

**MINUTES  
TOWN OF BELMONT  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM  
Monday, February 2, 2009  
7:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order in open session at 7:06 by Chairman Firenze in the Selectmen's meeting room. Selectman Leclerc was present; Selectman Jones was not. Town Administrator Tom Younger and Assistant Town Administrator Jeff Conti were also present.

Chair Firenze expressed the Board's condolences on the death of Selectman Jones' mother.

**QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS**

There were none.

**ACTION BY APPOINTMENT**

**Renewal of Licenses**

Chair Firenze reviewed the names of the establishments up for license review: Belmont Pizza, Kashish, Rancatore's Ice Cream, and TNT Service Corp. Mr. Younger noted that TNT Service Corp needs to pay taxes.

*The Board moved:* To renew the licenses of Belmont Pizza, Kashish, and Rancatore's Ice Cream.

The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

TNT Service Corp. will be reviewed once the taxes are paid.

**Municipal Vehicle Policy Discussion**

Mr. Younger noted that there are presently nine take-home vehicles for Belmont. As of July 2009, this number will be reduced to six take-home vehicles. The Board discussed take-home vehicle guidelines. Take-home vehicles are a form of compensation. The Board's preference is that the vehicles not leave the town. Selectman Leclerc asked about the insurance coverage of said vehicles. The Board decided to discuss this issue in more detail at a future meeting.

**Town Administrator's Report**

Mr. Younger reported on the following items:

- Snow Plow Rate Reduction – Mr. Younger thanked the French Snow Plow Company for their rate reduction. The current rates have been scaled back to the 2007 rates as a result of the price of fuel coming down.
- VFW Lease – Feb. 5th is the final date by which the VFW may sign their lease. If they don't sign their lease, the Board of Selectmen has the right to take the building. The building is owned by the VFW and the town leases to the VFW the land on which the building sits. It would be difficult to sell the building as it is on town-owned land. Chair Firenze asked Mr. Younger to check in with Mr. Monahan regarding the lease.
- Shoveling Town Sidewalks – The Board discussed legal and liability issues relating to the shoveling of town sidewalks.

### **Incinerator Site**

*The Board moved:* That the Town of Belmont officially request that the Department of Capital Asset Management provide an unrestricted deed for the incinerator site that was conveyed to the town for use as an incinerator site and another parcel conveyed as a potential cemetery site.  
The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

Chair Firenze noted that the deed needs to be clearly documented to the town.

### **Town Administrator's Report (*continued*)**

Mr. Younger also reported on the following items:

- Benton Branch Library – This will be discussed when Selectman Jones is present.
- Our Lady Present Senior Center – The Council on Aging (COA) Director has proposed that the Senior Center move out of the Our Lady of Mercy site to temporary lodgings at the back of the high school. The proposal is to do this when the lease is up at the end of March. The Senior Center programs will be suspended until the new Senior Center is up and running.
- Cushing Village plans – Chair Firenze has looked at the latest plans. He does not think these plans were consistent with the Cushing Village vision.
- Shade Tree Committee – The Board received a note from Ms. Laura Simmons regarding the loss of two members. The appointment of members will be discussed at a future Board meeting.

### **Belmont Farmer Market – Use of Parking Lot**

Ms. Heli Tomford and members from the Belmont Farmer's Market (FM) appeared before the Board to discuss the use of the parking lot during Farmer's Market hours. Ms. Tomford said that the Farmer's Market is requesting permission to continue operating as they have the last three years in utilizing the North End Street section of the Cross Street parking lot. Mr. Younger noted the financial impact to the town as a result of not utilizing 20 spaces for 21 weeks. The lost income amounts to \$1,200 in lost parking revenue. The DPW labor cost for 1 hour day for 21 Thursdays totals \$640.00. Ms. Tomford noted that the FM has offered to pay for those spaces and will offer to pay for the labor costs, as well. We have not wanted to be a financial burden to the town in any way, she said. However, the FM would like the support that other towns receive from their town governments. We would like permission and Board's support to use signs during the FM season. The Board discussed town by-laws (as voted on by Town Meeting) that relate to the signs policy in town. Chair Firenze: This Board must support the town by-laws; by-laws can't be enforced selectively. Mr. Younger asked for a copy of sign sites including location preferences and desired dates that the FM is interested in. Maybe a compromise can be reached, he said. Mr. Younger and Ms. Tomford will work out the details of the sign locations and dates.

*The Board moved:* To give the Farmer's Market permission to conduct business (starting in June) for same dates and location that they have used in the past. The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

Chair Firenze said a financial donation to the town to defray the costs associated with running the FM would be gratefully accepted.

### **Executive Session**

The Board moved to enter in executive session at 8:21pm to discuss a litigation issue. The Board will not return to open session.

*(During executive session, one substantive motion was made and passed unanimously (2-0). The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.)*

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Thomas G. Younger, Town Administrator