lieutenant James MacIsaac was selected as Commander of one of the Night Platoons. Sergeant Kim Hurley and Mark Hurley were assigned as street supervisors on the night and day shifts respectively. Sergeant Kevin Shea was selected to be the Supervisor of the Traffic & Records Division.

There were four vacant police officer positions at the end of 2007. During the spring, a number of applicants were interviewed and selected to fill three of these positions. Belmont residents Paul Cowing and Melissa O'Connor attended and graduated from the Lowell Police Academy and, after completing the Field Training Program, now patrol our streets. The third Belmont resident, Philip Kucha, began his training at the MBTA Transit Police Academy in September with a graduation date in early 2009. Both Officer Cowing and Officer Kucha are Massachusetts National Guardsmen who have completed tours of duty in Iraq. When Officer Kucha is finished with his training, the Department will finally return to a strength of 47 sworn officers. The 48th position was not filled owing to the hiring freeze.

During the first few months of the year a number of banks within the Town were robbed a total of 5 times. As a result of a joint effort between members of the Department and Task Forces which worked collaboratively, 3 suspects were brought to justice for committing all 5 bank robberies. Also, in an effort to keep our roadways as safe as they could be, there were 18 persons charged with OUI (Operating Under the Influence) in 2008.

In the spring the Police Station Feasibility Study Committee made its presentation to the Board of Selectmen along with its recommendation. The recommendation was based on all the available information which was reviewed during the study period. The conclusion that was reached and recommended to the Board was to relocate the Police Station to the present location of the Belmont Public Library, once a new library is built.

During the past year the Department was able to complete the purchase of the new Motorola portable radios, providing all members of the Department with one of the most up-to-date and technologically advanced portable radios available on the market today. These new portable radios give our Department members the capability to communicate with a whole host of public safety agencies, enhancing our ability to work with those agencies during a major emergency. Also during this year, the Department was able to upgrade and purchase a number of new portable defibrillators. Made possible by some very generous donations from a private party and some banks within our community, these new AEDs will mean our patrol officers will continue to be able to provide early defibrillation to patients with cardiac problems.

In an effort to better serve and communicate with the community, the Town launched a notification system in the fall of 2008, named Connect CTY. This notification program enables the Town to deliver timely messages to residents through a number of different means, including home telephones, cell phones, or e-mail. Residents may opt in or out of the different methods of notification. To date the system has been used successfully a number of times to communicate different messages to the community.

Also in the fall, the Department re-energized its Community Policing Program by reaching out to Town Meeting Members of the different precincts during monthly meetings. The purpose of the meetings was to gather information on matters affecting the quality of life within each precinct area and also to try and identify ways to resolve issues that were having a negative impact on the area.

In closing, I would like to say we will continue as a Department to be proactive in resolving issues that impact the "Quality of Life" of our residents and our community.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard J. McLaughlin, Chief of Police

**ROSTER OF POLICE DEPARTMENT
2008**

CHIEF OF POLICE
Richard J. McLaughlin

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF
Dawn M. Perino

ASSISTANT CHIEF
Richard J. Lane

CAPTAIN
John P. Hoerr

LIEUTENANTS

Darin T Demagistris
Christopher J. Donahue

James G. MacIsaac
Brendan J. O'Leary

Richard J. Santangelo

SERGEANTS

Kristin M. Daley
Gerard M. Greeley
Kimberly C. Hurley
Mark D. Hurley

John J. Quigley
Kevin M. Shea
Janice E. Sparks
Barry T. Ward

William J. Watkins

POLICE OFFICERS

Shiraz R. Banosian, Todd M. Benedetti, Timothy F. Connors, Paul J. Cowing, Katie Coppi, Athanasi M. Darvaris, John A. DeVito, James F. Gallo, Brian E. Gilligan, Michael R. Horan, Kristine L. Kennedy, James J. Leary, Gary W. Long, Benjamin J. Mailhot, William F. McDermott, Matthew B. Owens, Michael P. McHugh, Melissa J. O'Connor, Marc G. Pugliese, Michael V. Pugliese, William E. Regan, Jonathan E. Riddell, Robert E. Sacca, James M. Schwab, Scott F. Shallow, Franz J. Strassmann, David M. Sullivan, Cory A. Taylor, Brendan M. Young.

SCHOOL TRAFFIC SUPERVISORS

Robert Berrigan, Erin Callanan, Katherine Chaprales, Joan M. DiPace, Patricia A. Dixon, Mafalda J. Iannetta, Laurence P. MacDonald, James Marcantonio, Francis B. Napoli, Donald F. Oates, Margaret L. Pelrine, George Ralph, Laurette C. Stevens, Stella A. Tonry, Jean Turner.

RESERVE SCHOOL TRAFFIC SUPERVISORS

Marie J. McDonough, Leonard R. Muccioli
Leo B. O'Brien

PARKING CONTROL OFFICERS

Robert E. Burns, Laurence P. MacDonald, John J. Tobin

TECHNICAL SERVICES

John M. Steeves

TRAFFIC BUREAU ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Carol A. Hurley, Linda M. Smith

DETECTIVE BUREAU SECRETARY

(Part Time)
Carol A. Hurley

APPOINTED

Paul J. Cowing, as Permanent Police Officer, on October 24, 2008.
Melissa J. O'Connor, as Permanent Police Officer, on October 24, 2008.
George W. Ralph, as Traffic Supervisor, on September 3, 2008.
Robert F. Berrigan, as Traffic Supervisor, on December 1, 2008.

RESIGNED

Marjorie L. Nichols, as Traffic Supervisor, on January 5, 2008.

2008 TRAFFIC BUREAU ANNUAL REPORT

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICES	18,307
TRAFFIC STOPS	3,674
DOMESTIC/FOLLOWUPS	238
209A SERVED	105
209A VIOLATIONS	45
ACCIDENTS: Reported	753
Investigated	381
Personal Injury	62
Persons Killed	0
Pedestrian	11
Pedestrians Injured	9
Pedestrians Killed	0
Bicycle	9
Bicycle with Injury	6
Bicycle with Fatality	0
Hit and Run	86

INTERSECTIONS WITH 10 OR MORE ACCIDENTS:

- Belmont St. & Trapleo Rd.
- Brighton St. & Pleasant St.
- Mill St. & Trapleo Rd.
- Pleasant St. & Lake St.
- Pleasant St. & Trapleo Rd.

CITATIONS:

Civil Motor Vehicle Violations (Complaints)	491
Civil Motor Vehicle Violations (Warnings)	2,664
Criminal Motor Vehicle Violations	124
Arrests for Motor Vehicle Violations	36
Motor Vehicle Violations Issued (Total)	3,315

PARKING VIOLATIONS ISSUED: 8,460

LICENSES AND PERMITS:

Taxi Licenses Issued	19
Parking Permits Issued	1,744
Bicycles Registered	13

REVENUE RECEIVED:

Report Copies	\$ 1,981
Taxi Licenses	\$ 190
Parking Permits	\$69,740
Bicycle Licenses	\$ 0
Civil Motor Vehicle Fines Paid	\$24,235
Parking Violations Paid	\$103,144

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin M. Shea, Sergeant

REVENUE RECEIVED:

Alarms Fines	\$7,230
Alarm Registration	\$21,322
Detail Administration 10%	\$38,236

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel MacAuley, Supervisor
Dawn M. Perino, Administrative Assistant

2008 ANNUAL COURT SUMMARY

Total Court Dates	996
Criminal Cases Filed	489
Arrests	127
Juvenile trials	17
Adult Trails	42
Superior Court	11
Other Trials	12
Magistrate Hearings (CIVIL)	185
Magistrate Hearings (CRIMINAL)	71
Traffic Appeals	42
Court Overtime (Hours)	463

Respectfully submitted,
Barry Ward, Sergeant

2008 DETECTIVE BUREAU ANNUAL REPORT

Arson.....	3
Assaults.....	71
Attempted Murder	5
Burglaries	101
Kidnapping	1

Larcenies.....	223
Motor Vehicle Thefts	16
Murder.....	0
Narcotic Violations.....	29
OUI.....	20
Rape.....	7
Robberies.....	8
All Other Offenses	354
Total	838

REVENUE RECEIVED:

License to Carry Firearms & FID Permits:		\$4,945.00
	State Share	\$3,975.00
	Town Share	\$ 970.00
Persons fingerprinted for security clearance, alien & employment applications, etc.		\$ 400.00
Clearance Letters		\$ 49.00
	Total	\$ 10,339.00

Respectfully submitted,
Brendan O'Leary, Lieutenant

2008 BELMONT COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION REPORT

DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION AND YOUTH & PARENT EDUCATION:

DARE CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION	175	hours
OTHER DARE, YOUTH OR PARENT EDUCATION EVENTS:	60	hours
Total:	235	hours

Respectfully submitted,
Michael L. Horan, DARE Officer

AUXILIARY POLICE ACTIVITIES:

Monthly Training Meetings	327	hours
Special events:	502	hours
Greg Mortenson Speaking Event, Auto Etching, Family Safety Day, Town Day, Memorial Day Parade, Brendan Grant Road Race, Halloween, Flu Clinic, Thanksgiving Football Game, Holiday Tree Lighting		
Patrols:	403	hours
Cruiser and mountain bike Training:	287	hours
Firearms, OC and Baton Training, Defensive Tactics, Reserve in Service, 911 Dispatch Training, Mountain Bike School, CPR/AED and First Responder Training		
Administration:	728	hours
Miscellaneous	180	hours
Total:	2,427	hours

Respectfully submitted,
Richard J. Santangelo, Lieutenant, Community Services Division
John Steeves, Captain, Auxiliary Special Police
Wade Ripley, Lieutenant/Secretary, Auxiliary Special Police

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

All of our dedicated 911 Dispatchers have been trained and certified by the Statewide Emergency Telecommunications Board (SETB) and the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO). The majority of the Communications Staff are either trained as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) or Emergency Medical Dispatchers (EMDs) and all are annually re-certified as American Red Cross First Responders/ CPR Rescuers which includes the use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs).

I am proud of the Public Safety Communications Division and know all of the staff is dedicated to making Belmont a safer community. The communications center is staffed 24-hours a day, 7-days a week by highly trained, highly motivated dispatch professionals. An emphasis on continuous training within the department maintains a level of readiness that we all can be proud of. The department continues to maintain a close relationship with the other Town agencies. Our dispatchers answer many calls for service after hours and on holidays for the Light, Highway and Water Department.

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Daniel E. MacAuley, EMD

SUPERVISOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Edward S. Pendergast, EMT

PERMANENT PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHERS

Robert Dally EMD, David Jones EMD, Robert McKenna EMD, Christopher Murphy EMT, Thomas O'Brien, James Riccio EMD, Michael Tortola EMT, Daniel Walsh EMT

PER DIEM PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHERS

Robert McQuaid P.A., Richard Nohl EMT, John Steeves 1st Responder, Andrew Tobio EMT,

APPOINTMENTS

On January 11, 2008 Colby Weston was appointed as a Per Diem Public Safety Dispatcher

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel E. MacAuley, Operations Manager, Public Safety Communications

EDUCATION

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Name	Address	Term
John Bowe, Chairman	20 Elizabeth Rd	2009
Ann Rittenburg, Secretary	42 Farnham Rd	2011
Elizabeth Gibson	15 Oakley Rd	2009
Laurie Graham	27 Grove St	2011
Leslie Walker	23 Douglas Rd	2010
Rebecca Vose	48 Clark St	2010

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Dr. Patricia A. Aubin

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Mr. Denis Fitzpatrick

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Gerald E. Missal

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

Open Monday through Friday

From 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

To the Citizens of Belmont:

The Belmont Public Schools, the School Committee, and the Belmont community are committed to the goal of effectively educating all of Belmont's children. Belmont residents have always set high expectations for our school system. We value education because we understand its fundamental importance to our society, to fulfilling our children's potential, and to our collective future.

We take enormous pride in the fact that our school system continues to rank among the top-performing districts in the Commonwealth. This is a tribute not only to our students, but also to the administrators, teachers, parents and citizens of Belmont who create the environment that nurtures and encourages that success.

The mission statement of the Belmont Public Schools is that "with a commitment to teaching and learning, the Belmont Public Schools strive to nurture the intellectual, social, and personal development of each student and to create a dynamic community of lifelong learners who contribute to the common good and are of service to others."

The School Committee is responsible for developing policies that support this mission. The School Committee is also charged with the duty of ensuring, with the Board of Selectmen, the Warrant Committee and the citizens of Belmont, adequate funding for the schools, and the appropriate expenditure of that funding.

The most prominent news of 2008 was the retirement of Superintendent Peter Holland after 20 years of inspirational service to the children of Belmont. Dr. Holland built an incredibly strong team that continues to carry forward the mission of our district. Upon his departure, the School Committee appointed Dr Patricia Aubin as superintendent through June 2009. Dr Aubin had been Belmont's Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction for 15 years.

A noticeable change to our programming this year is a move to full-day kindergarten. About three quarters of districts in Massachusetts now provide this, some paid for by the taxpayers, some fee-based. Our program is paid partly by as state grant and in part by fairly modest fees. (As with all programs that charge a fee, waivers are available to those who cannot afford it.)

In April, Scott Stratford stood down from the School Committee after 12 years of committed, outstanding service. In the April Town election the citizens re-elected Ann Rittenburg and elected Laurie Graham to the School Committee. The School Committee re-elected John Bowe as Chair and Diane Stafford as Secretary. During the summer of 2008, Dr. Stafford resigned her seat because of high professional and family demands, which disappointed us all greatly. At a joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and School Committee, the two boards appointed Becky Vose to fill Diane's seat until the 2009 election. This process is dictated by state law. The committee elected Ann Rittenburg as secretary.

The following are liaison assignments and subcommittee and collective bargaining teams.

Moderator Appointments

Wellington Building Committee
ESCO project

John Bowe
Diane Stafford

Subcommittees of the School Committee

Crofts Policy Revision

Gibson, Miller, Emello *

Representatives

Advisory Council for the Future Needs of BHS
Belmont Special Ed Advisory Council (BSEAC)
Capital Budget Committee
Community Education
Council on Aging
EDCO Board
EDCO Public Policy
Foundation for Belmont Education
ITAC (Info. Tech. Advisory Com.)
PTO/PTA Liaison
Superintendent's Health Advisory Committee
Superintendent's Task Force on Challenges
Superintendent's Task Force on Full-day Kindergarten
Warrant Committee
Youth Commission

Gibson
Walker
Stafford - voting member
Graham
Rittenburg
Aubin, Rittenburg
Rittenburg
Bowe (ex-officio)
Bowe
Gibson
Graham
Rittenburg, Stratford
Stafford, Rittenburg
Bowe (ex-officio) - voting member
Stratford

* Former School Committee members Kathy Miller and Deborah Emello, both attorneys, graciously agreed to continue this long-term task, which was started several years ago.

Bargaining Teams

Unit	Unit Name	SC Rep	Contract
Unit A	Teachers / Licensed Staff	Stratford/Gibson/Walker	8/31/2010
Unit B	Administrators (Directors, Asst Prin)	Stratford/Rittenburg	6/30/2010
Unit D	Education Support / Aides	Stafford/Walker	8/31/2010
AFSCME	Custodians/Cafeteria workers	Gibson/Bowe	6/30/2010
Secretaries Assoc	Secretaries	Gibson/Rittenburg	6/30/2009
Superintendent		Bowe	6/30/2009

Foundation for Belmont Education

The Foundation for Belmont Education is dedicated to raising funds to enrich the Belmont Public Schools. Founded by citizens who wanted to ensure the continued excellence of the school system, the Foundation awarded \$263,301 to the Belmont Public Schools over the last 18 months. These funds were dispersed in the form of Learning Excellence Grants, Special Initiatives for Technology and Professional Development. Since its formation in 1993, the Foundation has awarded 439 grants totaling \$1,666,830 for programs in the Belmont Public Schools.

The Foundation raises funds in several ways. Two hundred Belmont families made gifts honoring teachers and staff by purchasing a STAR Award (Staff and Teacher Appreciation and Recognition) designed to honor Belmont educators for their outstanding contributions to the education of Belmont children. The Youth Spelling Bee is an annual event drawing over 400 children and is a fun family day designed to showcase the children's spelling skills. Additionally, the Foundation holds an annual Spring Reception and Auction which has become a beloved community event. In 2008, the FBE implemented a new initiative called T³=Technology Tools for Teaching, which has been raising money to meet the technology needs of the Belmont Public Schools.

The commitment and generosity of the Foundation and the many families who contribute each year enable the Belmont Public Schools to offer many programs that would be otherwise impossible to undertake. The School Committee and system teachers and administrators are very grateful for the ongoing support of the Foundation for Belmont Education.

School Advisory Councils

As a result of the 1993 Education Reform Act, School Advisory Councils have been established at each of Belmont's schools. The Advisory Councils have taken an active role in addressing policy issues at the site level. Members of the 2008-2009 School Advisory Councils include the following:

School	Teacher Representatives	Parent Representatives	Community Representatives
Burbank	Christine Francis, Chair Suzanne Alcock Sarah McSweeney Lisa O'Sullivan	Amy Alvarez Bob Fogel Holly Muson Adrianna Poole	Joyce Messer
Butler	Bruce MacDonald, Chair	Coralie DiTommaso	TBD

	Susan Blanchard Justin Chiu Brian Kane Audrey Ruddock	Laurie Manjikian Ann Mahon Veronica Knight	
Wellington	Amy Wagner, Chair Kendra Nnyanzi Becky Tannanbaum Michele Markley	Sylvia Kinn-Edwards Barbara Selmo Karen Parmett	TBD
Winn Brook	Janet Carey, Chair Bob Gleason Robin Morrison Nancy Martin	Jeff Berger Kristie Armstrong Celine Brabo Lyn Bodmer	JoAnn Miller Jane Murphy
Chenery Middle School	Deborah Alexander, Chair Heatherlyn Ames Emily Crowley Katie Kelley Melissa Barclay	Nancy Forbes Denise Dabney Donata Barber William Messenger Ian Lipson Susen Wong-Webber	Phyl Solomon Mary Ann Johnson
Belmont High School	Michael Harvey, Chair Martha Bloom Kristen Comment Martha Reagan Sherri Turner	Amanda Green Susan Griffin Gerry Polcari Rob Steinberg	Claire Machevicius* Melinda McPherson* Ned Ohringer*

* Student

Programs and Instruction

In 2008 the Belmont Public Schools remained committed to universal access to the highest quality curriculum for all students as well as universal proficiency. Staff development programs focused on literacy and mathematics instruction. Teachers worked on expanding their instructional strategies to meet the learning needs of a diverse student body.

Assessment

This annual report on the results of standardized testing in the Belmont Public Schools includes information on standardized tests which students took as a result of state mandate and student choice during the 2007-2008 school year.

2007-2008 School Year

Student Choice	SAT Reasoning Test SAT Subject Tests Advanced Placement (AP) ACT	Multiple Admin. Dates
Grades 3, 4, 5, 6 7, 8, 9, 10, 11	Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS)	Spring

The testing schedule for Belmont students continues to be challenging. Students participated in the SAT Reasoning Test and the SAT Subject Tests. Student involvement in Advanced Placement testing is very strong. Belmont students also participate in the ACT program, but at a rate lower than that in the SAT program. In addition, Belmont participated in the eleventh administration of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). The State testing program involved students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 in English, mathematics, and science.

Belmont High School students also participate in the Preliminary Scholastic Achievement Tests. This test is the basis for the National Merit Scholarship Program. This year 9 Belmont High School students were named semifinalists in the 2009 Merit Scholarship Competition. In addition, there were 27 commended students.

SAT Reasoning Test (2007-2008)

OVERALL MEAN	BPS	State	National
Critical Reading	583	514	502
Mathematics	599	525	515
Writing	587	513	494
Combined	1769	1552	1511

The SAT Reasoning Test

The SAT Reasoning Test administration for the 2007-2008 was the third year to include a writing test in addition to the traditional tests of mathematics and verbal reasoning. With the addition of a writing test, the combined score for the new SAT Reasoning Test is 2400. Belmont's combined overall mean is 1769, an increase of 26 points from last year.

As a reminder about the new test, the new SAT adds a third test, the writing test that requires a student essay. The College Board expects students to take a position on an issue and use reasoning and examples to support their position. There is also a multiple choice section where students are asked to identify sentence errors, improve sentences, and improve paragraphs.

Both the math and verbal tests were modified. The verbal test is now the critical reading test. This test includes both short and long reading passages. The new test eliminates analogies but sentence completion questions remain. The College Board reports that the new math section includes topics from third-year college preparatory math and includes such topics as exponential growth, absolute value, functional notation, and negative and fractional exponents.

The total testing time for this newer version of the SAT is 3 hours and 45 minutes. We now have three years of data for students at the local, state, and national level.

Student Results

The SAT report summarizes information for seniors, who took the SAT Reasoning Test at any time during high school through April, 2008. If a student took the test more than once, the most recent score was used.

Two hundred and seventy six BHS seniors have reported SAT Reasoning Test scores. In Belmont, the critical reading mean is 69 points higher than the state mean and 81 points higher than the national mean. The mathematics mean for Belmont is 74 points higher than the state mean and 84 points higher than the national mean. Belmont's mean for the writing test was 74 points higher than the state mean and 93 points higher than the national mean. The combined mean for Belmont students was 217 points higher than the state mean and 258 points higher than the national mean.

