



**Minutes of the
Town of Belmont
Warrant Committee Meeting
Wednesday, November 29, 2022
5:30pm**

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DATE: January 3, 2023
TIME: 11:11 AM

To view the recording of the meeting, please click [HERE](#).

Call to Order: Mr. Lubien called the meeting to order at 5:31pm.

Member	Present	Member	Present
Geoffrey Lubien, Chair	Yes	Conor McEachern	Absent
Paul Rickter, Vice-Chair	Yes	Robert McLaughlin	Yes
Elizabeth Dionne, Secretary	Yes	Lynn Peterson Read	Yes
William Anderson	Yes	Laurie Slap	Yes
Tom Caputo	Yes	Matthew Taylor	Yes
Christine Doyle	Yes	Marie Warner	Yes
Anne Helgen	Yes	Jack Weis	Yes
Staff		Mark Paolillo, Ex-officio Designee - Select Board	Yes
Patrice Garvin, Town Administrator	Yes	Michael Crowley, Ex-officio, School Committee	Yes
Jennifer Hewitt, Assistant Town Administrator & Finance Manager	Yes		

Review any matters requiring attention prior to Town Meeting.

Town Meeting 1, Article 2, Appropriation Belmont Library, Authorization to Borrow: Mr. Lubien displayed the final language for this article. The amount to be approved for borrowing is \$34,500,000 for the design, build, and components of the new library. Mr. Lubien outlined the impact of the \$5,000,000 in funds raised.

Ms. Helgen asked if there was discussion/agreement about how any additional funds over the \$5,000,000 that might be raised will be applied. Mr. Lubien said that the Library Building Committee has committed to applying additional funds to the cost of the project as is, which will lower the amount borrowed. They will present on this at the Town Meeting.

Ms. Warner asked if there is an option to say a smaller amount could be borrowed. Mr. Lubien said they are authorizing a ceiling, so, if less borrowing is needed less will be borrowed. There was a discussion of this and under what conditions the building might be less expensive to build and how the borrowing would be done.

Mr. Anderson said he believes there is a significant opportunity for the library to come in under the \$34.5 million due to the contingencies built into the price.

Ms. Dionne asked Mr. McLaughlin to outline how the High School Building Committee oversaw the costs of the building. Mr. McLaughlin explained that the library project is structured differently than the high school (including oversight from the Massachusetts School Building Authority) and explained the difference. Ms. Dionne explained how the Community Preservation Committee approaches project estimates, which was discussed.

There was a discussion of the various costs, contingencies, and unknowns with the project.

Ms. Helgen said she believes that the money covers moving costs, alternative site costs, etc. and suggested that the Library Building Committee be asked about this. Mr. Lubien said he believes these costs are embedded in the overall cost.

Motion: Ms. Helgen moved approval of the Special Town Meeting 1, Article 2, Appropriation Belmont Library, Authorization to Borrow. Ms. Dionne seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Approve minutes (if any), including all outstanding subcommittee or working group minutes.

October 12, 2022: Ms. Helgen said she is referred to as Mr. Helgen on line 37.

Motion: Ms. Doyle moved to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2022 Warrant Committee meeting as amended. Mr. Rickter seconded, and the motion passed by roll call vote with Mr. Caputo and Ms. Warner abstaining.

October 26, 2022: Ms. Dionne corrected the turnback number on line 95 and changed the start of line 109 to "A Committee Member".

Motion: Ms. Dionne moved to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2022 Warrant Committee meeting as amended and giving Chair Lubien authority to make clerical corrections. Mr. McLaughlin seconded, and the motion passed by roll call vote with Ms. Slap and Ms. Warner abstaining.

November 2, 2022: Ms. Dionne corrected line 52 to read "...only one bid was received which was....".

Motion: Ms. Dionne moved to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2022 Warrant Committee meeting as amended. Mr. McLaughlin seconded, and the motion passed by roll call vote with Ms. Helgen abstaining.

November 9, 2022: The start time was identified as 8:10pm and the finish time was indicated as 9:50pm, with note about the reason for the late start added to the beginning of the minutes.

Motion: Mr. Rickter moved to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2022 Warrant Committee meeting as amended. Ms. Helgen seconded, and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Public Comment – there was no public comment.

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. McLaughlin moved to adjourn the meeting of the Warrant Committee. Ms. Helgen seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 7:30pm

Respectfully submitted by,

Susan Peghiny
Recording Secretary