

BELMONT WARRANT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MAY 14, 2012, 7:30 P.M.
BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL

Present: Chair Allison; Members Baghdady, Becker, Dash, Grob, Lynch, Manjikian, McLaughlin, Millane, Sarno; School Committee Representative Slap

Members Absent: Epstein, Jones, and McHugh

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chair Allison.

Review of draft: "WC votes and key points" on Warrant articles

The document summarizing key considerations in Warrant Committee votes on articles to be considered at both the annual town meeting (ATM) and the special town meeting (STM) were discussed. A correction was made in the vote re the SPED stabilization fund and several points were clarified.

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Discussion of Warrant Articles

Members Baghdady, McLaughlin, and Allison who had attended the meeting at which the BOS took final votes on warrant articles, reported that the BOS had voted to support the WC amendment on the town clerk salary (Article 5) by a vote of 2-1. Chair Allison reported that the major concern had been whether the WC would support salary recommendations based on the major pay survey proposed for FY2013.

Although no formal vote was taken, the sense of the meeting was that the WC would commit to supporting the results of this survey if three conditions were met: 1) that the towns used in the comparison were comparable as defined by some objective criteria and that enough towns were included to make the results statistically reliable (a minimum of 10), 2) core job responsibilities were match, so that we were looking at "apples to apples" comparisons, and 3) there was agreement that the median (rather than the mean) was the appropriate point of comparison. Chair Allison noted that there appeared to be agreement among the Selectmen that market comparisons rather than internal point rating systems should be emphasized for senior positions where comparable positions in other towns could be readily identified.

Approval of Minutes for May 9, 2012

The minutes of 5/9/12 were approved.

Adjournment

Member McLaughlin moved to adjourn at 9:14 pm.

Submitted by Bill Lynch, Vice Chair, Warrant Committee