For the 160 students who took over 400 SAT Subject Tests and the SAT Reasoning Test, the mean SAT critical reading score was 638 and the mean SAT math score was 657. The writing test mean for these students was 645. Rigorous academic programs continue to correlate with higher SAT scores. These students had a combined overall mean score of 1940, 171 points higher than the overall mean for Belmont High School students who took only the SAT Reasoning Test.

Advanced Placement

The Advanced Placement Program offers 35 discipline-based examinations. These exams consist of multiple choice and open response questions. The examinations are graded on a 5-point scale. Most of the nation's colleges and universities award credit for grades of 3 or higher. The values of an Advanced Placement Program are many. First, AP courses offer a standard curriculum that is used across the country and acknowledged throughout the world for its quality and rigor. Second, the AP curriculum tends to raise the quality of curriculum throughout the entire high school. Finally, the AP courses at Belmont High School are aligned with university standards and expectations.

In 2002, 255 students took 488 Advanced Placement Exams in 21 separate subject areas. Of the 488 student scores, 88% were 3, 4, or 5.

In 2003, 290 students took 545 Advanced Placement Exams in 21 separate subject areas. Of the 545 student scores, 89% were 3, 4, or 5.

In 2004, 298 students took 601 Advanced Placement Exams in 23 separate subject areas. Of the 601 student scores, 89% were 3, 4, or 5.

In 2005, 317 students took 682 Advanced Placement Exams in 26 separate subject areas. Of the 682 student scores, 86% were 3, 4, or 5.

In 2006, 321 students took 650 Advanced Placement Exams in 22 separate subject areas. Of the 650 student scores, 90% were 3, 4, or 5.

In 2007, 362 students took 839 Advanced Placement Exams in 26 separate subject areas. Of the 839 scores, 87% were 3, 4, or 5.

In 2008, 392 students took 818 Advanced Placement Exams in 25 separate subject areas. Of the 818 scores, 89% were 3, 4, or 5.

Belmont High School students take Advanced Placement Exams in 25 areas:

Biology	Calculus AB	Calculus BC
Chemistry	Chinese Language	Comp. Sci. AB
Econ-MAC	Econ-MICRO	English Lit/Comp
Environ. Science	European History	Studio Art Drawing
Latin/Vergil	Music Theory	Physics B
Physics C-E & M	Physics C-MECH	US History
Psychology	Spanish Language	French Language
Studio Art- 2D Design	US Govt and Pol	Japanese Language
Statistics		

Longitudinal data indicates strong participation in Advanced Placement testing. During the 1999-2000 school year, AP Studio Art was added to the curriculum. During the 2000-2001 school year, AP Economics, AP Environmental Science, and AP Computer Science were added. During the 2001-2002 school year, AP Music Theory was included. During the 2002-2003 school year, students had the opportunity to elect AP Latin. In 2005-2006 students elected to take AP tests in French Literature, Statistics, and Art History as well. A small number of students continue to elect AP tests in areas for which no formal course of study is offered, such as Japanese. The decline in the total number of exams taken this year is due to the lower number of students electing to take the AP English Literature and Composition test; a number of seniors chose to take English 12 Honors rather than the AP English Literature and Composition course. The overall increase in the number of test takers is due to enrollment increases in other AP courses. Overall performance percentages remain very strong.

AP Scholar Awards

Belmont High School students are well represented in the AP Scholar Awards Program.

- The AP Scholar Award was granted to 51 students who received grades of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.
- The AP Scholar with Honors Award was granted to 31 students who received an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken and grades of 4 or higher on four or more of these exams.
- The AP Scholar with Distinction award was granted to 75 students who received an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.
- Finally, 19 students earned the National AP Scholar Award. This award is granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken and grades of 4 or higher on five or more of these exams.

A total of 176 AP awards were earned by BHS students.

ACT

The ACT consists of curriculum-based tests of educational development in English, mathematics, reading, and science designed to measure the skills needed for success in first year college coursework. This battery of tests takes 2 hours and 55 minutes. A writing test, which is optional, measures skills in planning and writing a short persuasive essay. The writing test takes 30 minutes.

The English test focuses on editing and revising skills. The mathematics test consists of problems found in Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. The reading test focuses on reading comprehension questions using a variety of passages. The science test draws on biology, chemistry, earth/space, and physics.

Student Results

The ACT report summarizes information for seniors who took the ACT any time during high school through spring 2008. Ninety-four BHS seniors (34% of class) have reported ACT scores. Students receive four scores, one for each section of the test. According to ACT, student scores should be compared to the ACT College Readiness Benchmark scores which are the minimum scores needed on ACT subject-area tests to indicate a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college courses. The ACT equates their tests to such college courses as English Composition, Algebra, Social Sciences, and Biology.

	ACT College Readiness Benchmark	BHS Average score	National Average score
English	18	23.7	20.6
Mathematics	22	25.3	21.0
Reading	21	24.0	21.4
Science	24	23.0	20.8

Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS)

During the 2007-2008 school year, Belmont students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 participated in various disciplined based tests as part of MCAS. An initial review of the results of the tenth administration of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) indicates an overall positive performance for Belmont students. Belmont students are meeting the learning standards of the State Curriculum Frameworks.

Individual school reports, system wide data, and state scores allow for a comparison of the percentage of Belmont students in each of four performance levels with the statewide percentages in each performance level. At all grade levels and in all subject areas, the percentage of Belmont students who scored at advanced and proficient levels was significantly higher than the statewide percentages in the same performance categories.

MCAS Test Administration for 2007-2008

Grade Tested In 2007-2008	YOG	Current Grade In 2008-2009	# Tested	Subject Tested
10	2010	11	268 265	English Math
9/10	2011/2010	10/11	305 9 5	Physics Chemistry Biology

			2	Technology and Engineering
8	2012	9	273 273 273	English Math Science
7	2013	8	260 262	English Math
6	2014	7	286 286	English Math
5	2015	6	254 254 254	English Math Science
4	2016	5	300 302	English Math
3	2017	4	267 269	Reading Math

Students in grades 3 through 8 and 10 were required to participate in English and math testing. A science test is now administered in grades 5, 8, and 9 or 10.

Beginning with the class of 2010, the current grade 11 students, in order to graduate with a diploma, students must pass a science test as well as an English and math test. Many of these students took a science trial test in the spring of 2007; those who passed that science trial test fulfilled the science testing requirement. Students in the class of 2011, current grade 10, took and passed the physics test during the spring 2008 testing and this passing grade will fulfill the science testing requirement.

Starting with the graduating class of 2012, current grade 9 students, in addition to meeting or exceeding the proficient scaled score of 240 in English and math, and the needs improvement scaled score of 220 in science, students will meet or exceed the needs improvement scaled score of 220 on the history and social science high school MCAS test.

English Language Learners participate in the MCAS and are tested with two state required instruments: The MELA-O (Massachusetts English Language Assessment – Oral) and MEPA (Massachusetts English Proficiency Assessment)

Yearly Comparison of Combined Percentages of Student Performance at Advanced and Proficient for MCAS

Grade	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
3 Reading 3 Math	85% NA	84% NA	83% NA	84% NA	82% NA	80% 76%	79% 80%	82% 84%
4 English 4 Math	84% 70%	80% 73%	74% 60%	78% 67%	75% 68%	80% 65%	82% 74%	78% 73%
5 English 5 Math 5 Science	NA NA NA	NA NA NA	NA NA 82%	NA NA 81%	NA NA 68%	84% 66% 74%	85% 74% 71%	87% 79% 71%
6 English 6 Math	NA 69%	NA 73%	NA 72%	NA 76%	NA 65%	90% 69%	88% 78%	91% 73%
7 English 7 Math	72% NA	88% NA	91% NA	89% NA	86% NA	86% 62%	91% 74%	94% 76%

8 English 8 Math 8 Science	NA 61% NA	NA 58% NA	NA 74% 68%	NA 72% 73%	NA 76% 64%	92% 70% 60%	92% 70% 62%	97% 80% 74%
9 Physics 10 Chem	NA NA	NA NA	NA NA	NA NA	NA NA	NA NA	87% 51%	88% 78%
10 English 10 Math	80% 78%	88% 73%	84% 74%	90% 85%	91% 91%	90% 88%	91% 96%	97% 95%

Note: For more information on test scores for the Belmont Public Schools, please check the Department of Education Web Site: www.mass.doe.edu under "MCAS".

Adequate Yearly Progress

While the state determines graduation status through the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS), the federal No Child Left Behind law outlines the criteria for assigning adequate yearly progress (AYP) to a school or school system.

Under the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation, every state must work toward the goal of having all students gain proficiency in both English language arts and mathematics by the year 2014. Students, schools, and school systems are expected to make progress toward this goal of 100% proficiency by the year 2014. Each year scores are analyzed to determine if students, schools, school systems, and states are making "Adequate Yearly Progress" (AYP) toward that goal.

Belmont Boston METCO Program

The Belmont Boston METCO program welcomes 117 students in grades K-12 from communities within the city of Boston. Parents choose to send their children to Belmont because of the many educational opportunities offered including a strong academic program and a wide array of extra-curricular activities. Student progress and test scores are monitored to ensure positive achievement and to identify needs for support. Summer programs are designed to assist students in transition to a new grade or school and to provide for academic enrichment.

Belmont Community Education

The Belmont Community Education program, through the Belmont Public Schools, offers residents the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational, enrichment, and life skills courses. Classes are offered during Fall and Winter terms, beginning in October and March respectively, and include both single-evening programs and multiple-session courses to accommodate a wide range of participants and interests. Course offerings vary from term to term. The Community Education program is committed to offering high-quality courses at affordable costs to Belmont residents and residents of surrounding communities. The program welcomes suggestions and input from the community for additional course offerings.

More information is available at the program web site at <http://www.belmont.k12.ma.us/education>. The Belmont Public Schools are grateful for the advice and support of the Superintendent's Community Education Advisory Board, consisting of Belmont residents Vincent DeNovellis, Ruth DeVasto, Janice Ellard, Janice Henry, Kelly Higgins, Norma Massarotti, Charles Smerlas, Scott Stratford, and School Committee liaison Laurie Graham.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Budget

At the Annual Town Meeting, in April 2008, the Town Meeting approved a school budget of \$38,470,916, an increase of 3.9% over the prior year's budget. Mandated increases in Special Education, medical insurance and utilities, along with contractual salary raises, are the main forces driving the budget.

When the State budget was finalized, Chapter 70 Education Aid was increased by \$746,328 over Fiscal Year 2008. This increase was the second year of a five-year phase-in of additional Chapter 70 aid resulting from legislation passed by in 2007. The legislative intent was to increase Chapter 70 aid for all school districts to a minimum of 17.5% of each district's Foundation budget. To reach 17.5% would require an increase of \$1,711,365 over the five years. Whether or not the commitment will be funded in future years depends upon each year's State budget.

The Belmont Public Schools continue to provide outstanding value for Belmont and its citizens. According to the most recent information from the state Department of Education, our per-pupil cost from all sources of funds of \$10,674 is \$1,185 below the state average of \$11,859. This gap is increasing, as last year Belmont was \$837 below the State average. It should be noted that the Department of Education (DOE) has shifted to a new per pupil calculation, where they take the expenditures from "all sources of funds". This means that they are now including expenditures from all grants, State and Federal, all fees such as athletic and busing, all private donations such as the Foundation for Belmont Education, and the Town Department accounts in support of the Public Schools such as a portion of the Accountant's and Treasurer's Offices and specific items like crossing guards. This new methodology by the DOE resulted in the per-pupil calculation for all districts in the State increasing and thus the State average. Unfortunately, our relative rank being below the State average remained the same as previous

years. Yet our school system's performance, by any objective measure, is among the best in the Commonwealth. Belmont High School's Class of 2008, now accountable under the Massachusetts "high-stakes" graduation requirement of passing the English and Mathematics MCAS tests, has a 100% success rate in satisfying this new mandate.

The School Department has made great efforts to reduce costs wherever possible, including membership in purchasing collaboratives and competitive bidding for many services. Perhaps our most important cost-saving venture, the LABBB Collaborative, achieves substantial cost savings by pooling resources with Lexington, Arlington, Bedford, and Burlington to administer special-needs programs that would be far more expensive in other settings, while providing a high level of service for our students.

In addition, the School Committee and School Administration have worked to generate significant revenues to help fund Belmont's school system. For FY 2008, we are funding \$2,414,177, approximately 6% of our total budget needs, through fees, building rentals, balances in the School Choice revolving account, State circuit breaker aid for Special Education, and other sources.

Building Maintenance

The School Department's 2008-09 operating budget included \$1,821,922 (\$795,728 for the maintenance of buildings and grounds plus \$1,026,194 for custodial services) for the care and upkeep of school facilities. In addition, Town Meeting also approved a Capital Budget of \$2,174,000, which included \$441,000 for school projects. From direct appropriations, school projects included \$100,000 as the fourth phase of an ongoing project to replace the translucent panels in the High School gymnasium, \$150,000 to install security access control systems at the elementary schools, and \$191,000 to implement the highest priorities of the building envelope study.

Wellington Elementary School Project

A Superintendent's Advisory Council on the Future Building Needs of the Wellington School was established during the 1999-2000 school year. The charge of this committee was to do an in depth study of the various options for the Wellington School presented in the Facility Audit Report. Serving on this committee were the building principal, a teacher representative, Wellington parents, a member of the town's Permanent Building Committee and a resident architect. The Advisory Committee conducted a search for a feasibility study architect consultant. The Newton firm of Drummey Rosanne and Anderson, Inc. was appointed by the School Committee to assist in the Wellington School Study.

Numerous meetings of the Advisory Council and architects were held during the fall of 2000, all of which were posted and open to the public. The Council considered three options: (1) full renovation with the building unoccupied, (2) renovations with an addition with the building either occupied or unoccupied, and (3) new construction on site with the building either occupied or unoccupied. After reviewing costs comparisons of each of these options, the Council voted to recommend to the School Committee the single option of new construction with the existing building occupied during the construction. This recommendation was first presented to the School Committee at their meeting of January 9, 2001. After further discussion at their meeting of January 16, 2001, the School Committee unanimously voted to accept and support the recommendation of the School Advisory Council and to "recommend to the Selectmen and Town Meeting that a new Wellington School be constructed at the Wellington site while the present building is occupied."

Four years later, at a Special Town Meeting on February 7, 2005, Town Meeting voted to appoint a Wellington School Building Committee and to authorize \$350,000 for design services to develop schematic designs and provide for owner's costs during this preliminary stage of the project. Appointed by the Moderator to serve on the Building Committee are:

Mark Haley, Chair	engineer
Pat Bruschi, Vice-Chair	Permanent Building Committee
John Bowe	School Committee
Phil Curtis	Warrant Committee
Mary McHugh	former parent & Advisory member
Joel Mooney	Permanent Building Committee
Greg Poulos	parent & information technology
Karen Pressey	Permanent Building Committee
Lucy Pullen	parent and abutter
Ike Papadopoulos	banker

The Building Committee had twenty meetings as of January 9, 2006. After going through two Request for Proposals processes, including site visits and interviews of finalists, they have hired an architectural firm and a project manager. The architectural firm is the combination of Jonathan Levi Architects (JLA), in conjunction with Burt Hill Kosar Rittellmann Associates. The Building Committee has met extensively with JLA/Burt Hill and approved a schematic design for a New Wellington Elementary School in March 2006. The target was to submit an application for reimbursement to the new Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) when the moratorium lifted on July 1, 2007.

At their meeting of November 28, 2007, The MSBA Board reviewed 162 applications for building projects. They had previously narrowed down the 423 applications (Statements of Interest - SOI) by requiring that any school district submitting more than one SOI pick only one as their top priority. For Belmont, the School Committee selected the Wellington Project over the Belmont High School renovation. Of the 162 applications, the MSBA Board approved 83 to go forward for possible funding, including the Wellington Elementary School Project. While still not guaranteeing State funding, the Wellington is now

among the projects issued an "Invitation to Collaborate on a Feasibility Study". This is one step forward in the process to obtain State reimbursement for a new Wellington Elementary School.

After meetings with the MSBA staff, the enrollment projections for the new Wellington was reduced from 680 students to 575 students, with 500 being regular-day students and 75 special education students. The original Schematic Design was thereby reduced to 88,000 square feet. The Building Committee also hired the firm of PMA Associates to serve as the Owner's Project Manager, as required by the MSBA regulations. Budget estimates were developed by both the architect and the project manager and discussions are ongoing with the MSBA trying to meet the State cost guidelines. Once a budget agreement with the MSBA is agreed upon, the MSBA Board will approve the project for funding, possibly at their March 2009 Board meeting. A debt exclusion ballot question will then be placed on the next Town election to ask for voted approval for the project. If successful, authorization to borrow the funds will be requested at Town Meeting.

Belmont High School Project

At a Special Town Meeting in November 2003, the Town voted to appropriate \$90,000 for design services for the development of a Master Plan for future renovations to Belmont High School. The intent of developing the Master Plan is to identify and prioritize necessary renovations while waiting for a comprehensive renovation some time beyond 2010. The architectural firm of Design Partnership of Cambridge, Inc. was hired to work with the *Superintendent's Advisory Council on the Future Needs of Belmont High School*, which was co-chaired by Jenny Fallon and Gerry Missal.

In October 2004, Design Partnership presented the Master Plan and Feasibility Study for Renovations to Belmont High School to the Advisory Council. The Master Plan presented several options to accomplish the renovation necessary to support the academic program at Belmont High School and meet current building codes. All options contained price estimates, based upon the assumption that the project would be bid in the spring of 2008, with an annual inflation factor of 5% built into the projections. The options presented were:

1. assumes a single continuous construction sequence under a single general contractor: \$62,353,000
2. assumes separate project phases done non-sequentially by separate general contractors: \$73,964,000
3. assumes replacement of existing facility with new construction (except renovate the existing field house and pool): \$88,570,000

The Advisory Council recommended the first option, one construction contract, to the School Committee. The estimated time to accomplish this single project would be four years, doing the work in four phases while students are in the building. The second option would allow down-time between phases and would stretch the project out to nearly ten years. The School Committee accepted the recommendation and placed the High School project on hold until work on the Wellington Elementary School was underway.

In April 2007, a *Second Superintendent's Advisory Council on the Future Needs of Belmont High School* was formed. The Second Advisory Council reviewed the status of the entire Master Plan in light of the most critical needs to maintain the school. It was decided that the construction of new science labs and some significant work on the infrastructure head-end of the heating and electrical systems were the highest priority. Most of these needs had been scheduled to be met in Phase I of the four-phased Master Plan. Treating a modified Phase I as a stand-alone project, the Second Advisory Council asked the architect to cost out this one portion of the Master Plan. The analysis showed that a modified Phase I, including a new Science Wing, would cost \$22,290,000 if bid in March 2009. A revised Statement of Interest was then approved by the School Committee to file with the MSBA for future funding once the Wellington School is approved.

PERSONNEL AND STAFF

42 teachers were hired for the 2008-2009 school year to replace those who retired or resigned. Mary Jane Weinstein was hired as the Assistant Director of Student Services. Because we now have a fairly young teaching staff, we have had a fairly high number of maternity leaves, resulting in a high number of long-term substitutes.

Retirements

The School Committee recognized the retirements to the following staff members at a ceremony during a regular School Committee meeting:

Name	Position	Hired
Diana Brady	Second Grade Teacher at Wellington	1976
Toby Brown	Guidance Counselor at Belmont High School	1972
John Judd	Tech. Ed. Teacher at Chenery	1972
Kathy Lind	Third Grade Teacher at Burbank	1992
Ann Nadeau	Art Teacher at Chenery	1974
Linda Ott	Second Grade Teacher at Wellington	1976
Mary Jane Sullivan	First Grade Teacher at Wellington	1983
Victoria Sutton	Resource Room Teacher at Chenery	1979
Helene Tassone	Music Teacher at Winn Brook	1989

Conclusion

In 2008, as in years past, Belmont has every reason to be proud of its schools and its students. Our schools operate very efficiently, with a minimum of administrative overhead, and our teaching staff and administrators are dedicated.

However, the challenges facing Belmont's school system are greater than at any previous time in its history. We are caught between the pressure of ever-increasing expectations, on the one hand, and steadily increasing financial, political, regulatory, social, and developmental constraints on the other. Our schools are increasingly fragile and they are in need of adequate and sustainable resources in order to meet the many challenges they face.

Please join us in renewing our commitment to maintain the strength of our schools.

Respectfully submitted,
John Bowe, Chairman

STAFF FTE SUMMARY	BUR	BUT	WELL	WB	CMS	BHS	SYS	FY 2009
TEACHERS (includes 3.82 High School teachers for FY08 funded by School Choice fund balance)								
ENGLISH 5-12					12.00	12.60		24.60
READING K-12	1.00	1.40	1.72	1.50	2.40			8.02
ELEMENTARY 1-4	12.00	13.00	17.00	15.00				57.00
ART 1-12 *	0.60	0.60	0.80	0.60	3.50	4.20		10.30
MUSIC K-12	0.95	1.05	1.25	1.05	3.80	2.00		10.10
THEATER ARTS						0.20		0.20
FOREIGN LANGUAGE 5-12					7.40	10.20		17.60
KINDERGARTEN *	2.10	2.10	2.80	2.80				9.80
MATHEMATICS 5-12					12.80	11.80		24.60
PHYSICAL ED K-12 *	0.60	0.60	1.00	0.90	3.00	0.70		6.80
SCIENCE 5-12					12.00	14.70		26.70
HEALTH EDUCATION 6-12					1.00	0.70		1.70
TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION					1.68	0.17		1.85
SOCIAL STUDIES 5-12					12.00	11.80		23.80
ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (E L L)							1.00	1.00
EARLY CHILDHOOD/PRE-K				5.52				5.52
SPECIAL EDUCATION	1.40	2.30	4.10	2.60	6.70	3.50	1.00	21.60
GUIDANCE	0.40	0.60	1.00	0.50	4.00	4.50	1.00	12.00
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	0.40	0.40	0.60	0.60		0.73		2.73
LIBRARY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00		2.00
TOTAL	19.45	22.05	30.27	31.07	83.28	78.80	3.00	267.92
AIDES / ASSISTANTS / TUTORS								
KINDERGARTEN	1.00	1.00	1.06	1.50				4.56
ESL / ELL	0.20	0.41	0.67	0.20	0.67	0.67		2.82
EARLY CHILDHOOD/PRE-K				6.34				6.34
SPECIAL EDUCATION	5.30	2.33	8.76	13.21	5.83	3.00		38.43
LIBRARY	0.65	0.65	0.83	0.78	1.10	2.00		6.01
BUILDING ADMINISTRATION (Lunch Aides)	1.33	1.33	1.65	1.33	0.33			5.97
TOTAL	8.48	5.72	12.97	23.36	7.93	5.67	0.00	64.13
SECRETARIES / CLERICAL AIDES								
CURRICULUM COOR & DIR OFFICES							4.00	4.00
SPECIAL EDUCATION OFFICE							1.00	1.00
GUIDANCE OFFICE						1.00		1.00
LIBRARY					0.42	0.50		0.92
PRINCIPAL OFFICES	1.00	1.00	1.65	1.67	3.67	4.00		12.99
CENTRAL OFFICE							6.70	6.70
SCHOOL COMMITTEE							0.00	0.00
TOTAL	1.00	1.00	1.65	1.67	4.09	5.50	11.70	26.61
OTHER PERSONNEL								
ELEM. SCIENCE CONSULTANT							0.50	0.50
COMMUNITY SERVICE SUPERVISOR						1.00		1.00
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST							2.60	2.60
SCHOOL NURSES	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.70	1.00		6.70
NETWORK MANAGER/TECHNICIAN/TECHNOLOGY AIDE							6.25	6.25
AUDIO VISUAL TECH						1.00		1.00
MAINTENANCE WORKERS							4.00	4.00
CUSTODIANS	2.00	2.00	3.00	2.00	2.50	4.00		15.50
CAMPUS MONITORS & SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER						4.33		4.33
TOTAL	3.00	3.00	4.00	3.00	4.20	11.33	13.35	41.88
SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL								
PRINCIPALS & ASSISTANTS	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	3.00	3.00		10.00
SUPERINTENDENT							1.00	1.00
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT							1.00	1.00
DIRECTOR FINANCE & ADMIN							1.00	1.00
MANAGER HUMAN RESOURCES							1.00	1.00
CURRICULUM DIRECTORS							6.60	6.60
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES & ASSISTANT							2.00	2.00
SUPERVISOR OF BUILD & GROUNDS							1.00	1.00
TOTAL	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	3.00	3.00	13.60	23.60
BUDGET FY 2009	32.93	32.77	49.89	60.10	102.50	104.30	41.65	424.14

* Does not include 5.2 Kindergarten teaching and 9.44 classroom assistant positions funded jointly by a State Grant and Full-Day Kindergarten User Fees.

Appendix 2

Belmont Public Schools
Teaching Faculty by Degree and Step on Salary Scale
2008 - 2009
(by headcount)

Step	B	B+15	M	M+15	M+30	M+45	D	TOTALS	% of Total
1	6	2	12	0	4	0	0	24	7%
2	9	6	24	1	2	0	2	44	13%
3	5	1	15	4	0	0	1	26	8%
4	2	7	17	4	0	1	0	31	9%
5	2	1	7	3	4	1	0	18	5%
6	0	4	14	7	4	2	0	31	9%
7	1	0	10	3	6	1	0	21	6%
8	1	1	6	7	0	3	0	18	5%
9	1	0	6	7	2	2	0	18	5%
10	1	0	3	2	2	0	0	8	2%
11	0	1	3	5	3	1	0	13	4%
12	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	3	1%
13	0	0	2	2	1	2	0	7	2%
14	5	5	4	10	14	28	2	68	21%
TOTALS	33	28	124	56	43	41	5	330	100%
% of Total	10%	8%	38%	17%	13%	12%	2%	100%	

BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Belmont, Massachusetts
School Calendar for 2008 - 2009 (includes 5 snow days)

APPENDIX 3

August 2008					September 2008					October 2008					November 2008				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
				1	X	T	3 ● EMH*	4 ● ● ●	5 ●			1	2	3	3	4	SEM	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	C	10	X	12EM	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	X	14	15	16	17	17	18	19EM	20	21
18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22MH	23	24	24	25	26*	X	X
25	NS	NS	NS	29	29	30				27	28	29EMH	30	31					

- T School Closed for Students-Teachers Report
- X Closed for Pupils and Staff
- NS New Staff Report (Aug. 26, 27 & 28)
- * Early Release Day
- C School Closed For Students (Curriculum Day K-12)
- High School Graduation - June 7, 2009

- E Elementary Schools Early Release Day
- H High School Early Release Day
- M Middle School Early Release Day
- Day 1 for Gr. 1-4, 5 & 7; 9* & 12 (early release except for grade 9)
- ● Day 2: All Students K-12
- ◎ Half of Kindergarten students each day (for 1/2 day) - Notices will be sent home by each school.
- Last day of school - early release - all grades (Subject to change depending on snow days)

School Hours:

- Burbank 8:40 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.
- Butler 8:40 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.
- Wellington 8:35 a.m. - 2:35 p.m.
- Winn Brook 8:50 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.

- Chenery Middle School 7:55 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.
- Belmont High School 7:35 a.m. - 2:25 p.m.

HOLIDAYS

- Labor Day - September 1, 2008
- Columbus Day - October 13, 2008
- Veterans' Day - November 11, 2008
- Thanksgiving Recess* - November 27 & 28, 2008 (beginning with early release on November 26)
- Winter Recess - Dec. 20, 2008- Jan. 4, 2009
- Martin Luther King Day - January 19, 2009
- February Recess - Feb. 14 - Feb. 22, 2009
- Good Friday* - April 10, 2009 (early release)
- April Recess - April 18 - 26, 2009
- Memorial Day - May 25, 2009

December 2008					January 2009					February 2009					March 2009				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5				X	X	2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4E	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	5	6	7	8	9	9	10	11H	12	13	9	10	11E	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	12	13	14M	15	16	X	X	X	X	X	16	17	18E	19	20
X	X	X	X	X	X	C	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27	23	24	25E	26	27
X	X	X			26	27	28MH	29	30						30	31			

April 2009					May 2009					June 2009					July 2009				
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3					1	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10*	4	5	6E	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17
X	X	X	X	X	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26○	20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30		X	26	27	28	29	29	30				27	28	29	30	31

(+ High School Graduation - June 7, 2009)

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL IN JUNE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

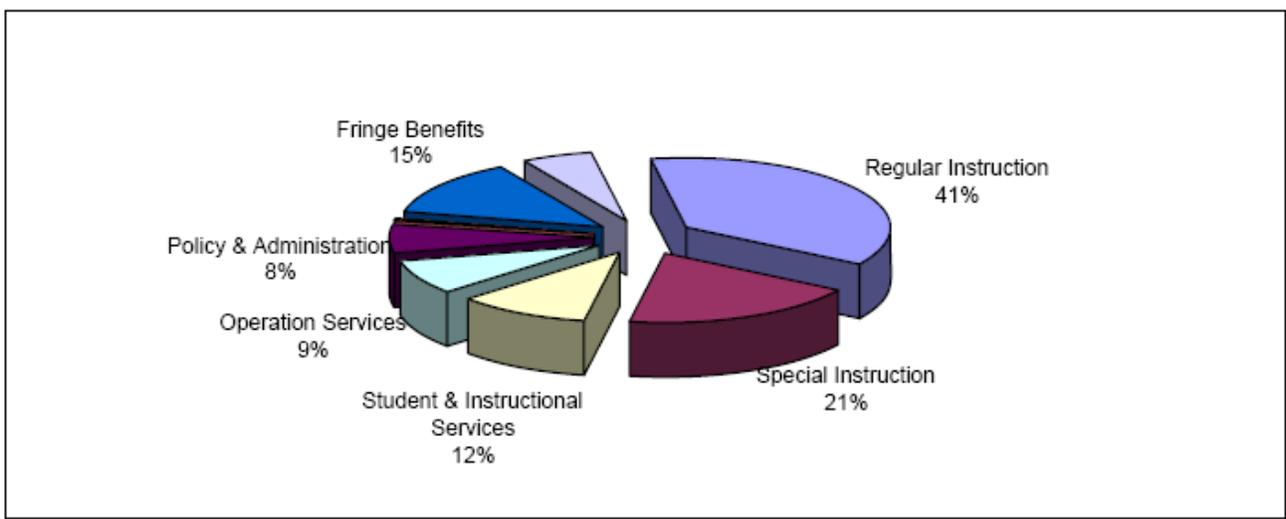
BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
10/1/2008

	Pre	K	1	2	3	4	<u>TOTALS:</u> 10/1/2008
BURBANK		19	22	19	24	20	
		19	19	18	25	20	
		20	21	19	25	19	
		58	62	56	74	59	309
BUTLER		20	19	17	24	21	
		21	20	17	22	23	
		19	20	16		23	
		60	76	67	46	67	316
LABBB 13							13
							329
WELLINGTON		22	20	18	21	22	
		23	19	19	20	22	
		22	20	18	21	22	
		23	19	18	20	22	
		90	78	73	101	88	430
LABBB 12							12
WINN BROOK	12	20	23	21	24	25	
	11	20	23	22	25	25	
	7	20	23	23	24	26	
	13	20	23	22	24		
	14						
	15	80	92	88	97	76	433
	72						72
							505
	<u>Pre</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	
LABBB 25	72	288	308	284	318	290	1560
							25
							1585
<u>CHENERY MIDDLE</u>							
	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>			
LABBB 28	296	271	296	277			1140
							28
							1168
<u>HIGH SCHOOL</u>							
	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>			
LABBB 30	295	295	292	280			1162
							30
							1192
TOTAL ELEMENTARY		1585					
TOTAL SECONDARY		2360					
TOTAL ENROLLMENT		3945					
TOTALS: LABBB		OOD*		PRE		ELEM	CMS
	83	23		72		1585	1168
							BHS
							1192
OOD* - OUT OF DISTRICT - ON SITE BELMONT STUDENTS:							
Elem.	LABBB	7	CMS	LABBB	4		HS LABBB: 8

Appendix No. 5

**BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FY 2009 APPROVED BUDGET
as per Town Meeting, April 2008**

	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Non-salary</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Regular Instruction	15,322,151	532,778		15,854,929
Special Instruction	3,205,274	42,021	4,981,754	8,229,049
Student & Instructional Services	3,263,182	515,621	802,229	4,581,032
Operation Services	903,322	103,500	2,446,763	3,453,585
Policy & Administration	2,501,671	439,587		2,941,258
Contractual Allowance	218,438			218,438
Fringe Benefits			5,606,802	5,606,802
Revolving Offset	(624,105)		(1,790,072)	(2,414,177)
FY 2009 TOTAL	24,789,933	1,633,507	12,047,476	38,470,916
FY 2008 TOTAL	23,457,265	1,537,520	12,045,240	37,040,025
FY 2006 TOTAL	22,088,457	1,350,648	11,207,689	34,646,794



COMPENSATION SCHEDULES

Appendix 6

Category	Low	High
Cafeteria Workers	11.42	12.64
Head Cooks: Elementary	11.98	13.27
Head Cooks: Middle & High School	14.02	15.42
Assistant Custodian	16.27	18.97
Custodian: Class A	20.46	22.73
Custodian: Class B	19.33	21.44
Maintenance: Class A	20.28	22.44
Maintenance: Class B	18.29	20.70
Classroom Assistants	13.34	15.07
Campus Monitors	16.65	17.82
Professional Aides	16.30	0.61
Secretaries Class I	17.39	24.78
Secretaries Class II	16.27	23.58
Secretaries Class III	15.17	22.30
Teachers annual	43,560	90,133

MINUTEMAN VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

About Minuteman

Minuteman High School is a four-year career and technical high school serving our member towns: Acton, Arlington, Belmont, Bolton, Boxborough Carlisle, Concord, Dover, Lancaster, Lexington, Lincoln, Needham, Stow, Sudbury, Wayland, and Weston, as well as 47 other cities and towns in Eastern Massachusetts. Minuteman combines rigorous academics and preparation for college with relevant career and technical programs. The school also provides career development programs for adults as part of our self sustaining Community Education Program.

Enrollment

As of October 1, 2008, 33 high school students were enrolled at Minuteman providing a full time equivalent (FTE) of 33 students that reside in Belmont. Minuteman offers a part time program where Belmont High School students are able to take part in elective technical training courses on a half day basis. Currently, very few Belmont students take advantage of this unique program designed to give juniors and senior the opportunity to explore career majors and still stay a part of Belmont High School. The District offers 'Post Graduate' programs to Belmont High School students who are seeking to enhance their own economic opportunity at Minuteman via skill development.

2008 Belmont Graduates and Awards

- Dustin Fitch, Plumbing
- Patrick Lenaghan, Electrical
- Francisco Lichauco, Environment Technology
- Courtney Lindhorst, Graphic Communications
- Cory Rines, Plumbing
- Joseph Rixe, Plumbing
- Anthony Salvi, Plumbing
- Elyse Woods, Graphic Communications

At the 2008 graduation, Francisco Lichauco received the President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement and Belmont Garden Club Award. Courtney Lindhorst was a John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipient, received the Vocational Program Award, the President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement, the Edward A. Lillis Memorial Award and the Richard Trzepacz Graphic Arts Award. Cory Rines received the Minuteman Parents Association Scholarship for Trades Division Award.

These awards are given to students of superior academic achievement and significant participation in school or community activities.

Class of 2008 Graduate Achievement Highlights

- 92% graduated and entered college, became employed in their field of study, or enlisted in the US military.
- 100% successfully passed the state-required MCAS tests in English and Math.
- 60% college acceptance, 33% career bound in field and 3% military
- 100% of Dental graduates passed the National Dental Board examination.
- 100% of Early Childhood Education graduates were certified by the Department of Early Education and Care.
- 100% of Cosmetology graduates passed the state board examination.
- Medical Occupation graduates achieved 100% in college acceptance.
- Christopher Hanson, a Robotics program graduate from Medford, was honored as the Massachusetts Vocational Student of the Year by the Minuteman Career & Technical High School Committee, the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators, and the State Commissioner of Education.
- Elizabeth Haberkorn, an Early Childhood Education student from Stow graduated Valedictorian of the Class of 2008.
- Student speakers at the Class of 2008 graduation ceremony were Valedictorian Elizabeth Haberkorn of Stow, Salutatorian, Michael Lavy of Waltham, and Class President Erica Lindstrom of Stow.

Leadership, Governance and Communication

- Dr. Edward A Bouquillon was hired as superintendent beginning the 2007-2008 school year.
- A new Mission Statement was approved by the staff in March of 2008:
"Minuteman collaborates with parents, communities, and business leaders to serve a diverse student body with multiple learning styles. Through a challenging, integrated curriculum our students develop the academic, vocational, and technical skills necessary to be productive members of a global community. We value life-long learning that fosters personal and professional development in a safe and respectful environment. Minuteman is committed to preparing all students for success."
- The School Committee re-organized to include 4 sub-committees; Finance, Curriculum Instruction and Assessment, Capital and Facilities Planning, and Personnel. A taskforce was formed to review and revise all District policies.
- A revised organizational chart was approved, resulting in the elimination of several administrative positions, the creation of site-based teams, clear lines of responsibility and the introduction of Career Clusters.
- A Communications Team was formed that seeks to provide a more consistent and transparent message both internally and externally regarding the new mission of Minuteman.

Curriculum and Instruction

- The Art program has been restored to the Minuteman Curriculum. More than 160 students have enrolled in 3 levels of classes and a waiting list has been established. A Health class has also been established to supplement a well-rounded student education. Music will be restored.
- Career and Technical programs are now aligned along 5 Career Clusters: Trade & Industrial; Human & Commercial Services, Business and Information Technology, Agriculture and Transportation and Science and Technology. Clustering allows for common core curriculum to be delivered in clusters to 9th and 10th grades students.
- Since the Fall of 2008 all 9th grade students partake in daily English and Math instruction, rather than the long-established "week on-week off" schedule, thus providing consistent academic instruction in preparing for required MCAS score increases by the state department of education.

Assessment and Program Evaluation

- Minuteman developed a Non-traditional Exploratory Program through which all students learn about the viability and challenges of men and women in non-traditional careers, such as Automotive Technology, Carpentry and Construction, Computer Science, and Engineering for women and in Medical Careers, Cosmetology / Barbering, and Office Technology for young men. The students learn about these careers through a series of hands-on exercises, guest speakers and alumni panelists, and field site visits to industry partners.
- Minuteman is moving towards a 'modified inclusion model' for Special Education students. Professional development for staff continues as we implement this proven strategy.
- Minuteman will be undergoing its 3rd New England Association of Schools and Colleges Decennial re-accreditation site visit in March of 2009.
- Minuteman students performed very well on the 2008 MCAS: 94% pass rate in Math, 99% pass rate in English, 100% pass rate in Chemistry, 92% pass rate in Biology.

Professional Development

- The Minuteman staff has prioritized two professional development topics for the 2007 – 2010 timeframe. Based upon feedback from our EQA report, several half day training sessions on summative and formative assessment methodologies are being held. In addition, the development of Professional Learning Communities is happening for 40 staff with several outside resources.

Student Access, Participation and Support

- Minuteman reorganized the assignment of guidance counselors to provide incoming 9th graders with a dedicated guidance counselor. Our research had shown that many freshmen felt that they needed additional support as they made the adjustment to Minuteman.

- In addition to having a dedicated 9th grade counselor, the re-assignment strategies now include counselors covering the career clusters. This provides the counselors with a more thorough knowledge of the career areas and the staff.
- Minuteman offers 16 sports with three levels (Varsity, Junior Varsity and Freshmen) throughout the school year. Over the past 7 years the number of participants has doubled in many of the sports offered. Minuteman maintains a no cut and no athletic fee policy. In addition, Minuteman students have access to more than 30 clubs and activities.
- The Minuteman Parent Association meets monthly and supports all aspects of the Minuteman community. In addition, they assist in fundraising for scholarships awarded at graduation. The goal of the MPA is to help support student access and achievement in all areas including but not limited to academic, vocational, athletic, and extra-curricular activities.
- A new website is to be launched in February 09 – www.minuteman.org

Financial and Asset Management Effectiveness and Efficiency

- The Minuteman FY09 budget was passed unanimously at \$17,001,622, which represented a 1.53% increase after removing the Middle School Tech Programs. Healthcare, utility increases, as well as the NEASC re-accreditation increased the budget. Decreases in the FY09 salary budget were due to the reduction of administrators, removing the Middle School Tech Program from the full district assessment and replacing several career and technical teachers with technical assistants in programs experiencing enrollment dips.
- Staff was reduced in by 4.5 FTE positions in the FY09 budget. Budgets continue to be tightly managed as Minuteman seeks to 'right size' itself and reduce its per pupil expenditures.
- The FY08/09 Capital funds were used for major systems repairs, implementing the approved Technology Plan, upgrading the reception area, adding a Welcome Center, relocating the IT office, and renovations of common areas.

PUBLIC WORKS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION

Herewith I submit the Department of Public Works report for the year ending December 31, 2008, covering the following: Public Works Administration, Street Maintenance, Sanitary Sewer Maintenance, Stormwater Maintenance, Central Fleet Maintenance, Deltas & Grounds Maintenance, Forestry Services, Solid Waste Collection & Disposal, Recycling, Capital and Personnel.

The new Department of Public Works consisting of the Cemetery Division, Highway Division, Parks and Facilities and the Water Division began to operate under the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator and the newly created position of Director of Public Works on July 1, 2003.

This consolidated department enjoyed its fifth full year of operation in 2008. The continued focus is to reorganize according to the plan that was developed and continue to centralize the administrative functions of all divisions.

During 2008, Public Works Administration originated 6 contracts for vehicles, supplies and/or services under Chapter 30B, the Uniform Procurement Act. Significant administrative time was spent working with the Tree Warden, Tree Service Company, Executive Safety Committee, Massachusetts Water Resources Advisory Board and Shade Tree Committee. Highway personnel assisted with the following community projects: Voting, Booster's Carnival, Belmont Center Town Day, Holiday Lighting Ceremony in Belmont Center, Easter Parade in Belmont Center, the Farmers' Market, Thanksgiving Day Football Game, Emergency Flu Clinic, and Arbor Day.

Under the Public Works Capital Program the Highway Division was authorized to purchase a 19,500 GVW Dump Truck at a cost of \$56,000.

HIGHWAY DIVISION

Street Maintenance

The Highway Division maintained, cleaned and signed Belmont's 77.76 miles of public roads. In addition, we cleaned, signed and performed minor maintenance work 8.10 miles of private ways.

During 2008, a total of 19 sidewalks were repaired. The Town's contractor repaired or replaced 3 concrete sidewalks, one on Slade at 20,814 square feet, one on Common Street at 720 square feet and one on Alexander Avenue at 312 square feet. Highway personnel repaired or replaced 16 concrete sidewalks amounting to 1,478 square feet.

The deterioration of the roads continues to be a major concern. With each passing year, additional manpower and funding are required to maintain the roadways. A program using Chapter 90 funding for the Pavement Management Program and the design for the reconstruction of Pleasant Street was completed. These funds are used to leverage federal construction funds for road improvements on Pleasant Street construction began in 2005; the reconstruction of Pleasant Street was completed in 2008. Planning continues to address the reconstruction of the Belmont Street/Trapelo Road corridor. The Pavement Management Program continued to address the serious condition of the roads. A coordinated approach working with the Town Administrator, Community Development Department and Water Division has developed a plan to address the road and sidewalk improvements and coordinate the replacement and repair of utilities.

Street signs, regulatory and traffic signs were purchased, prepared, erected and maintained by the Highway Division.

Crosswalks, center and parking lines were repainted by Highway personnel during the year. The Highway personnel painted blue and white handicap markings on 53 various designated parking spaces throughout Town. A total of 1036 gallons of white, 280 gallons of yellow and 15 gallons of blue traffic paint were used during 2008.

During 2008, Highway personnel responded to 18 overtime snow or ice calls ranging from a trace to 11 inches. All snow and ice storms were cleared and sanded by Division personnel with assistance from other Town employees from the Water, Parks & Facilities, Cemetery Divisions and Electric Light Department. Contractors assisted with snow plowing during 6 storms in 2008. The total snowfall for calendar year 2008 was 51.5 inches. Belmont's 1995 By-Law covering a Snow Emergency Parking Ban was put into effect three times during 2008.

Sanitary Sewer Maintenance

Belmont has two sanitary sewer pumping stations, one located on Stony Brook Road and the other on Woodbine Road, which the Highway Division maintains and services on a weekly basis. Each week the division also maintains and cleans selected main lines throughout the Town as part of a regular maintenance program. The division is responsible for 76 miles of main lines, appurtenances and about 6,700 building services.

During 2008, 18 individual building connections were televised to determine the condition and priority for repair. As a part of our ongoing maintenance program, 6 sanitary sewer lines were repaired. The Highway Division responded to 304 building stoppages during the year.

The Board of Selectmen voted to increase the metered sewer charge to \$8.65/CCF with a minimum service charge of \$6.03 per billing. The "lifeline" rate is at \$7.34/CCF.

The replacement of the Stony Brook Pumping Station has been placed on to the long term Capital needs request at an estimated cost of \$450,000.

Storm Drain Maintenance

The annual cleaning of approximately 1,919 catch basins was completed during the spring by a private contractor. An ongoing program of maintenance and cleaning of main lines was continued during 2008. The division is responsible for maintenance of all catch basins, manholes and 54 miles of main lines. Maintenance and cleaning is also provided for storm drain connections to buildings.

Central Fleet Maintenance Facility

Since 1981 the Highway Division has managed a Central Fleet Maintenance facility at the Highway Yard on C Street. Most Town owned vehicles and equipment are serviced and fueled at this location. Gasoline, diesel fuel, tires, lubrication, preventive and general maintenance along with extensive motor repair is available to Town Departments. Waste oil continues to be accepted from residents in addition to waste oil generated from the Town's vehicle maintenance program. Equipment which supports all Highway Division programs is stored at this facility as well.

Deltas and Grounds Maintenance

The Highway Division is responsible for 52 separate deltas, islands and grounds including most of the land around Clay Pit Pond. During the spring all areas were cleaned and for the balance of the growing season the property was mowed, maintained for and cleaned.

Because of budget constraints, no seasonal staff was authorized to be employed during the growing season to assist with maintenance.

The Garden Club has, once again, provided labor and plantings to enhance several public areas throughout the Town. Their generosity and public spirit has helped enormously to beautify the town and is especially appreciated given recent budget limitations. This past summer we again enjoyed the appearance of these public spaces.

Forestry Service

Asplundh Tree Expert Company served the third year of a three-year contract for tree care during fiscal year 2008. Thomas D. Walsh also served the third year of a three-year term as Tree Warden and his report follows.

TREE WARDEN

For the twenty-third consecutive year, the Town of Belmont was recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation.

Arbor Day was celebrated on May 1, 2008 with the planting of an American Elm Tree. The ceremony took place at Clay Pit Pond in front of the Belmont High School with the Wellington School's fourth grader's participation.

During 2008, the Town purchased 144 trees and planted them in various locations. Trees were watered during the growing months. The Town removed 94 dead and dangerous trees during 2008.

The contractor maintained public shade trees predominantly in response to requests from citizens for service. In addition to maintenance work performed on these larger public shade trees, many small, young trees were pruned as part of our proactive program to assure good form, structure, health and vigor as they develop towards maturity. Storm damaged trees also were routinely repaired to insure the long-term health of the affected trees. One Tree Hearing was held during the year. As Tree Warden, I express my appreciation and thanks to the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, Director of Public Works, Department and Division Managers, Shade Tree Committee and employees of the Town for their support, cooperation and assistance during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas D. Walsh, Tree Warden

SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Residential solid waste continues to be collected once per week at each household, with recyclables collected every other week. Solid waste is transported to the Wheelabrator North Andover (WNA) Resource/Recovery Facility in North Andover. In 2005 the Town signed a four year and nine month contract with WNA for solid waste disposal service.

Russell Disposal served the third year of a five-year contract as our collection contractor during 2008.

In addition to weekly residential trash and the weekly appliance collection for recycling, the program also collects and recycles on an every other week schedule clear, green and brown glass, #1 thru #7 plastics, steel/tin/metal containers, newspapers, magazines, catalogs, newsprint, junk mail, mixed paper and telephone books. Cathode ray tubes (televisions and computer monitors, also known as CRTs) are collected weekly as scheduled. On July 1, 2004 a \$15 per item fee was instituted for the

recycling of Cathode Ray Tubes (computer monitors and televisions) and a \$20 per item fee for the recycling of household appliances. Yard waste is collected every other week from April to mid October and weekly during the fall leaf season.

In 2007, corrugated cardboard along with milk and juice cartons were added to the recycling program.

During Calendar 2008, the Town recycled 9,866 tons or 53.20% from the residential solid waste stream, realized \$1,470 from the sale of recycling bins, \$2,480 from the sale of compost bins along with \$34,785 from the sale of appliance and CRT recycling stickers.

Transfer Station Operation and Site

The Master Land Use Plan for the site surrounding the Transfer Station was followed during 2008. The site continues to be used for solid fill disposal from public works operations. Asphalt, concrete, wood chips, tree stumps and logs from public works operations continue to be stored at the site before being recycled.

For the sixteenth fall season, leaves were collected weekly in containers by our solid waste contractor to be composted commercially out of Town. The fee to local landscape contractors for depositing leaves in our compost pile at the transfer station site on 1130 Concord Avenue for the fall season (\$400 per vehicle) generated \$9,200 in revenue. Residents were allowed to bring leaves to the compost area at no charge. For the last eighteen years, the division has windrowed the leaves in an effort to facilitate decomposition. Active marketing enabled a large amount of leaf compost to be hauled out of Town and recycled at no cost. We continue to actively seek markets for leaf compost so that we will have space for storage of future years' leaves for composting.

Through the Office of Community Development the Town has retained Camp Dresser & McKee to provide an engineering assessment of the former Incinerator Site and ash landfill at 1130 Concord Avenue to comply with The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's regulations. The initial site assessment and comprehensive site assessment have been completed.

PARKS AND FACILITIES DIVISION

Parks and Facilities provides for the cleaning, maintenance, repair and improvement of the resources for recreational enjoyment. These include; the Skip Vigilolo Skating Rink, Underwood Pool and adjacent park, Concord Avenue Athletic fields and facilities, Hittinger Street Field, Town Field, Pequossette Field, Chenery Middle School Field, Grove Street Field, Payson Park Playground and Winn Brook Field. In addition, this group maintains the tennis courts at the Grove Street Field, Pequossette Field, Chenery Middle School Field and Winn Brook Field.

The fencing program has continued with great success. We have addressed some safety issues around our playgrounds. We installed fence around the Grove Street tot lot this year to insure the safety of the children using the tot lot from balls and people playing soccer next to the tot lot.

Again in 2008, the Athletic Fields and Facilities had many improvements, thanks to the generous donations from many organizations. New infield mix was supplied on Hittinger Street, thanks to the Boosters Organization. Many thanks to Frank French & Company for supplying a generous amount of infield mix for our various baseball and softball fields.

Another brand new Little League Diamond was constructed at the Grove Street playground. The old fence was taken completely out and regraded with new sod and infield mix. This effort was again due to the generous donations of Belmont Youth Baseball. The Brendan Grant Foundation and Belmont Babe Ruth supplied generous donations for padding on the varsity field backstop wall. They also paid for an irrigation system on the baseball field at Town Field. The Brendan Grant Foundation also paid to install a new backstop on the junior varsity diamond.

Also, through the very generous donation of Belmont Second Soccer, a completely new field and irrigation system was put in place at Town Field. The complete playground, excluding the tot lot was taken out, re-graded and loam & seed was put down. This action will supply a much safer field for our young children to play on.

A new polyurethane resurfacing with new markings was done at the High School Track around the turf field. This was done to maintain the track in an excellent condition to be used by the High School and the General Public. The Belmont Youth Lacrosse Association also gave a generous donation toward the maintenance of the turf field at Concord Avenue.

Clearly the generous contributions add value to the Recreational Facilities and are enjoyed by the staff, participants and spectators alike. Again, we thank these organizations for their continued financial support at a time of great need and for donating their time to improve and maintain these important facilities. The Parks and Facilities maintenance staff works closely with all of the Town organizations in the care and maintenance of all athletic facilities.

Personnel

At year's end, the Public Works Administration has 3 budgeted full time employees; the Highway Division had 25 budgeted full time employees, and a part time Tree Warden. The Parks and Facilities group had 5 budgeted full time employees.

Several employees successfully completed educational course related to their employment, which were funded by the Town during 2008. Several employee safety programs were held during 2008 in conjunction with the Executive Safety Committee. The DPW Highway Division, represented by two teams, Paul Mosca & Vincent Nestor and Nicholas Kacoyanis & George

Patsios participated in the City of Boston Snow Plow and Safety Training in September 2008 testing their skill and knowledge. We are pleased that the team of Nicholas Kacoyanis & George Patsios placed 3rd overall in this event and the team of Paul Mosca & Vincent Nestor placed 4th overall. Our appreciation and congratulations to these four employees for representing themselves and the Town so well. Mr. Daniel Grey retired after 11 years of dedicated service to the Town.

I wish to express my appreciation to the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, Department and Division Managers, Shade Tree Committee, all other committees and employees for their support, cooperation and assistance during 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter J. Castanino, Director of Public Works

WATER DIVISION

Significant Information and Statistics

All water consumed in Belmont is supplied by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) from reservoirs owned and operated by the Massachusetts Division of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). The Town is under contract with the MWRA and is required to pay for all water supplied to the Town.

Safe Drinking Water Act

During 2008 the water supplied to the Department of Public Works Water Division by the MWRA was in compliance with all Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL'S) as established by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The SDWA defines water quality parameters which are considered safe for human consumption. The SDWA is administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and enforced by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Water samples are analyzed on a weekly basis for microbiological contamination and on a periodic basis for organic compounds, heavy metals and pesticides. All tests are performed by the MWRA laboratory or a certified laboratory under contract with the MWRA. Reports are on permanent file at the Water Division Office.

The Division has identified all water service pipes which are either all or partial lead. A program designed to replace these lead pipes was started in 1992 and will continue in 2009. There are only three remaining lead service lines in Belmont.

Water Distribution System

System Composition

Types of Pipe:	Ductile Iron, Cast Iron, Galvanized Iron, Copper, Asbestos Cement
Size Range:	1.5 Inch to 16 Inch Diameter
Number of Hydrants:	684
Number of Services:	7,546
Types of Services:	Copper, Brass, Cement Lined Iron, Galvanized Iron, Wrought Iron, Cast Iron, and Lead
Percentage of Services Metered:	100%
Total Water Main:	489,681 Feet (92.74 miles)

Water Consumption Data

Average Water Consumption in Millions of Gallons per Day (MGD) **

Month	2007	2008
January	2.001	2.011
February	2.236	1.980
March	2.311	1.893
April	2.188	1.948
May	2.457	2.221
June	2.820	2.612
July	2.824	2.520
August	3.027	2.360
September	2.926	2.393
October	2.441	2.135
November	2.000	1.935
December	2.012	1.936
Average	2.432	2.157

*Average Consumption per person per day	
94.85 Gallons	84.256 Gallons

Total Consumption from MWRA**

2006	755,400,000 Gallons
2007	887,700,000 Gallons
2008	789,462,000 Gallons

* Estimated Population of 25,641

** Data supplied by the MWRA

Water Main Replacement Program - 2008

During 2007, the Kilburn Park Area Project was completed and the Blanchard Road 2 Project started. These projects included the following work:

Kilburn Park Project

1. Transferred all remaining home water services on Kilburn Road from an old unlined six inch water main to a new eight inch water main and performing an overlay street resurfacing on: Kilburn Road, Clark Street, Clover Street and Blake Street. These streets had new water main installed in 2007.

Blanchard Road 2 Project

1. Replaced 1270 feet of old unlined six inch diameter cast iron pipe on Blanchard Road from Concord Avenue to the roundabout at Grove Street with eight inch diameter High Density Polyethylene pipe.
2. Replaced 6,220 feet of old unlined six inch diameter cast iron pipe with new eight inch diameter ductile iron pipe on: School Street from Common Street to Oak Street, Cottage Street, Spinney Terrace, Myrtle Street, Goden Street, Oak Street, Pearl Street and the D.P.W. Highway Division Yard.
3. Replaced 22 Fire Hydrants

The Blanchard Road 2 Project will be completed in 2009 and the project for 2009 (FY 2010) is under design. This project is the Upper Concord Avenue Project and will replace the water main on Concord Avenue from Pleasant Street to the Town Transfer Station.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerard Schultz, Water Superintendent

WATER ADVISORY BOARD

The Water Advisory Board continues in its function to advise the Town on the financial matters of the Water Division and engage in discussions of the water utility business. We are challenged by the steadily increasing wholesale cost of water from the MWRA which comprises 45% of the Water Division budget while keeping rates under reasonable control and providing very good and reliable service to our customers.

In 2008 the Water Advisory Board supported a 20 year financial plan developed by Public Works staff. This plan will increase our investment in our water system from \$647,000 to \$1.2M annually rising with inflation. This investment increase was necessary in order to meet the Capital Improvement Plan (Water Main Replacement Program) goal of replacing all unlined water main in the system within a total of 30 years. This is planned to be accomplished by utilizing no-interest loans from the MWRA and bonding capital expenses while maintaining the goal of an annual water rate increase of about 5%. The Water Main Replacement Program continues and is now in the 14th year (of 30 years) with considerable progress made but there is still much work ahead as we replace an ageing water distribution system. This program is a vital investment to meet the needs of our customers now and into the future.

The Meter Modernization program is now 98% complete and allows remote radio water meter reading. In 2006 the Water/Sewer billing function was transferred to the Belmont Municipal Light Department which now places all meter reading and utility billing in one customer service office.

In 2008, The Water Division received a 2008 Public Water System Award in the consecutive System Category. This award was given by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and is based on "Outstanding Performance & Achievement".

We also express our sincere appreciation to the highly skilled and dedicated craft employees for a job well done for their efforts this past year.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank E. French, Chairman
Joseph F. Greene, Vice Chairman
William Shea, Clerk

BOARD OF CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Cemetery Commissioners herewith files our annual report of activities for the calendar year 2008, our 149th year in operation. We are a three member entirely volunteer board, consisting of Chairman Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Vice Chairman Charles R. Johnson and Clerk Alexander E. Corbett, III, working closely with our phenomenal Superintendent, Robert P. Gardiner. Of the 102 total interments at the two cemeteries, 50 (49%) were non-residents of the Town, to whom extra fees were assessed totaling \$16,800. Total fee receipts for both cemeteries were \$109,175 including all grave openings, foundations, disinterments and canopy rentals.

Cemetery Activities

Although new burial lots for traditional interments have not been available at Belmont Cemetery since 1988, 83 interments were made to existing lots in 2008 including 35 cremations. (This compares to 79 total in 2007, including 25 cremations). One year after its opening, lot sales at Highland Meadow Cemetery continue to be steady, totaling \$194,500. Lot prices are unchanged since opening, similar prices to lots at the most prestigious private cemeteries. Nineteen interments took place at Highland Meadow in 2008, including nine cremations. Lot sales total \$1,750,300, of which 50% must be reserved as Perpetual Care. We are proud that the construction costs of the cemetery have been completely paid, with the Town carrying no debt expense for this project.

Staff and Organization

The staff of Belmont Cemetery has been organized as a division of the DPW since 2003, virtually dedicated to cemetery operations, though our highly skilled employees are often utilized by other divisions (Water, Highway and Parks) particularly for their expertise in backhoe operations.

Both of our cemeteries continue to be recognized as truly beautiful and pastoral places, though virtual opposites. Whereas Belmont Cemetery is a manicured, formal landscape with upright markers, Highland Meadow is akin to, and compatible with, its surrounding open space and has only flat markers. The work of Superintendent Robert Gardiner, Foreman John McDonough, Jeff Currier, Craig Crisafi, Kyle Matthews and Nancy Fay as well as our part-time helpers and DPW employees make each cemetery a place of solace for grieving families.

Progress against Goals:

- Working with Town Treasurer, implement a financial plan. 1. Pay off debt - paid off, 2. Fund Perpetual Care Fund – Growing; 3. Invest in future cemetery phases and 4. Develop a plan to become cost-neutral for all cemetery operations within six years. Continuing to develop the longer term aspects of these plans, working with Treasurer to earn higher no risk return on Perpetual Care Fund.
- Examine price structure for all services, encompassing market information and cost structure. Price increases for all services were effective September 2008. Belmont continues to be the highest-priced public cemetery in the Commonwealth.
- Annual planting program. Continues to grow and expand, particularly appealing to older residents
- Continue tree planting program and enhance landscape areas at Belmont Cemetery. Planning delayed on renovation of the heart-shaped planting bed at Belmont Cemetery to late 2009, hoping to partner with non-profit sponsor.
- Develop new revenue opportunities and identify cost-savings opportunities. This work continues as we examine better, more cost-efficient ways to operate in 2009 while still fulfilling the perpetual care obligations.

Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund	\$1,021,327
Perpetual Care Interest	\$ 29,515
Annual Planting Fund	\$ 90,550
Total Fee Receipts	\$109,175
Appropriation FY08 Budget	\$410,380
Actual Expense against FY08 Budget	\$404,462
Full-time employees of cemetery division	5
Part-time and seasonal employees of cemetery division	5

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Chairman

HIGHLAND MEADOW CEMETERY BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Highland Meadow Cemetery Building Committee consists of four members, Chairman Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Alexander E. Corbett III, Charles R. Johnson all from the Cemetery Commission and Karen Pressey from the Permanent Building committee.

Highland Meadow Cemetery opened in 2007, after 41 years in the waiting, 19 years after the last lot at Belmont Cemetery was sold, after 13 years of planning, design and negotiating.

Although Highland Meadow Cemetery is open and operating, there are still some final construction punch list items open, particularly the completion of the planting plan and the refinement of some landscape walls that were built under winter conditions. These items must be completed by the Committee as we had ended our contract with Green Acres, our cemetery contractor, in early 2007.

The committee expects to conclude its work in the spring of 2009 with the installation of the final signage and replacement of plant material lost during the drought of 2007 and 2008. Upon completion of the work, the committee will vote to dissolve. Construction budget of \$1,060,000 will not be exceeded.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Chairman

MUNICIPAL LIGHT ADVISORY BOARD

The Municipal Light Advisory Board did not submit a 2008 Annual Report.

MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT

Member of: American Public Power Association, Northeast Public Power Association, Municipal Electric Association of Massachusetts, and the Energy Council of New England.



The 110TH Annual Report of the Belmont Municipal Light Department is hereby submitted. Kilowatt hour (Kwh) sales during the year 2008 totaled 126,366,311 Kwh, a decrease of 1,702,935 Kwh over 2007 sales. BMLD's highest ever system peak demand of 34,090 KW occurred on August 2, 2006.

The following chart illustrates the trend of the Belmont Municipal Light Department's business over the past twelve years:

Year	Kwh Purchased	Peak Kilowatts	Gross Sales \$	# of Customers
1996	113,782,082	23,561	10,260,912	10,636
1997	114,647,040	24,305	10,826,376	10,638
1998	115,819,200	24,012	10,876,616	10,629
1999	114,503,706	27,287	10,465,660	10,707
2000	123,855,507	25,074	11,266,974	10,789
2001	127,794,974	29,287	11,795,533	10,722
2002	128,706,897	30,320	12,044,965	10,780
2003	140,476,128	28,498	12,520,038	10,758
2004	132,835,892	28,100	12,465,020	10,800
2005	145,855,321	29,948	12,873,450	10,784
2006	141,119,819	34,090	15,169,572	10,821
2007	128,069,246	30,969	14,905,027	10,937
2008	126,366,311	33,155	21,275,258	10,996

In December 2008 the Belmont Municipal Light Department transferred \$650,000 to the Town's General Revenue Fund as an In Lieu of Tax payment.

Belmont Municipal Light Department continues to furnish "other services" to the Town including electrical inspections, maintenance and construction of the outside fiber optic network, electrical maintenance, re-lamping of buildings with hard to

reach lighting, installation and removal of the holiday decorations. The Department also maintains the Town's traffic signals and the fire alarm call box system.

Power Supply

Belmont Municipal Light Department is an active market participant in purchasing electricity from the ISO-NE market place. The Department has built a diversified power supply portfolio. The Department's objectives are to obtain competitively priced generation services using multiple contracts with staggered durations. At the close of 2008, Belmont Municipal Light Department has contracted out for roughly 90% of the community's energy needs for 2009. The flexibility in our portfolio allowed the Department to capture savings in 2009 from the market declines. We have locked in significant portions of future year purchases during this unprecedented decline in energy prices. The Department is investigating several opportunities to acquire contract rights to proposed renewable energy projects around the New England states. The Belmont Municipal Light Department is committed to purchasing renewable energy that provides value to our energy portfolio.

Belmont Municipal Light Department receives over 8,000 MWhr of lower cost hydropower from the New York Power Authority's (NYPA) Niagara Falls project as our share of preference power allocated to the 40 Massachusetts municipal light departments. Savings realized from the purchase of NYPA power are credited monthly to our residential customers.

Belmont Municipal Light Department did experience an increase of transmission costs over the past year. We expect general increases in transmission costs over the next few years. This increase reflects the value of transmission projects which will come on-line (and onto the rate base). Transmission costs are payments for the energy delivered to Belmont from outside entities. The power supply market continues to evolve as generators, transmission owners, and other stakeholders try to obtain value from the market.

Rates

In response to the anticipated increase in power supply costs, Belmont Municipal Light Department began a cost of service study in anticipation of a rate increase scheduled for 2008. In 2008, Belmont ratepayers suffered a 52% rate increase to reflect the market price of electricity. While we can not shield our customers from the reality of increased power costs in the future, we can promise our customers that we will make every effort to control costs and to pass these savings to our customers.

Energy Conservation and Outreach

The Belmont Municipal Light Department has continued to seek conservation and efficiency programs to help our customers save energy and reduce their energy costs. In 2008, the Department has distributed over 3,000 compact fluorescent bulbs. Belmont's use of compact fluorescent bulbs has resulted in an annual energy savings of nearly 263,000 kWhrs. Lighting is a significant contributor in residential energy use and is an area where we project significant efficiency gains. The Department replaced half of the bulbs used in the Town's holiday lighting display with high efficiency LED (light emitting diodes) strings. This resulted in a saving of over 3,000 kWhr's of energy at a saving to the Town over \$400. The Department continued to offer home energy audits to our customers. The Appliance Rebate Program continues to be popular with our customers. The Belmont Municipal Light Department also went into the elementary schools with electric safety and conservation techniques for kindergarten through third graders.

As part of the Department's energy procurement needs, a Demand Side Management (DSM) strategy is being formulated. DSM projects provide value by reducing peak demand levels and offsetting energy purchases during periods of high market prices. The Department will continue to seek efficiency measures to offset purchase requirements and for environmental benefits.

Other Projects

In 2008, Belmont Municipal Light Department energized upgraded distribution circuits to supply the customers along Agassiz Ave, Winter St and Trapelo Road. This project will allow the Department to retire substation equipment from 1959. The Department also gained needed emergency capacity for the distribution system. To date, the Department has converted almost 16% of our distribution load to the higher voltage circuits.

The Belmont Municipal Light Department continues to aggressively pursue upgrades to our underground distribution system. In 2008, the Department completed distribution improvements along Dalton Road and Washington Street. This upgrade replaced 60 year old underground cables and switches with new equipment capable of increased loading. This project increases the Department's transformer capacity to this area by 300 kVA and resulted in the replacement of 2 miles of cable.

We are still experiencing problems with the Substation Two's transformer. With the retirement of Unit Substation #1A, the Department has a ready replacement transformer. The distribution upgrades completed in 2008 will allow for greater tie capacity for this area.

Personnel

2008 brought more changes to the staff at Belmont Municipal Light Department. In January, BMLD brought in Jennifer Santoro, a communications major from Lasell College, as an intern to provide her an opportunity to gain exposure to public relations information while furthering her knowledge and skills in a public sector environment. John Dunleavy was hired as Accountant for the Department in July of 2008. Mr. Dunleavy has significant experience in municipal light plant accounts and has been invaluable in performing audit trails for the Department. Mario Etedali was hired as Engineer for the Department. Mr. Etedali brings significant experience in engineering and utility operations.

General

The guidance and co-operation of the Municipal Light Board and the Municipal Light Advisory Board is gratefully acknowledged. Special thanks are due to the employees of the Belmont Municipal Light Department. Without their efforts and dedication we could not provide the level of service that our customers expect and deserve.

The cooperation extended by other Town Departments has been outstanding and is greatly appreciated.

Attached are the unaudited Balance Sheet and Income Statement for the Municipal Light Department for the Year-ended December 31, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,
Timothy J. Richardson, P.E., Manager/CEO

REVENUES:	Residential	13,339,352	
	Commercial	7,813,824	
	Municipal	1,200,189	
	Other, Non-Operating Revenues	496,481	
	TOTAL SALES & OTHER REVENUES		22,849,846
EXPENSES:	Purchased Power & Transmission	15,052,880	
	Operations, Supervision & Engineering	268,114	
	Stores and Stockroom Costs	56,950	
	Station Equipment and Costs	80,737	
	Underground & Overhead Lines	1,031,696	
	Street Lights, Signals, and Fire Alarms	138,757	
	Electric Meter Reading and Installations	234,033	
	Water Meter Reading Costs	76,605	
	Distribution Costs	142,923	
	Line Transformer Maintenance	57,211	
	Supervision, Records, Collection & Uncollectibles	329,375	
	Energy Conservation	136,117	
	Advertising	14,838	
	Administrative Salaries	293,617	
	Office Supplies, Utilities, & Maintenance Contracts	159,240	
	Outside Services and Consultants	689,431	
	Insurance: Property, Injuries & Damages	106,345	
	Employer's portion of Pension & Benefits	937,379	
	General Plant & Miscellaneous	194,937	
	Transportation	53,447	
	Depreciation	1,252,963	
	Interest	32,442	
	TOTAL EXPENSES		21,340,036
	BMLD'S UNAUDITED NET INCOME FOR FY2008		1,509,811
	<i>Note: BMLD's 2008 payment in lieu of taxes of \$650,000 is not reflected in these amounts.</i>		<u><u>(650,000)</u></u>
			859,811
CURRENT ASSETS:	CASH - Petty & Operations	1,963,588	
	CASH - Depreciation & OPEB	497,651	
	CASH - Consumers Deposits	105,634	
	Prepaid Expenses	1,710,228	
	Construction Work In Progress	474,629	
	Customer A/R & Liens, Net	1,243,029	
	Other AR	674,097	
	TOB & MLD Reserve Trust	1,485,921	
	TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		8,154,777
PLANT & EQUIPMENT:	UTILITY PLANT - Distribution	5,072,196	
	UTILITY PLANT - General	3,597,261	

	Materials & Supplies	344,602	
	<i>TOTAL PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT</i>		<i>9,014,059</i>
TOTAL ASSETS			17,168,836
LIABILITIES:	Accounts Payable	1,695,857	
	Bonds Payable & Interest	388,567	
	Commercial Deposits	105,634	
	Other Payables & Reserves	482,331	
	Contributions in Aid of Construction	490,683	
	MLD Rate Stabilization Fund	1,486,219	
	<i>TOTAL LIABILITIES</i>		<i>4,649,290</i>
EQUITY:	Retained Earnings	11,009,735	
	Net Income (Loss)	1,509,811	
	<i>TOTAL EQUITY</i>		<i>12,519,546</i>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY			17,168,836

MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCE AUTHORITY ADVISORY BOARD

The Massachusetts Water Resource Authority (MWRA) was created by the Massachusetts Legislature in 1984 to succeed the interests of the Metropolitan District Commission with regard to the delivery of safe drinking water and to treat and dispose of wastewater from the member communities, all in conformance with applicable law and regulation. The same legislation that created the MWRA also created the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority Advisory Board to represent the interest of the sixty-one member communities. Each municipality is represented by at least one person on the Advisory Board. In my capacity as Director of Public Works I have been appointed to the MWRA Advisory Board by the Board of Selectmen to represent the Town of Belmont. MWRA provides wholesale water and sewer services to sixty communities. Fifty communities purchase water supply services, and forty-four communities purchase wastewater transport and treatment services. Thirty-four communities purchase both. Approximately 2.5 million people, or 43 percent of the population of Massachusetts live and work in the communities that purchase water and/or wastewater services from MWRA.

MWRA provides water and sewer services to communities on a wholesale basis. Each community then re-sells services on a retail basis. As a result, household water and sewer charges include each household's share of the community's MWRA water or sewer assessments plus the community's own charges for the provision of local water or sewer charges. MWRA funds its operations primarily through user assessments and charges. No funds supporting the current expense budget are subject to appropriation, except debt service assistance from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and several minor reimbursements from the Commonwealth. Federal grants have ended.

MWRA finances its Capital Improvement Program (CIP) primarily from issuing long-term general revenue bonds. Savings in capital costs are particularly important since every dollar cut from the capital budget saves approximately three dollars in future debt financing costs. The MWRA has adopted a policy whereby the term of bonds is matched to the life of the facility/facilities. In order to control costs to its member communities the MWRA has placed a cap on capital expenditures. The debt service for the MWRA, currently at 60% of the annual current expense budget, is expected to be at 65% by the year 2010.

The severe shortfall in state revenues compared to expenditures in FY 2003 required the elimination of the entire State Debt Service Assistance of \$52.9 M in FY 2003. In FY 2004 State Debt Assistance returned at a \$4.1 M level, in FY 2005 increased to \$8.0 M, in FY 2006 to \$9.6 M, in FY 2007 to \$18.9 M and in FY 2008 to \$17.25 M. The MWRA Advisory Board and staff continue to work with the state legislature and Governor's office to increase State Debt Service Assistance to help control debt service costs for the member communities. In FY 2009 the Authority expected to receive a reduced amount of \$11.25 M but this was cut mid-year as a result of state budget cuts. The MWRA has agreed to absorb this cut with reductions in their FY 09 operating budget. For FY 2009, Belmont's combined sewer and water assessment from the MWRA has increased \$470,191 over FY 2008, translating to a combined increase in sewer and water assessments by the MWRA to Belmont of 8.3 %. Each community independently establishes retail sewer and water rates for its customers. By legislation, ratepayers and member communities are required to pay the full amount assessed against the respective communities by the MWRA.

In 2008 some noteworthy accomplishments for the MWRA Advisory Board have been:

SUSTAINABLE AND PREDICTABLE RATES

- Through MWRA Advisory Board review, able to reduce assessments from a proposed 5.9% rate increase to an overall 4.45% rate increase.
- Through MWRA Advisory Board review of an Amendment to the FY 09 Current Expense Budget, able to successfully avoid a mid-year rate increase despite the loss of Debt Service Assistance.
- The Advisory Board worked with Authority staff to continue to seek refunding opportunities to reduce the cost of existing debt. Just this month (February 2009), the Authority refunded \$228 million, which resulted in a present value savings of nearly \$20 million.

- Kept MWRA capital spending under the approved cap levels.
- Successful in preserving \$3.3 million that the Authority intended for its “Other Post-Employment Benefits” liability to reduce FY 10 rate revenue requirement.
- Blocked developer request to make cities and towns pay for project change that benefited developer only.

LEGISLATIVE

- Governor Deval Patrick included MWRA Advisory Board proposal for expansion of the “Bottle Bill” for rate relief as part of his Proposed Budget for FY 10.
- Secured \$20 million in statewide Debt Service Assistance in a volatile State Budget process; however, the money was ultimately cut by the Governor using his 9C powers.
- Encouraged communities to prepare projects for submission to the state to be considered for any economic stimulus funding provided through the State Revolving Fund Program.
- Involved in promoting various legislation relating to MWRA and ratepayer issues throughout the legislative process.

PROTECTING MWRA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

- Worked with the Authority to develop “shovel-ready” projects for early submission and consideration for any economic stimulus funding provided through the State Revolving Fund Program.
- FY 09 CIP was developed utilizing the Authority's new “Master Plan”, which the Advisory Board was instrumental in proposing and developing.

Detailed information on a variety of additional related subjects as well as the Current Expense Budget and Capital Improvement Program is available online at www.mwra.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter J. Castanino, MWRA Advisory Board Member

SOCIAL SERVICES

ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSING COMMITTEE

In early 2008, the Committee met with representatives of the Belmont VFW Post to discuss their request for a license to sell alcohol for on-premises consumption. In the face of declining membership, the Post was interested in being able to sell alcohol at their events as a means of generating incremental revenue to be applied to the general operations of the Post. As the State regulations have a provision to allow for this type of license, the Committee recommended to the Board of Selectmen that the Post's proposal be forwarded to the 2008 Town Meeting for approval. Said approval was subsequently granted and the license proposal would be placed on the ballot in the town election in Spring 2009.

In late Spring, the Committee Chair replied to a request by the Board of Selectmen (to all town committees) to look at the accomplishments of their Committee and determine if said Committee should be dissolved or extended. After careful analysis of the accomplishments of the BABLC and the likely needs in the foreseeable future, The Chair recommended to the Board of Selectmen that the BABLC be dissolved. The Selectmen agreed with the analysis and voted to dissolve the BABLC.

Many thanks to Committee members Carolyn Bunyon, Janice Ellard, Lawrence Grosbaum, Maryann Scali, and Sal Maniscalco for their time and effort during their tenures as Committee Members.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew V. Levin, Chair

BELMONT HOUSING TRUST, INC.

Authorized by Town Meeting in 1999 and then created by the state legislature (Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1999), the Belmont Housing Trust is a local body appointed by and answering to the Belmont Board of Selectmen. The Trust's purposes are: (1) to *investigate and implement alternatives for providing affordable housing* for persons of low, moderate, and middle income; (2) to enhance the Town of Belmont, Massachusetts and lives of its residents, and so lessen the burdens of government, by *promoting and undertaking the development and maintenance of affordable housing* for the benefit of persons of low and moderate income; (3) to *foster and promote community-wide interest and involvement* in the problems associated with the under-development of affordable housing, and toward that goal, to sponsor and participate in public symposia and discussions involving governmental officials, real property developers, and community organizations and institutions; and (4) to *assist parties in obtaining financial support for affordable housing projects* from state and federal agencies, foundations and other sources; and by any other means, to cooperate with, encourage, and contribute to the efforts of parties in the accomplishment of affordable housing purposes.

Major Milestones Achieved

In June 2008, Belmont submitted its Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI). The Town is required to undertake this analysis to qualify for Federal HOME funds, which we receive annually through the West Metro HOME Consortium. These funds support affordable housing development. The AI identifies impediments to fair housing and outlines actions and recommendations to reduce or prevent them. It aids in setting priorities and defining future actions under the Federal and state fair housing laws. On May 1, the Housing Trust and the Human Rights Commission (HRC) held a joint public hearing on the AI. Trust and HRC members worked closely with Town Planning Coordinator Jeffrey Wheeler to complete this document.

Construction proceeded rapidly during 2008 on Waverley Woods, the affordable rental development being built on Trapelo Road. This is Belmont's first tax credit-financed project. The initial occupants began moving in during December. Rents range from \$965 for a 1-bedroom apartment to \$1,492 for a 4-bedroom townhouse, including heat and hot water. They are affordable to renters with incomes of about \$26,000 to \$52,000 for a family of four. Belmont residents—people who live or work in Town or who have children currently in the public schools or who attended those schools in the past 15 years—have preference for 28 of the 40 total units.

Waverley Woods is a "green" housing development in three senses. It incorporates green technology, including recycled building materials, rain water reclamation, high efficiency boilers, and Energy Star appliances. The site is landscaped with ample trees to emphasize its links to the deeded open space just above it on the hillside. And it is an example of "smart growth" and transit-oriented development, sited within walking distance of a commuter rail station and an easy bus-to-T connection.

During 2008, the Housing Trust collaborated with affordable housing groups in Lexington, Lincoln, Watertown, and Waltham on an application to the Mass. Housing Partnership Innovations Grant program. This program supports new initiatives such as advancing the ability to produce housing in under-served areas. In December, the five towns were awarded a grant and began working together in a 6-month process. Our goal for the MHP Innovations Grant is to identify and create a new collaborative business model for affordable housing development that will: 1) Maximize available resources; 2) Attract and retain talented staff; 3) Undertake and complete affordable housing developments; 4) Be connected to local organizations; 5) Share decision

making, ownership, resources and control in some democratic fashion; and 6) Result in financial benefit for all member communities.

Belmont Affordable Shelter Fund

The Belmont Affordable Shelter Fund (BASF) is an initiative of the Belmont Housing Trust. This local crisis intervention fund is used to address situations in Belmont involving a threat to a family's ability to maintain adequate shelter due to an inability to pay. Completely supported by local contributions, 100 percent of them are distributed as benefits to Belmont residents.

In 2008, BASF distributed nearly \$5,000 and helped more than 20 Belmont families. BASF works with the Town's outreach worker, the Council on Aging, and local clergy to identify and assist Belmont residents in need. This is another way neighbors help neighbors in Belmont.

Applications for BASF assistance are not made directly. Instead, the majority of people in need are identified by the social outreach workers in the Town of Belmont's Department of Health. Some persons are referred by the Belmont Council of Aging (COA), and others come to us from various clergy or faith institutions in Town. We also thank Belmont Savings Bank for the free checking account it provides to BASF.

Since January 2005, BASF has made nearly 80 grants totaling about \$16,000. Of these grants:

- 43% have helped to pay electric bills (Belmont Light);
- 33% have helped to pay natural gas bills (Keyspan);
- 7% have paid fuel oil bills (various vendors);
- 15% went for rent payments; and
- 1% have paid past-due water bills (Town of Belmont).

We anticipate a difficult winter of 2008-2009, combining deep recession with still-high heating fuel prices. Nearly a fourth of the grants described above were made in the last quarter of 2008. Donations to the Fund are always welcome; checks should be made out to Belmont Affordable Shelter Fund and mailed to Roger Colton at 34 Warwick Road in Belmont.

Continuing Work of the Housing Trust

During 2008, Trust members and consultants researched potential strategies for increasing the supply of affordable housing in Belmont. The Commonwealth sets a target of 10 percent affordable units for each city and town, and it is important that any additional units should count toward this goal. The Trust advocated for including more affordable units in the Oakley Neighborhood Overlay District, and such units will be a component of development under the Cushing Square Overlay District.

As the housing market softened, the Trust looked in depth at the feasibility of acquiring condominiums or 2- and 3-family homes, either for resale as affordable units or for rental to qualifying households. Virtually every unit examined needed some rehabilitation. Even at reduced prices, the estimated rehab costs in combination with the limited incomes of qualifying buyers or renters created a substantial gap between costs and resale (or rental) proceeds. Belmont does not have funds to close that gap. With significant outside funding needed to assemble properties, package them, and achieve feasibility, implementing an acquisition strategy does not appear likely any time soon.

Another potential strategy for increasing the supply of affordable housing is to recruit property owners to accept deed restrictions on properties for rent, perhaps in exchange for rehabilitation loans or grants. This possibility will be examined further in 2009, with assistance from Town Counsel.

During 2008, the Trust cooperated with the Town's Community Preservation Act Study Committee and will work with other groups to pursue future passage of the CPA in Belmont. We believe that funds under CPA—which can be used for open space, historic preservation, and recreation, as well as affordable housing—can play a significant future role in meeting the Town's capital needs.

During 2008, the Housing Trust also worked with the Planning Board on two significant projects. We jointly developed regulations to implement the Affordable Housing and Inclusionary Housing provisions of the Zoning By-Law. And we will work together in 2009 on the comprehensive planning process just begun.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith D. Feins, Chairman



View from Olmsted Drive - Waverley Woods Construction (2008)

Waverley Woods Construction Moving Along, Autumn 2008



Interior View: Accessible Kitchen at Waverley Woods

COUNCIL ON AGING

This past year has been particularly significant in the history of the COA as construction of the permanent senior center has been under way. For details on the project please see the Senior Center Building Committee report in these pages. As recommended by the combined boards of the COA and Friends of the COA, and with the unanimous approval of the Board of Selectmen, the name of the center will be "Beech Street Center/*Belmont Council on Aging*". In anticipation of a move to the Beech Street Center in late spring of 2009 planning for new programming began this past year. With the cooperation of the Treasurer's Office and Buildings and Grounds, a very thorough operating budget for the new building was developed and presented to the Board of Selectmen in October. Also planned in advance was the future luncheon program, which will be located at Beech Street. We are grateful to the state and federally supported organization, Springwell, as it will be financially supporting and managing the site. The Meals on Wheels program will be supported and administered by Springwell as well. This is a welcome development since it will be a cost savings to the COA operating budget and will also usher in an improved service for our seniors. As we transition to the new organization of nutritional services, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the Belmont Manor Nursing Home for the years of hosting the luncheon program at their facility, to Sancta Maria Hospital for the Meals on Wheels and to all of our volunteer drivers who have faithfully, and often under adverse driving conditions, delivered meals to our homebound elders.

The COA board continued to work hard advocating for the needs of seniors and under the able leadership of Joel Semuels, who chaired the board through 2008. Barbara Miranda completed her many years of service on the board. Through her diligent efforts over the years, starting with grass root efforts in the community, leadership in the *Friends'* fund-raising efforts and her tenure as chair of the COA during the period prior to the debt exclusion vote of 2205, Ms. Miranda's work was a key force in the creation of a permanent senior center today. Sadly there were other unwelcome departures from the board. Dr. Joe Horner, long-time board member, treasurer and beloved "Mr. Fix-It" died in March. The COA also regrets the end of Hildy Dvorak's tenure as her devotion and efforts as liaison to the Human Rights Committee and the Friends' membership committee were great and singular contributions. The three new board members appointed this year are: Diana Dick, Judy Morrison and Angela Santoro Mullin. They have already rolled up their sleeves and have joined the new working groups. Those new working groups include: 1) close study of the COA budget so as to make recommendations for future programming and 2) to develop comprehensive policy guidelines for the fitness room at Beech Street Center. Our current chair is Ethel Hamann, long time board member and devoted activist on behalf of our seniors, and co-chair Henry Kazarian, who has also shown great dedication and wisdom during his years of service on the board.

The Friends of the COA continued to provide invaluable support over the past year. Most notable was the outstanding job they did in organizing, funding and coordinating the highly festive ground-breaking ceremony held on March 21. For those who could not attend but are interested in seeing portions of the celebration video footage is available through the Belmont Media Center. Pledges from the capital campaign are being received and fund-raising efforts continued through the Annual Crafts Fair, the annual membership drive, sale of special items and preliminary planning for the brick campaign has begun. The annual contribution to COA programming this year was partial funding towards the new database system for Beech Street Center. That system will offer a striking advance in the way seniors, volunteers and staff enter data.

Level funding for the past year meant a final cut in the appropriation for center programming. This means that subsidies for the swim program, ESL classes and annual holiday party have been eliminated. Fortunately, in the case of the ESL program and annual holiday party, creative cost cutting and a continued robust revolving account were responsible for absorbing the loss. Alternatives to the Belmont Senior Swim program were heavily researched and comparable options were found. As a result of the hiring freeze the Town implemented in the early fall the COA has been without a morning driver for the van. The transportation team has been valiantly compensating for this loss, although a reduction in rides has been the ultimate result. The state funded van arrived in April and replaced the retired police cruiser formerly used for medical and in-town rides.

Programming at the center continues to change and expand. After finding ways to create a setting conducive for relaxation and an outstanding instructor, the new yoga program has become very popular and has been reported to be very helpful to participants. The other fitness programs have continued to thrive. Use of the computer lab has increased as more seniors use it for employment and other issues related to the downturn of the economy. Thanks to a local cultural council grant the painting classes have resumed. The knitters and quilters are producing ever more beautiful pieces of art, too, during their lively weekly sessions at the center. They have generously donated many of them for sale through the Friends' fund-raisers. The COA is happy to report that the Bingo program has resumed despite the resignation of Mr. and Mrs. Skelley and is under the very competent leadership of Jean Frassica and Russ Henderson.

Some of the best programming has been created by seniors themselves such as the wildly popular travel slide shows of Grace Taylor. In fact, almost all of the day and overnight trips have been organized by a senior volunteer coordinator, Loretta Lapierre. It is through her outstanding efforts that seniors still sign up for the trips - even as prices have increased so precipitously in the past several years.

As ever we are proud of our very dedicated staff. We are very pleased with new staff members who came on board this past year. India Hobel, our new center coordinator, has taken the bull by the horns and has been creative in planning for programs at the current site and for the move to Beech Street Center. Joe MacDonald brings a lifetime of experience as a native Belmontian and former firefighter to his job as afternoon driver. We were sorry to lose our federally funded custodial aide, Michael Keogh, who made our center look as clean and neat as it ever could. Otherwise, our non-paid staff has also expanded. Through a special program at North Cambridge Catholic High School there are two lovely high school students who work full days for us. The continuing relationship with Boston College School of Social Work has resulted in increased social work counseling this past fall. As always, we continue to be deeply grateful for the work of all our other 120 odd volunteers. Without their labor and professional services our agency would not be able to adequately meet the needs of our seniors. In addition, we would like to take the opportunity to thank those who donate to our programs year round. A "thank you" is again in order to the Arlington V.N.A. and CareGroup for donating their nurses for our weekly blood pressure clinic. We would also like to acknowledge the other Town departments who directly assist in our operations of the center and adding quality programming. They include: Buildings and Grounds, the Health Department, the Highway Department, Information Technology, the Library, the Belmont High School and the Winn Brook School.

The Council on Aging looks forward to 2009 and being able to offer high quality programs and services in its new location.

Respectfully submitted,
Nava Niv-Vogel, Director

DISABILITY ACCESS COMMISSION

During the year the membership of the Disability Commission had three resignations and two changes in membership status. The current members include: Ray Glazier, Janet Macdonald, Carole Williams and Nan Donald. The Alternate member is Patricia Livingstone.

The Disability Access Commission convened four duly posted meetings January, February, March and April. For the months of May through the end of the calendar year we met in conjunction with other Town representatives at a meeting in Watertown to present the communities of the area with neighborhood preparedness back packs to be utilized in the event of a disaster.

The Disability Access Commission continues to participate in Town building projects with representation on the Senior Center Building Committee and Wellington School Building Committee. The Commission met to continue the discussion for the proposed TTY access in the Town Hall, Homer School and the School Department.

Continuing with our advocacy to the Community Development Office we are able to see the installation of textured red warning panels for blind white cane users in curb ramps throughout the length of reconstructed sections of Pleasant Street (Route 60). Also through the Office of Community Development, the power-operated historic doors were refurbished and reinstalled at the new accessible main entrance to Town Hall.

On January 21st, The Disability Access Commission was one of the co-sponsors of the 14th Martin Luther King Breakfast held at Belmont High School. The Commission provided funding for the American Sign Language interpreters, and Commission members assisted with tasks prior-to and after as well as being in attendance for the event.

In August, members represented the Disability Access Commission at the Annual Meet Belmont event held at the Belmont High School. At this event, Disability Assistance Program brochures were distributed and members were able to communicate with Town residents, in addition to members of community organizations.

The Disability Access Commission continues to monitor its Disability Assistance Program phone – line in order to match up callers with needs and able bodied volunteers. In addition members are encouraged to make brochures available at local places of business and Town Departments.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet H. Macdonald, Chairman

HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Belmont Housing Authority manages four developments with a total of 256 units of state-aided public housing. Belmont Village, built in 1950, has 100 units for veterans and families (that include 50 two-bedroom and 50 three-bedroom apartments) in twenty-five four-unit buildings. Sherman Gardens Apartments, built in 1971, with a total of 80 one-bedroom units and Waverley Oaks Apartments, built in 1976, with a total of 74 one-bedroom apartments provides housing for seniors (age 60 or older) and for people with disabilities. Clark Lane, a two-family accessible home built in 1988, provides housing for eight people with developmental disabilities and offers 24-hour support, seven days a week.

The Authority also oversees two rental assistance programs that provide subsidies to 49 households so they can rent private apartments in Belmont and in other communities. Two of these units are assisted by the state-funded Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) and forty-seven are assisted by the Federal Section 8 Rental Assistance Housing Choice Voucher Program. As part of an initiative to expand our efforts to better utilize our Section 8 Voucher Program by serving currently underserved populations and fostering the development of affordable housing in conjunction with Town of Belmont initiatives, the Belmont Housing Authority is presently in the process of incorporating project-based assistance into our existing federal program. The Dedham Housing Authority continues to handle day-to day-operations and issues Certificates for the Section 8 program under a contract with the Belmont Housing Authority.

The Belmont Housing Authority has six employees: the Executive Director, two administrative staff members, and the Maintenance Superintendent and two maintenance personnel. A five member Board of Commissioners is responsible for establishing policies.

Waiting lists for the family and elderly/disabled developments as well as the Section 8 Voucher Program are currently open and applications may be obtained Monday through Thursday between 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. and on Friday between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 12:00 noon at the main office located at 59 Pearson Road or by calling (617) 484-2160. Applicants must have incomes at or below state and/or federally established income limits. The selection of tenants for openings is based on family size, position on the waiting list, and emergency status. Among non-emergency applications, preference is given to veterans and Belmont residents. The current annual income limits for state-aided housing developments are:

<u>Household size</u>	<u>Income</u>
One Person	46,300.00
Two People	52,950.00

Three People.....	59,550.00
Four People.....	66,150.00
Five People	71,450.00
Six People	76,750.00
Seven People	82,050.00
Eight or More People.....	87,350.00

Rents for the elderly/disabled developments are set at 30% of net income and include all utility costs (heat and electricity). Rents at Belmont Village are set at 27% of tenant net income but do not include utilities (i.e. tenants pay their own heat and electricity). As of January 30, 2009, the waiting list for Belmont Village included 1,146 families waiting for a two-bedroom unit and 607 families waiting for a three-bedroom unit. There were 138 elderly households and 149 non-elderly households on the waiting list for units at Sherman Gardens and Waverley Oaks Apartments. The apartment turnover rate for the year included eleven apartments at Belmont Village and eighteen apartments total for both Sherman Gardens and Waverley Oaks Apartments.

During 2008, the Authority created a new website in order to make information more easily accessible to the public. The website, which can either be found at www.belmontha.org or through the website for the Town of Belmont, contains information pertaining to Belmont Housing Authority news, programs, regulations and policies, geography and transportation, applications and minutes of meetings. Also included are pictures of each of the developments and current income information. In addition to obtaining applications through the main office, all applications for both state and federal programs can be downloaded from the same website or through a designated link on the Town website.

Since last year, the Authority has also made significant progress with a number of property improvements that were initially funded in 2007 by the Department of Housing and Community Development. Among those projects were the replacement of the fire alarms at Sherman Gardens Apartments; continuing design work for the repair and replacement of all exterior steps at Sherman Gardens Apartments; commencement of a paving project to increase the available parking for residents at Waverley Oaks Apartments; initiation of a much needed upgrade of the fire alarms at Waverley Oaks Apartments; and a building envelope and heating study of twenty-five buildings at Belmont Village. As part of a new initiative, the Authority completed the replacement of a retaining wall at Sherman Gardens Apartments that had been funded under the Accelerated Emergency Response Pilot Program through the Department of Housing and Community Development.

The Authority would like to express special thanks to the other Town Departments, including the Board of Selectmen, Police and Fire Departments, Community Development Office, Department of Public Works, Health Department, and the Council on Aging. We would also like to express our sincere thanks to our State Representative, Will Brownsberger, for his many efforts on behalf of the Authority and its residents.

Respectfully submitted,
 Leo J. Saidnaway, Chairman

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

The Human Rights Commission continued to be active in Town this past year, meeting on a monthly basis and sponsoring several community events. Janet Cudmore-Boswell, Nan Donald, Judie Feins, Rosalind Kabrhel, and Fran Yuan remain on the commission. In addition, Connie Williams was reappointed to the commission, while Lisa Bernt awaits reappointment. The Board of Selectmen's reevaluation of all town commissions caused some slowdown of the normal processes that take place in reappointing members and garnering the interest of new members.

On March 29th, 2008, the commission held a music concert at Chenery Middle School, featuring musical performances by an Armenian group and a Middle Eastern folk group, followed by a reception. An estimated 175 people attended. The concert was televised on Belmont's cable TV channel.

Periodically, the Town is required to update its Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI), a document required by Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as part of the Consolidated Plan. The AI is a comprehensive review of conditions and policies that ensure housing choices and opportunities are made available for all persons in a community. On May 1st, the HRC held a public hearing to gather information from groups about affordable housing and the status and treatment of protected classes (racial, public assistance, low income, elderly, disability, public housing) in Town. Town Planner Jeffrey Wheeler, members of the Housing Trust, and members of the public were in attendance.

On November 16th, the Commission celebrated the anniversary of the Fair Housing Act with a panel discussion about the Belmont Fair Practices Committee, which was established in the 1960s. Community activists from the era spoke about their work to ensure equal treatment in Belmont in areas such as housing and education. The group started a Roxbury-Belmont summer program in which children from both communities met for summer activities in both communities. Soon after, the METCO program was welcomed to Belmont. This panel was televised on Belmont's cable TV channel.

During 2008, the HRC also put together a Housing Resource book, which is available at the Belmont Public Library. There are on-going discussions about how to make resources available on-line as well. Information to update the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing was needed this year. A meeting was held in May to which members of the Town Planning Board and the Housing Trust were invited. Along with information gathered at this meeting and statistics gathered from MCAD

and HUD, information about affordable housing and protected (racial, public assistance, low income, elderly, disability, public housing) classes was gained.

In December, the Commission met with the Board of Selectmen to review the aims and activities of the group. It was agreed that the charge would be modified and the number of members might be reduced. The Commission was asked to meet on these issues and return to the Board for approval of any changes made. One change recommended reflects the fact that the HRC receives rather than investigates violations, and rather than issue findings, refers matters to appropriate town and other authorities.

Captain Peter Hoerr, a regular meeting attendee and liaison to the Belmont Police Department, continued to report on incidents of relevance to the HRC. This included such incidents as harassment at the high school and in the community, and hateful graffiti found in Belmont public spaces, including one incident which was later determined to be a 'hate crime' by the Belmont Police Department. Kathryn Bonfiglio of Belmont against Racism also continued to serve as a liaison regarding relevant issues of mutual interest.

Judie Feins and Connie Williams have been working with Laura Jean, a teacher at Belmont High School, on a program at the high school for Diversity Week in February.

Respectfully submitted,
Fran Yuan, Co-chairman

VISION 21 IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

The Vision 21 Implementation Committee was established in 2001 by the Town of Belmont Board of Selectmen to facilitate, enable, and help the Town to achieve the Working Vision for the Town of Belmont approved by Town Meeting on April 23, 2001. In carrying out its charter, the Vision Committee works to initiate and/or support projects and programs within our community that are designed to help the Town achieve the goals of the Vision. Now nearing a decade of dedicated service to Belmont, the Vision Committee continues to proactively identify opportunities and implement initiatives to help newcomers to our Town learn and gain an understanding of the Vision as well as to provide opportunities for longer-term residents to participate in the Committee's ongoing efforts to "put a face" on the goals of the Vision.

One continuing initiative of the Vision 21 Implementation Committee, the Belmont Neighbors Network, sponsored the annual "Meet Belmont" event held in August in the Belmont High School Cafeteria. The sixth annual "Meet Belmont" featured nearly 100 exhibitors including representatives of several Town departments as well as of activities and organizations from across our Town. Nearly 200 attendees - potential residents, newly-established members of our community, and longer-term residents - came out to learn, in one location, at one time, practically everything they wanted or needed to know about what is available to them as Belmont residents.

A new initiative that, in the opinion of Vision Committee members will be of increasing importance in reinforcing the value of Belmont residency, is the "Belmont Civic Engagement Campaign" with a goal of rekindling the spirit of civic volunteerism among our residents. Decreasing interest in participation in civic affairs is a concern shared by many communities across the Commonwealth, and we, as a Committee, are currently in the process of identifying the causes of what we perceive to be a lack of interest on the part of citizens of our Town to become involved in Town government and other activities. Work is ongoing to identify and implement strategies for reaching out to Belmont residents and educating them on the importance of active participation in Town affairs.

In 2008, the Vision Committee undertook a revision of an earlier initiative, the publication "An Information Guide to Belmont." The booklet is being reviewed and revised to ensure that newcomers to Belmont and others have ready access to current information on services available to them both through traditional print media as well as through online resources, including the Town's web site.

And, in continuing support of its mandate, the Vision Committee once again co-sponsored the annual Martin Luther King breakfast in January 2008.

Sustainable Belmont, a task force of the Vision 21 Implementation Committee, has as its mandate "to develop and implement a variety of activities and initiatives to assist Belmont's government, residents, and businesses in becoming a more environmentally responsible community."

As part of its continuing effort to spearhead the development of the town's climate action plan (CAP), Sustainable Belmont completed writing the draft of the CAP with input from the Belmont community. Other major collaborative efforts included working with the BMLD and its Advisory Board to create a voluntary clean energy program for customers, which was implemented as the "Green Choice" program in May 2008; and to develop an electricity conservation and efficiency policy, which was unanimously adopted by the Belmont Light Board in December 2008. Sustainable Belmont continued its partnership with the Belmont Police Department and Public Schools as part of the "Cleaning the Air" campaign. As part of this ongoing educational effort, the group received a grant for postcards for public distribution that explain the benefits of not idling one's vehicle.

Sustainable Belmont cosponsored a public forum on ways to encourage walking in Belmont and also increased public awareness on a variety of environmental issues by writing article/opinion pieces for the *Belmont Citizen-Herald* and energy conservation tips for the Belmont Municipal Light Department (BMLD) newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,
Kirk Hazlett, Chairman

CULTURE, LEISURE AND COMMUNICATION

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Highlights for 2008: *One Book One Belmont* a huge success, Library awarded the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) Construction Grant, five year long range plan completed, and circulation area received a long overdue make-over.

Staffing

In February of 2008, Mary Hall, Circulation Supervisor, retired after forty years of service. Her dedication to Belmont and the library was unsurpassed. Her presence behind the circulation desk will be truly missed. Mary's retirement was the first of many changes in staff. Lisa Cassidy, Circulation Assistant II, was promoted to Circulation Supervisor. Lisa has worked for the library for almost twenty years. Grainne Griffin was promoted to replace Lisa as the Circulation Assistant II. Grainne worked for the Butler Elementary Extended Day and After School Program and was a temporary Library Assistant I at the Belmont Library. Caron Guigli, the part-time Young Adult Librarian, resigned in June to accept a full-time position as Technology Librarian at the Somerville Public Library. Deborah Borsuk, a recent graduate of the Simmons College School of Library and Information Science was hired as the new Young Adult Librarian. Her experience included working with children and young adults of all ages, preschool through college. Deborah also works at the reference desk at the Beatley Library at Simmons College. Christine Hunnefeld, the Technology Librarian, resigned after nine years of service, to accept a position as the Collection Development Librarian at the Framingham Public Library. Emily Smith joined the library team as the new Technology Librarian. Emily received her MLS from the University of Michigan. She was a computer consultant for three years before becoming a librarian. She worked as a reference librarian at the Ann Arbor District Library in Michigan for a year and a half before moving to Massachusetts. Once here she worked at the Pollard Memorial Library in Lowell as the Community Planning Librarian.

Members of the staff attended a number of workshops during the year. All members of the Reference staff attended at least one professional development workshop on such topics as readers' advisory (mystery and science fiction), Dreamweaver software for creating Web pages, Word 2007, travel resources, finding U.S. Census information on the Web, and future trends in library service. In addition, representatives from the companies providing four of the library's database subscriptions – Science Reference Center, the ABC-Clio Social Studies databases, Ancestry Library Edition and Reference USA – provided training sessions for the reference staff, either in person or over the Internet as Webinars. A number of library assistants attended Minuteman Library Network training on developing reports using the Millennium circulation software program.

The Library held its twelfth annual staff development day on June 27. Rita Gavelis of Metrowest, the regional office for library support services, taught a morning session on using Microsoft Publisher to create posters and flyers. Several staff members have since been using Publisher to produce more attractive, professional-looking flyers to publicize library events. The afternoon session focused on the long-range plan. The library Director presented results of the patron survey administered earlier in the year. Staff members then met with their departments to discuss the results and began brainstorming and planning to make recommendations for the long-range plan.

Trustees

David Rich was appointed in March to fill a vacancy on the Board of Library Trustees created when Jil Westcott moved from Belmont, resigning from the Board in December of 2007. David was elected in April. David was previously the ITAC representative to the Board of Library Trustees. Ray Hanna was appointed by the Board of Library Trustees in March to be the new ITAC representative.

Library Building Grant

On August 14, 2008, the MBLC voted to award the thirty-one communities on the MBLC Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program Wait List. The Library's provisional grant award is \$5,323,564. In order to accept the MBLC grant award, the Board of Library Trustees, Director, Staff, Friends of the Library and the Belmont Library Foundation are continuing to work with the Town officials and the citizens of Belmont to garner support for a new building and secure local funding by the MBLC's deadline of December 2009.

Building Matters

The main circulation area of the Belmont Memorial Library underwent some much needed renovations. The Capital Budget Committee allocated \$49,000 for the project. The project called for two new return slots (one in the circulation desk for print materials and one in the wall next to the desk for audiovisual material) helping to keep the circulation desk uncluttered, added storage for book carts and materials, minor changes to the circulation desk and improved workstations for staff. The project was completed on time and on budget. This simple renovation created a healthier work environment, improved customer service, freed up congestion which can lead to the loss of library material and fulfilled ADA requirements. A special thanks to the circulation reconfiguration team and in particular to Belmont architect David Johnson who donated his time and talent and was responsible for the design and overseeing the construction.

Long Range Plan

The long range planning process is mandated by the MBLC in order for libraries to be eligible to apply for federal and state grants. The purpose of the planning process is to identify library service needs, and then develop goals and objectives that reflect those needs. To accomplish this task, an appeal for volunteer members for the Committee was solicited via a posting on the Library's Web Page and at the Circulation Desk, and an announcement in the Belmont Citizen-Herald, the local newspaper. Several people with widely varied backgrounds responded and the Committee was formed in June 2008.

The Long Range Planning Committee was composed of the following: six citizens, one member of the Friends of the Library Board, two members of the Board of Library Trustees, and seven members of the library Staff, including the Director. Prior to the beginning of the committee's work, the library administered a survey during the month of May. The Committee meetings began at the end of June and finished in September. The Committee gathered data about the community and statistics on library usage. They reviewed collection and circulation statistics available through the Minuteman Library Network (MLN), and in-house statistics. They analyzed the survey results. All this data helped provide a picture of current patterns of usage and any changes in service over the past five years. In the discussions of the needs, realistic expectations for resources and the knowledge and experience of Staff was kept in mind.

With thoughtful discussions, the Committee formulated a new mission statement and established the goals and objectives that will guide the Belmont Public Library through the next five years. We would like to thank the members of the Committee for all their hard work. Jeremy Bates, Judy Cotton, Wendy DeLorey, (President, Friends of the Library), Clark Elliott, Laura Northridge, David Otte, Susan Polit, Elaine Alligoode (Trustee), David Rich (Trustee), Lisa Cassidy (Circulation Supervisor), Corinne Chan (Generalist), Fred Dooe (Technical Services Coordinator), Christine Hunnefeld (Technology Librarian), Emily Reardon (Public Services Coordinator), Denise Shaver (Coordinator of Children's Services), and Maureen Connors, (Director).

Library Use Remains High

The statistics for library usage are on the rise. It is not surprising. In times of economic woes the use of libraries increases. At the Memorial Library, the annual circulation for adult and children's totaled 554,376 items, almost a 14% increase over the previous year. The FY 2008 MBLC library circulation data report shows Belmont as the second busiest library in its population group of 54 Massachusetts communities.

Improved Internet Access

Internet access continues to draw patrons to the library. There were 31,909 Internet sessions in 2008, up from 31,503 sessions in 2007 and 26,500 sessions in 2005. The Cybrarian time management software is working well to control access to the computers so that patrons rarely have to wait. In addition, more and more patrons bring their laptops and tap into our wireless service, although we have not yet found a way to gather statistics on them.

Museum Pass Software, Book News, and Downloadable Audio

Discounted museum admission is another service provided by the library that is increasingly important during tough economic times. In 2008 the discounted and free museum passes were checked out 2,288 times, up from 1,790 the previous year – an increase of 27%. The Friends of the Library, who pay for the passes, also added a pass for the Institute of Contemporary Art to their offerings. Patrons are enjoying the new software that enables them to make museum pass reservations themselves online. Between June and December 2008, 48% of all pass reservations were made by patrons online rather than by staff.

Patrons are continuing to enjoy two other services instituted by the library within the last few years. Downloadable audiobooks from Recorded Books, that can be downloaded from the Library Web site onto a patron's computer and then onto an MP3 player, were checked out 742 times last year and 174 new accounts were created. Through the BookNews service, 434 patrons were enrolled to receive book excerpts by email each day. The newsletters with book recommendations by genre and subject were viewed on the library Web site 18,033 times. Staff also used the BooksNews software to prepare attractive book lists and post them on the Web site.

The library continues to maintain a strong print collection at the same time as providing new media and online resources to meet patrons' changing needs and interests. The Playaway is the newest format of audio, combining a wide variety of content with an easy-to-use player all in one small unit. The Playaway is the most simple and immediate way to enjoy audiobooks. Its portability allows users to enjoy their favorite authors and titles on-the-go, whenever and wherever. The library was happy to introduce this new format into its collection to help meet patron demands.

More Electronic Resources (Online Databases)

An online version of *The Belmont Citizen-Herald*, offering full text of articles from October 2005 to the present, was added to Belmont's collection of online databases. Although the library has issues of the *Belmont Citizen-Herald* dating back to its inception, the issues are not indexed; the online version can be searched by keyword, making searches much easier for patrons. We added two health databases, *Magill's Medical Guide* and *Salem Health: Cancer*, the companions to two new print sets added to the reference collection. We also added the *2009 Statesman's Yearbook*, an annual handbook of global information that came with our print subscription for the first time.

The library's Rosetta Stone Online subscription was cancelled by the publisher, which is no longer offering subscriptions to libraries. The library selected another language-learning database, called Tell Me More, which offers interactive instruction in speaking and reading Spanish, English (ESL), French, German, Dutch and Italian.

Overall, use of the electronic databases continues to grow, as more patrons learn they can access reference-book quality information at all hours of the day and night. Use of the Historic New York Times, with full text and images back to 1851, rose by 32% since last year, from 2,895 searches to 3,833 searches. Use of the Infotrac suite of databases with newspaper, magazine, and journal articles has soared from 63,853 searches in 2006 to 81,455 searches this past year.

The reference staff is trying to promote database usage through individual instruction and group classes (see Adult Programs section). Reference staff also handled more than 40,000 reference questions by phone, email, and in person in 2008, up from about 38,000 the previous year.

One Book One Belmont

One of the highlights of the year was the *One Book One Belmont* town-wide read, which truly brought the entire community together to celebrate a book. Hundreds of Belmont residents read *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace . . . One School at a Time*, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin, and shared the experience at a series of book-related events in January and February. The book - which remains on the New York Times bestseller list a full year later - tells the story of former mountain climber Greg Mortenson and his efforts to build schools, especially for girls, in the remote mountains of Pakistan and Afghanistan.



One Book One Belmont kicked off in January with an inspiring, standing-room-only multimedia presentation at the Belmont Gallery of Art. Belmont photojournalist Paula Lerner spoke about her exhibit, on display at the gallery, called "Afghan Stories: Giving Women a Voice," based on her work in Kabul and Kandahar. Other events included a film at the Studio Cinema presented by Belmont World Film; a concert of Pakistani music; lectures about Islam and the politics of Pakistan; a program on oriental rugs; and book discussions. Youth events included a kite-making workshop for teens and an arts and crafts program for elementary-age children. A total of 700 individuals attended these events; those who filled out evaluation forms consistently rated the programs "excellent," with an occasional "very good."

About 1,050 more people attended a February 26 presentation by Greg Mortenson at Belmont High School, in which Mortenson discussed the importance of building schools in Central Asia. Education, he explained, is the single most effective way to promote peace, by providing an alternative to extremism and by empowering communities to change themselves in the ways they determine are best.

Belmont residents, as well as individuals who had traveled from places as far away as Maine and Connecticut, filled the auditorium and the cafeteria. The Belmont Media Center provided a live cable-TV broadcast of Mortenson's talk, enabling Belmont citizens to watch in their homes as well as the high school cafeteria. Audience members were so moved by the presentation that they donated \$14,800 that night, a total that will go a long way toward building a school in Pakistan or Afghanistan.

While in Belmont, Mortenson attended a reception with food provided by Stone Hearth Pizza; was interviewed by Monica Brady-Myerov of National Public Radio affiliate WBUR; and stayed an extra hour to sign books and chat with audience members. The Belmont Library Foundation provided refreshments after his talk so that Belmont residents could share a cup of tea and speak with new and old friends. The administration, faculty, audio-visual, technology, food services, and custodial staff of Belmont High School all were essential in making the evening such a resounding success. The Belmont Police Department and Auxiliary officers did a great job directing traffic and maintaining a friendly atmosphere, even while standing outside in the snow and rain. The house managers and ushers, from the Friends of the Library, Belmont Against Racism, the High School, and the Library, did a wonderful job of directing the crowd inside the school.

Support for *One Book One Belmont* came from all aspects of the community. Eleven civic organizations co-sponsored the programs: Belmont Against Racism, the Belmont Citizen-Herald, Belmont Gallery of Art, Belmont Library Foundation, Belmont Public Schools, Belmont World Film, Charlesbank Bookshop, Council on Aging, Human Rights Commission, and Youth Commission. Local businesses were very generous in providing funding, refreshments for programs, and other types of assistance. The Planning Committee, led by Reference Department head Emily Reardon, met monthly for an entire year to select the book, plan and organize events, and provide creative ideas. Members' names can be found in last year's annual report, along with a description of planning and publicity efforts. The Belmont Cultural Council provided a generous grant and the Friends of the Library provided the lion's share of the funding, for which we express special thanks.

More Adult Programs

The popular Music on Sunday concert series continued to attract large and enthusiastic audiences during its fourth season, organized by Emily Reardon and funded with the generous support of the Friends of the Library. A total of more than 400 people attended the five concerts held between January and May, featuring a variety of classical, jazz, and world music selections and showcasing many Belmont musicians.

Providing workshops to increase public awareness of the library's online databases and to help patrons feel more comfortable with new technologies was an important focus for 2008. Workshops were held using the library's laptop computers so that patrons could have a hands-on experience. Classes included a four-week series called "Tech Tuesdays," covering computer basics, email basics, and patron questions, led by librarians Christine Hunnefeld and Corinne Chan; three sessions covering the genealogy database Ancestry Library Edition; and the job-hunting workshop "Career Resources @ Your Library and Online," presented with Anna Whitcomb of Your Career Choices." A total of sixty-nine individuals attended these workshops.

Books and Bites is a monthly (November through May) book review series, coordinated by librarian Miriam MacNair, featuring presentations by local residents, Library staff, and local authors. This year local author Lester Macklin discussed his book *Celebrate Around the Calendar* which has recipes from different countries for each day of the year. Local poet June Knowles read selections from her poetry and answered questions from the attendees about different aspects of her poetry. Belmont residents gave excellent presentations, including Elizabeth Atkins discussing *The Zookeeper's Wife* by Diane Ackerman and Ethel Twichell discussing *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

The books discussed by the book discussion group at the Belmont Senior Center led by librarian Miriam MacNair included *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin, in conjunction with the Library's *One Book One Belmont* program, as well as *A Handful of Dust* by Evelyn Waugh, *Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy, and *A Perfect Spy* by John LeCarre. Attendees prepared well for the monthly meetings and many engaging discussions took place.

The book discussion group at the Main Library continued to meet in 2008 and was led by librarian Miriam MacNair and librarian Corinne Chan. This group also discussed *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin in conjunction with the Library's *One Book One Belmont* program. The group also discussed books from two literary genres—romances and mysteries. A sampler of contemporary romances and mysteries was lead by Corinne Chan. Miriam MacNair led discussions of two classic Jane Austen novels--*Northanger Abbey* and *Pride and Prejudice* and the classic mystery *The Nine Tailors* by Dorothy L. Sayers.

Other programs included "Book Publishing from the Inside Out," presented by Beth Ineson of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt to an enthusiastic audience of aspiring authors; "Beyond the Olympics: Discontent in China's Minority Provinces of Tibet and Xinjiang," a lecture with slides presented by Seth Kirby, history department chair at Boston College High School; and "Trio Noire," a concert of classical music and jazz inspired by Halloween. A total of 119 people attended these three programs.

Young Adult Programs

In 2008 the Young Adult department offered a wide variety of programs and classes for students in grades 6 through 12. From bibliographic instruction to concert hosting, the library provided enrichment for Belmont youth both during and after school hours, with approximately 675 students attending fifty programs and/or classes.

Bibliographic instruction included workshops on how to research literary criticism for Belmont High School seniors working on their senior thesis, a project where students write a paper examining authors, books, or literary themes of their choosing. Sophomores were given help and support researching one of their major projects, an essay exploring current and controversial issues. Sixth grade classes were introduced to the library's Young Adult Room and its valuable resources for researching their history projects on ancient civilizations. Approximately 400 students participated in these various workshops.

National History Day was the main focus for October and November. Five workshops a week were offered from the end of October to the middle of November to assist eighth graders and ninth graders in finding appropriate primary and secondary sources. Along with the group sessions, individual appointments and drop-in sessions were available for the students. Approximately fifty students participated in these workshops, and many others asked for assistance at the reference desk.

As for recreational activities, the Childcare & Babysitting Workshops were in high demand so that two were held, one in the fall and one in the spring. A Kite-Making Workshop gave teens an opportunity to participate in the library's One Book, One Belmont events surrounding the book *Three Cups of Tea*. Trivia and board games were played in the Young Adult Room as part of Family Night @ the Library. Local artist Nancy Hart taught middle school students different collage and design methods during a poster making workshop. Approximately seventy teens participated in these recreational activities.

The seventh annual Band Bash kicked off the Library's summer reading program for teens. One hundred students and six bands participated in the event, which was co-sponsored by the Library, the Belmont Police Department and DARE, and the Belmont Youth Commission. Ninety-four teens signed up to participate in the summer reading program. Among all the participants, 953 books were read, 344 book reviews were written and posted on the library's web page. Summer concluded with a YA Video Game Party and raffle drawing.

Throughout the year, teens have continued to help their community by volunteering their time and expertise at the library. Many participated in the Cyberteem program over the summer, which partnered a teen with an adult from the community who wanted to learn more about using computers, the Internet, and email. Seven volunteers provided over sixty-six hours of

instruction to the community. A committee of teens assisted with the decoration of the Young Adult Room in accordance with our summer reading theme of "X Marks the Spot." Throughout the school year, teen volunteers shelved books in the teen room, and made sure that the books were on the shelf in the correct order.

Children's Programs

The Jane Gray Dustan Children's Room was full of activity this year. A total of 231 programs were offered and 8,307 children and caregivers attended.

The children's room was roaring this summer! The *Wild Reads @ Your Library* began on June 16 and ran for ten weeks. 743 children, ranging in ages from 3 - 12, participated.

Total attendance at our 32 summer programs was 2,656. This represents seven more programs than last summer, with an increased attendance of 729 people. Programming followed the same winning format as previous years. Movies for preschoolers were shown every Tuesday at noon, while performers of all types visited on Wednesdays at 2 pm and on Thursdays at 10:30 am. The Wednesday programs were geared toward older children, while the Thursday programs were for younger participants. We held one additional week of summer programs, which had been requested by many patrons. We also doubled evening storytimes. These evening programs were very popular, especially with working families, and we look forward to offering them again next summer.

Summer Reading performances were funded by Jane Gray Dustan Trust. Highlights include: The Yo-Yo people (a husband and wife acrobatic team), Sing-alongs with Debbie and Friends, a visit from Zoo New England, and finally a visit from Farmer Minor and his pig Daisy. The Friends of the Library generously supported the summer reading program by providing funding for the prizes, which were purchased at Belmont Toys.

This year we added a "Genre Challenge" to our reading program designed to attract those in grades 4-6. Participants were asked to read one book from each of seven categories. Those who completed the challenge were invited to an end of Summer Pizza Party, sponsored by the Friends of the Library. This proved popular with both children and their parents and met our goals of offering something specifically for older children.

Librarians offered the following weekly story programs for young children: Book Babies, for children 24 months and under; Storytime for 2's and 3's; and a Story-Craft for children ages 4 and 5. Total attendance at these popular programs was 3,392 and is consistent with last year's numbers; however, numbers for the 4-and- 5 year olds dropped slightly. This can be attributed to the full day kindergarten, limiting the number of 5-year-olds who could attend. Storytime sessions for the 2- and 3- year olds were again offered at both 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. to allow us to reach more people and keep the Flett Room from becoming overcrowded. The weekly Friday Playtimes, first begun in 2003, continued. The Jane Gray Dustan Trust continues to fund the always popular Sing-alongs of Julie Goetze and Liz Buchanan, who each perform monthly at the Main Library.

We again offered a monthly storytime for children in kindergarten through grade 2, running from September through May. Total attendance was good at 111, but still lower than our expectations. The Book Discussion for children in grades 4-6 remains popular with both girls and boys.

During the school year, the Jane Gray Dustan Trust made possible the following special programs: Magic Carpet Craft as part of One Book, One Belmont, Family Scrapbooking as part of Belmont Unplugged, The Legend of King Arthur for spring recess, and a Sing-Along with Jeannie Mack to celebrate Halloween.

The children's room celebrated National Library Week in a unique way this year. From April 14 - April 18, the children's librarians, sponsored ongoing bookmark-making for all visitors to the children's room. This drop-in craft proved extremely popular. In addition, 50 popular books were marked as "winners" in the computer; patrons who happened to check out one of these special books won a coupon for ice cream, compliments of Rancatore's Ice Cream.

A new offering this fall was our Mandarin-English Storytime. This program for preschoolers occurred one Saturday per month from September through December. Under the direction of Denise Shaver, two Belmont High School students, Angela Lai and Annie Yang, led the program. They read books in English, simultaneously translating them into Chinese. They also led the group in popular Chinese children's songs. This storytime was attended by a total of sixty-six parents and children.

Technical Services

During 2008 several thousand items (books, periodicals, audiovisuals, etc.) were processed. 8,738 items were added to the collection and 14,165 items were withdrawn due to the weeding projects in the adult and children's departments.

Technical Services staff continued the reclassification and re-labeling of various sections of the Library's book collection. Special projects included re-labeling the DVD collection and converting the loan periods for TV DVD series to two weeks in response to patrons' requests.

Benton Branch

Throughout 2008 the Benton Branch was open on Wednesdays from 1-6 p.m. Corinne Chan, Meg O'Brien, and Judy Mohnkern staffed the open hours, processed reserves and book requests, weeded and ordered materials for the branch.

The Book Discussion Group met every other month as it has for the past eleven years. In January, as part of the *One Book One Belmont* community read, the group discussed *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson and Oliver Relin. The group discussions then focused on books written by Nobel Prize authors such as South Africa's *Disgrace* by J. M. Coetzee and *The Pickup* by Nadine Gordimer.

In 2006, the Trustees decided to close Benton, but community support for the branch changed their plan to one of reduced hours (Wednesdays 1 – 6 p.m.). The goal was to monitor the use of the branch and to give the community time to engage in fund-raising to help pay for branch operations. On October 21, the Trustees held an open community forum and listened to community members talk about the importance of Benton to the neighborhood, and share fond memories of childhood visits to the library. At a special meeting on October 30, the Trustees voted to close the Benton Branch due to financial pressures and limited use. They also discussed helping the neighborhood work with the Board of Selectmen to find another community use for the building. Closing the branch was a difficult decision for the Trustees to make knowing how important it was to the neighborhood.



The last scheduled day for the Benton Library was December 31 but a snowstorm on that day forced the closure of both the main and branch libraries. Benton's last open day was therefore Wednesday, January 7, 2009. The building housing the Benton branch was a gift to the town for use as a library for twenty-five years. It will now revert to Town supervision.

Meetings and Volunteers

The library's meeting rooms were heavily booked in 2008. The library hosted 668 programs and meetings with 18,715 people in attendance. Of these events, 329 programs were sponsored by the library, with 10,534 people attending.

Belmont was host to the Legislative Breakfast on Friday, March 14. The breakfast is held to garner the support of our state representatives and senators for the passing of the requests for additional state funding for library services. Em Claire Knowles, Assistant Dean at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons and the then-current chair of the Board of Library Commissions was the featured guest speaker. As part of the program, two Belmont residents, Laurie Graham and Katharine MacPhail, shared their stories of why libraries are so important to them. There were sixty people, seven representatives and one senator in attendance. Representative Brownsberger also spoke in support of libraries and complimented the Belmont Board of Library Trustees and Director for all their hard work.

The library Director and Trustees attended Meet Belmont and registered new residents for library cards and distributed "Libraries Build Community" bags filled with informational brochures, program flyers and bookmarks. The evening was held at the high school and was well attended.

Volunteers performed essential services to the library and community by shelving books, making home deliveries, giving book reviews at "Books and Bites," and indexing the Belmont Citizen-Herald obituaries from 1945. Twenty-four adult volunteers gave a total of 1,142 hours to the library. Thirty-four high school students, most of whom used their hours toward fulfilling the community service requirement for graduation and some who worked toward service awards, gave 432 hours shelving books, decorating the Young Adult Room, teaching computer skills in the Cyberteen summer workshops and helping with clerical tasks.

The library is fortunate to have the support of many community groups, most notably the Friends of the Library, the Belmont Library Foundation, the Rotary Club, the Garden Club, the Wildflower Garden Committee and the Historical Society.

The Friends of the Library continued to provide strong support for library programs, especially *One Book One Belmont*. Jennifer Altshuler coordinated the Author Series which featured Linda Greenberg discussing her book *No Fleas on Us: Animal Shelter Tales*, and Kenneth Gloss of the Brattle Book Shop. The Annual Book Sale in October was very successful and provided a wonderful selection of books to buyers. The Friends' Everyday Book Sale in the lobby of the library continues to do well. The Friends continued to fund the library's newsletter, the *Bugle* and the library's popular museum pass program; in 2008, discount passes to the Institute of Contemporary Art were added to the generous array of museum passes offered to Belmont residents with a Minuteman Library Network card. The passes were used 2,288 times during the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Hal Shubin, Chairman

CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Cultural Council did not submit a 2008 Annual Report.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC) serves at the request of the Board of Selectmen but also acts as an advisor to specific Town departments and other Town committees on an as-needed basis. In this capacity, ITAC provides guidance on a variety of information technology (IT) issues. The Committee concerns itself with matters of information delivery; ensuring access to appropriate communications technology; increasing the efficiency of transactions involving the Town departments; and working to ensure the proper deployment of infrastructure and technology for the Town departments and citizenry. In addition, ITAC provides, as necessary, strategic IT planning advice for the Town's departments and committees.

Changes in Membership

The ITAC consists of 9 members, 4 of whom are appointed by the Board of Selectmen, 4 of whom are appointed by the School Committee, and 1 of whom is appointed by the Board of Trustees of the Belmont Public Library. In April, Ray Hanna was appointed by the Library to replace David Rich who resigned to take a post on the Library Board of Trustees. In May, Elizabeth Firenze resigned her seat on the committee. In April, Philip Lawrence took the role of Co-Chair replacing Elizabeth Firenze. In September, Karen Polvino was appointed by the School Committee. As of 12/31/2007, committee members were Philip Lawrence (Co-Chair), James Berets (Co-Chair), David Goldberg (Secretary/Clerk), Daniel Ellard, Jonathan Green, Ray Hanna, Matthew McGovern, Karen Polvino, and Charles Smart.

Summary of Activities

ITAC meeting participants also included Dr. Lee McCanne, Director of Technology, Belmont Public Schools (who resigned in July), and now includes Mr. Stephen Mazzola, Director of Technology, Belmont Public Schools (who replaced Dr. Lee McCanne); Mr. David Petto, Manager of Information Technology, Town of Belmont; and Mr. John Bowe, Chairman of the Belmont School Committee. Mr. Mazzola and Mr. Petto regularly update the Committee on Information Technology issues facing the school system and Town respectively, and solicit feedback on issues of concern. The broad perspective and technically diverse background of the committee members provide Mr. Mazzola and Mr. Petto with information and resources to assist them with their projects as well as relating Town and School needs and projects to non-governmental and non-educational implementations.

The committee met seven times over the year to discuss the progress and status of many of the Town and School's key Information Technology initiatives. Some of those initiatives included:

- Server Virtualization and Network Based Storage implementation
- Fiber Redundancy plans
- MUNIS implementation progress
- The integration of Geographic Information Systems into Town processes
- Smart-boards
- High School Foreign Language Lab
- Municipal Wireless Taskforce
- Internet Safety
- Town Telephone System Configurations

ITAC engaged in discussions regarding a town-wide coordinated effort to promote internet safety. While these discussions are ongoing, it is hoped that a common set of resources and a coordinated message will be enabled.

ITAC has made recommendations for the use of the MUNIS system and continues to monitor its successful implementation.

ITAC has reviewed and provided input to the Town/School's efforts to save money by server virtualization.

ITAC monitors the status of plans for the separation of Town/School/BMLD network separation. ITAC recommended that Service Level Agreements be put in place to make explicit the expectations for all participants with respect to the quality of services and shared responsibilities. This is expected to reduce the need for separation of the network and reduce associated costs. However, ITAC recommends a separation of School and Town information technology where this separation can save in licensing costs and provides an appropriate division of labor.

In addition, ITAC continues to monitor the status of the "Old Light Building", 450 Concord Ave. and the effects of any plans for the Town's disposition of said property. A major piece of the Town's network is housed in this building. Relocating the infrastructure in the building would entail a multi-year plan.

Respectfully submitted,
Philip Lawrence, Co-Chairman
James Berets, Co-Chairman

RECREATION COMMISSION

The Belmont Recreation Department provides an opportunity for each of the Town's residents to participate in an enjoyable activity during their leisure while also promoting fitness and a healthy lifestyle. The Department sponsored programs are selected, organized and staffed with the objective of providing appealing programs to satisfy the diverse interest of local citizens. The Department provides a comprehensive and balanced recreation program by:

1. Offering public recreation programs for all ages.
2. Sponsoring special event and special interest programs.
3. Assisting community groups in recreation oriented activities.
4. Assisting in the maintenance of public playground and recreation areas and facilities.

In presenting our accomplishments of 2008 and our thoughts for the future, our areas of interest will be:

- A. Areas, Facilities and Maintenance
- B. Recreation Programs
- C. Long Range Planning

A. AREAS, FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE

The Recreation Department continued to work closely with the Department of Public Works to implement needed improvements at the Town's playgrounds, athletic fields and recreation facilities.

The Higginbottom Pool at Belmont High School is maintained by the Belmont School Department and provides space for all of the Recreation Department's swimming programs and time for residents to enjoy swimming for pleasure and exercise. The pool is the home location for our Dolphins swim team and the location of our children's swimming lessons programs. We are grateful for the staff at Belmont High School who works closely with us to maintain a quality facility for residents to enjoy throughout the year.

The Wenner Field House at Belmont High School is home to most of our adult programs during the week and is utilized by residents on a regular basis. Basketball, volleyball, soccer, weight training and exercise programs are all available throughout the school year.

The Vigliolo Skating rink is used from November through March for our recreation hockey programs, offered for all ages and skill levels. It is also the home rink for the Belmont Youth Hockey Association and BHS teams. Skating lessons for ages 3 and over are available for 14 weeks during the winter months.



The Underwood Pool continues to be the coolest spot in Town during the summer months. Some maintenance was done at this facility which significantly improved the pool surface and cosmetic work was completed in the bathhouse and grounds to improve the overall appearance at the pool. The staff from the DPW does an outstanding job to keep this historical facility operational. New equipment was purchased to improve the appearance of the grounds and to offer better observation areas for the lifeguarding staff. The Parents of Dolphins Swimmers (PODS) generously donated picnic tables and umbrellas for residents to relax comfortably around the pool and to provide some much needed shaded space.

Field use is at an extremely high level with more and more youth sports needing space. Thank you to all of

these groups for their contributions. The quality condition of these fields is made possible in part by donations from youth groups, including Belmont Soccer Association, Second Soccer Association, Belmont Youth Baseball and Belmont Youth Lacrosse groups and again, maintained beautifully by DPW staff. Goosebuster permits are available to residents and their dogs to enjoy the fields and to keep the pesky geese at bay.

B. RECREATION PROGRAMS

SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAMS

Recreation programs sponsored by the Playground or Recreation Commission, during the School Year are divided into the following categories:

- Children's Programs
- Teen Programs
- Adult Programs
- James "Skip" Viglirolo Ice Skating Facility
- Field House and Indoor Pool Complex
- Special Needs Programs

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Conley League Baseball

The Conley League Baseball program again provided an opportunity for all Belmont youngsters ages 5 - 12 to participate in organized baseball this spring. No players sit on the bench in this program, offering players of all skill levels the opportunity to play. The Department appreciates the volunteer assistance of parents who generously donate their time and experience to coach and umpire. The Department provides baseball caps and T-shirts for all of the players in the League. The program is open to all Belmont children not in the Little League Baseball Program. Games are played at the Belmont Hill School fields thanks to the generosity of the Belmont Hill School.

Conley League Softball

This weeknight program is held at the Washington Street and Winn Brook playgrounds. Girls ages 6 - 12 enjoy this program, which includes instruction on the fundamentals of the sport and a full schedule of games. Parent volunteers who coordinate and coach this program are a true asset to the Recreation Department. T-shirts and caps are provided for all of the players in the league.

Conley League Middle School Softball

This weeknight program is held at Washington Street and Concord Avenue fields and includes girls in grades 5 through 8. A full schedule of games was completed during May and June. The Department provided tee shirts for all of the players in the program.

Youth T-Ball

This popular program for young boys and girls is growing with each season. This, its 15th consecutive season was its biggest yet. Open to children 4 and 5 years old, games are held at the Wellington School Playground and the Payson Park Playground. The basic fundamentals of batting and base running are provided with the use of special batting tees. Caps and T-shirts were provided to all of the children who participated. Thanks and appreciation to all of the parents who volunteer their time and effort.

Vacation Week Specials

During the major school vacations, the Department sponsors a full schedule of varied activity. Additional afternoon hours at the Skating Rink and Wenner Field House are offered. Sports programs are offered through New England Sports, Inc. and are held in conjunction with Watertown at the Hosmer School in Watertown.

TEENAGE PROGRAMS

Saturday Night Ski Program

The Nashoba Valley Ski Program offered by the Department continues to be one of the most popular teenage activities in Belmont. Six buses of Belmont teenagers traveled to Nashoba Valley each Saturday evening for the first six weeks of the year. Over two hundred boys and girls were registered for the program of skiing, snowboarding and instruction. The Department thanks all of the parents who volunteer to chaperone these trips each season.

Snow Tubing at Nashoba Valley

Over seventy Belmont teens and young adults journeyed to Nashoba Valley Ski Area for a night of fun on their fabulous snow tubing trails. This annual outing continues to grow in popularity each year.

Lifeguard & Water Safety Instructor Training

These important training programs offer an opportunity for the Department to maintain the highest quality on our lifeguarding and teaching staff. Opportunities for teens to obtain employment throughout their high school and college careers are made possible through these programs. We are fortunate to have Sara Varella work with us in these programs. Sara is certified through the American Red Cross for lifeguard training, water safety instructor, CPR and AED training. Sara also works with our staff throughout the year by conducting emergency drills and re-certifying our staff on an annual basis.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Volleyball

This popular recreation sport continued to be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings as part of the Field House program. The Field House Supervisor organizes informal games among those in attendance. The competition is friendly and players look forward to these games each week.

Sculpting, Strengthening and Aerobics

Classes are designed to meet the needs of all levels! Using weights, bands, balls and your own body, participants develop aerobic endurance, muscular strength and endurance, a strong/supple core, as well as flexibility and body awareness. Each class includes an aerobic warm up, cardio section (dance and athletic movement), weight work, balance training, and abdominals. Class concludes with a final stretch and relaxation. Through practice with proper form and breathing techniques you learn to deepen the mind body connection and improve all aspects of your health! Classes meet Monday and Wednesday evenings in the Belmont High School Upper Gym and are led by certified trainer Louise Cocuzzo.

Adult Soccer League

Added this year, this program provides the opportunity for adults to play all year. Played at the Wenner Field House and at the Burbank School, this has proved to be a popular addition to the Recreation Department's programs.

Pick Up Basketball

The Field House Supervisor organizes games Monday through Wednesday evenings at the Field House. These games continue to be very popular and fun for everyone.

Women's Bowling League

The Department continued to co-sponsor a morning candlepin-bowling league for Belmont women and their friends from neighboring communities. Now in its 44th consecutive year, a large enrollment continued for this weekly program held at the Lanes and Games Bowling Center on Concord Turnpike.

Benefits for Belmont Seniors

The Recreation Department offers Belmont Seniors, aged 65+ memberships at no charge to enjoy all the Dept.'s facilities throughout the year. Many seniors enjoy the quiet time at the skating rink during the early afternoon and the lap swimming offered at the Higginbottom Pool.

JAMES "SKIP" VIGLIROLO SKATING RINK

Special Events

Two family skating parties were held this year. In November we held a benefit for the Belmont Food Pantry. Disc Jockey Vinny O'Connell donated his time and talent to the event which helped to raise awareness and lots of donations for Belmont's Pantry. Music selections ranged from top 40 to Cotton Eyed Joe. Even got a little line dancing going in the stands. The Chicken Dance on ice was a little challenging for some but lots of fun.



The following merchants donated raffle prizes for the event: Belmont Toys, Champions Sporting Goods, Nick's II Pizza and Seafood, CVS—Belmont Center, Brother's Pizza, Brine's Sporting Goods, Studio Cinema, Wheel Works, Gregory's House of Pizza, Shaw's Supermarket—Belmont and A Chocolate Dream. Raffle ticket sales were high and all proceeds benefited the Food Pantry. John Madden, operator of the snack bar at the rink donated bottomless cups of hot chocolate for the event. Belmont Youth Hockey made a very generous donation to the Food Pantry, presented by Doug McLaughlin and Larry Christofori, to Bill McKenney, Director and Stephanie King, Recreation Commission Chair.

The popularity of that event prompted another family skating night, this time featuring Oldies music. Vinny O'Connell spun records and had the whole crowd doing the YMCA dance on ice. We welcome the opportunity to continue providing this kind of family event for all Belmont residents.

Child Beginner Skating Instruction

Two seven week sessions of beginner and advanced lessons for children grades K through 4 are held on Saturday mornings. Children are taught the fundamentals of skating in this class and earn badges as part of the U.S.F.S.A. program. Membership in the U.S.F.S.A. is a part of this program.

Pre-School Instruction

These classes were held on Saturday mornings or Tuesday afternoons at the rink. Basic instruction for boys and girls ages 3-4 is provided. The focus is on fun and learning to love the sport.

Teen and Adult Lessons

These classes, held on Sunday evenings offer an opportunity for young and older adults to learn the basics or improve their skills in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. No pressure and fun for everyone. Many parents and children enjoy this time together.

Figure Skate Lessons

This class allows more serious, advanced skaters the opportunity to improve their ice skating skills and figure skating techniques.

Recreation Hockey

This 18 week program, held on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings, provides instruction in the fundamentals of the game to boys and girls ages 4 and over. This is one of the programs that benefits from valuable volunteer assistance throughout the season. The Saturday program focuses on learning to skate and learning to play hockey with youngsters divided by age and skill level. The Sunday program is for more advanced players to improve their skills and have valuable practice time.

The Department once again co-sponsored an Annual Invitational Tournament, the Belmont Mite Holiday Classic, during the Christmas vacation week. Large crowds were in attendance at the skating Facility to enjoy the action.



The season ends with a family cookout and the presentation of Memorial Awards. These include the Duncan Lyons Memorial, the Frank D. Napoli Memorial, the Richard Leonard Memorial Trophy, the Richard Pomer Memorial Trophy, and the Richard Fitzgerald Memorial. Youngsters are chosen for these awards by the supervisors based on their improvement, team play and good sportsmanship. All youngsters in the program received a souvenir hockey medal. We especially would like to acknowledge our coordinators for volunteering their time and expertise to this program. Dan Kelleher, for running the Sunday morning program for so many years. Rick Chruciell joined the staff this year to coordinate the

Saturday program. Thanks to him and his staff of high school players for their efforts.

Women's Hockey League

This program continued on Sunday evenings at the rink and is proving to be very popular with registration increasing each year. Belmont High School Coach Mark Haley offers his time and talent to work with this group.

Adult Hockey

The Recreation No-Check Hockey Program continued to be a big draw this season. Adult men meet Monday evenings throughout the season for fun, friendly competition and exercise. A new addition this year is the Senior Hockey League which meets 3 mornings a week for adults 50 years and over.

Vacation Ice Skating

During the major school vacations the Department schedules public sessions of ice skating, mostly during the weekday afternoons. These sessions offer the opportunity for a safe activity for children or families and continue to be well attended.

FIELD HOUSE & INDOOR POOL COMPLEX

The Department sponsors a wide variety of recreational programming at the Wenner Field House and Higginbottom Swimming Pool at Belmont High School. The Field House and fitness room are open on week nights during the school year and the Higginbottom Pool is utilized for lessons, practices or public swimming. The facilities at the High School have fulfilled the "Community School" concept through this programming. Thursday's Family Night/Open Gym continues to be extremely well attended at the Field House. The following programs are offered at the pool.

Lap Swimming

Lap swimming for all ages continues giving the opportunity for competitive swimmers to keep in shape. This time also offers the chance for people to swim for enjoyment and therapeutic exercise.

Adult Swim

This public swimming session is set aside for use by adults who like to enjoy some quiet time at the pool. These sessions are generally less crowded than other public swimming times.

Public Swim

Public Swimming sessions are held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, Saturday and Sunday afternoons, offering an enjoyable and healthy activity for Belmont families.

Parent/Toddler Swim Lessons

Children 18 months to 4 years old and their parents participate in several guided practice sessions with a focus of building a foundation for future instruction. Bubble blowing, kicking and underwater exploration is introduced. This program offers a fun bonding experience for children and their parents.

Children's Instruction

Swimming instruction for children in American Red Cross Levels 2 through 7 is offered throughout the school year. Experienced and certified instructors work with children in small class groups to ensure maximum benefit and growth as they progress through the levels.

Competitive Swimming (Belmont Dolphins Swim Team)

The Recreation Department sponsors the Belmont Dolphins Swim Team, a competitive swim team that is part of the Middlesex League. Instruction in all of the basic competitive swim strokes is practiced and a series of swim meets are held throughout the fall and winter. One hundred forty one boys and girls participated on this team in 2007-08. Emphasis is on working as part of a team as well as personal achievement. We are fortunate to have a well qualified, dedicated coaching staff to work with the team. Parents are an important part of the success of this program, volunteering their time and effort at swim meets and hosting an annual banquet for swimmers. Thank you PODS (Parents of Dolphin Swimmers)

Wenner Field House

Adults utilize the facilities for a variety of activities including jogging, walking, weight lifting, basketball, volleyball, handball, paddleball and exercising. It can also be used for participation in the Basketball League and the Fitness and Aerobics classes. The Field House and Fitness Room continued to be a popular center for recreational activity for adults throughout the season.



Special Needs Programs

The Belmont S.P.O.R.T. (Special Programs Organized for Recreation Time) Program had another very successful year. Activities that included competitive and non-competitive sports training with the option of Special Olympics competition, as well as art and social programs, drew participants of all ages. Growth continued in all of our programs, especially in social programs, as well as in programs that offered lessons in various sports, such as swimming and skating.



Overall, Special Olympics training and competition continued to involve the largest percent of S.P.O.R.T. participants. Individual and team sports welcomed athletes of all ability levels in our year round program. The Belmont S.P.O.R.T. Program proudly continues to send the largest delegations of athletes, coaches and volunteers to all state events. Congratulations to our own Mike Finlay who won a GOLD medal this year in the Special Olympics ice skating competition in Boise, Idaho.

Social events and other noncompetitive activities offered participants further opportunities for recreation and personal growth. Friday night social events included movies, outings to Boston, a holiday mystery ride to view festive lighting displays, a variety of restaurants, plays, local sporting events and much more.

Younger children continued to enroll in both our swimming and skating lessons, bowling and other activities. While many of our older participants continue moving into group homes in Belmont, they are now bringing their housemates to many of our social programs, as well as other activities.

S.P.O.R.T. participants and their families enjoyed a long weekend in New York City. While there they enjoyed the final run of A Chorus Line, Broadway's longest running musical. They also enjoyed a horse and buggy ride through Central Park. Families relaxed, shopped and simply enjoyed each other's company in the Big Apple.

Belmont Shaw's generously sponsored another basketball scrimmage and pizza party, where Shaw's employees played against S.P.O.R.T. athletes. These good neighbors continue to be one of our strongest supporters.

The success of the S.P.O.R.T. Program continues to be an attribute to a caring and supportive community. Timeless and tireless commitments from dedicated volunteers remain our greatest asset. Resources from local civic organizations and merchants further enhance our program. The S.P.O.R.T. program is truly grateful to everyone in the community for supporting special needs recreation.

SUMMER PROGRAMS

“Kids” And Pre-School Summer Day Programs

These two programs were held at the Burbank School. Seven one-week sessions were offered with the option of full or half day attendance. The Pre School Program is for children ages 4 through entering kindergarten and “KIDS” is for children entering 1st grade through age 8.

The summer of 2008 we were pleased to be able to offer swimming lessons as a part of this program. Children were transported by van for their lessons and then returned for a full day of activities.

A variety of activities, planned by director David Blake and Assistant Directors Sharon Howell, Debbie Giordano and Kathleen Kennedy included arts and crafts, fitness, sports and special events. A weekly trip to the Underwood Pool for a morning of swimming was enjoyed by all of the children who attended. These long-running, popular children’s programs continue to be a positive summer experience for Belmont children.

Summer Sports Programs/Clinics

A full schedule of instructional sport programs were once again held during the summer. These long running, popular programs are held for boys and girls ages 7-14 at Belmont High School. Local college age and high school athletes serve as instructors at these programs and many of the high school coaches directed their respective sports. This year’s schedule featured four weeks of tennis, three weeks of basketball, two weeks each of soccer and Junior soccer and one week of field hockey. Participants enjoy a full day of sports from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a lunch break that includes swimming at the B.H.S. indoor pool.

Pre-Teen Program

This popular program, held at Belmont High School for boys and girls ages 8-12, was very successful and was held for seven weeks this summer. The program was led by Staci Marino, Debbie Giordano and Lyndsay Freeman and offered a wide variety of daily activities. “Field Trip Thursdays” included visits to Lake Cochituate, Fenway Park, the Omni Theatre at Boston’s Museum of Science, Kimballs Amusement Center in Westford and a day of bowling and arcade fun at Lanes and Games in Cambridge.

Underwood Swimming Pool

Director Lorraine Benoit and her staff of lifeguards and instructors supervised a full schedule, featuring day, evening and week-end hours from mid-June through Labor Day weekend. Caring and experienced instructors offer swimming lessons to children ages 2 and over. These lessons continue to be well-attended and offer children a positive learning experience. The management team at the Underwood Pool conducts training sessions and emergency drills throughout the season to ensure the quality of staff and safety of residents and guests.



Adult Tennis Instruction

Two sessions of tennis instruction for beginners and intermediates were held in July and August at the High School Courts and were very well attended. These classes are a fun and informal way to be introduced to the game or to improve your skills.

Indoor Swimming

The Higginbottom Pool at Belmont High School was utilized for indoor swimming on evenings during the summer months. Special hours were allocated for family and adult swimming sessions on Monday through Thursday evenings.

Adult Softball League

The Department continued to sponsor two Men’s Slow-Pitch Softball Leagues in 2008. BNB swept the A League Championship over CFN and OPG won the AA League Title with a 3 games to 1 victory over Donahue’s.

C. LONG RANGE PLANNING

The Department will continue to support local youth groups by assisting them in every way possible including scheduling, publicity and much more. We will continue to expand programming to accommodate the needs and wants of residents.

The acquisition of the programs from the former Youth Commission will provide us an opportunity to reach even more residents and provide alternative activities for teens in Town. The Youth Center at the Butler School will be open most Friday nights throughout the school year with special events and dances as well as a safe haven for middle school aged children.

March Unplugged events will serve as an opportunity to allow families to re-connect without all the electronic gadgets that have become such a part of our everyday lives.

In cooperation with the Belmont Dare program and Dare, Inc. we will provide early release programs at the Studio Cinema for elementary and middle school children as well as the year end barbecue at Belmont High School.

We will work to improve the collaborative relationship we have with the Belmont School Department and the Department of Public Works to utilize areas and spaces efficiently and safely.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie King, Chairman

Staff:

William D. McKenney, Director, June Howell, Program Supervisor, Jennifer Floyd, Program Coordinator, Susan Weiner, Special Needs Program Coordinator, Ernest D'Agnelli, Summer Programs Coordinator