



TOWN OF BELMONT
OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
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TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
PATRICE GARVIN

ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
JENNIFER HEWITT

March 21, 2025

Dear Town Meeting Members –

Please find attached an extract of the FY2026 Budget Book to assist in your review of the financial articles for the 2025 Annual Town Meeting. Please note that the Preliminary Budget for FY2026, as published on January 17, 2025, remains the main reference document. Minimal changes have been made, in consultation with the Select Board, and reflect the following –

Use of the Override Mitigation Fund – Shortly after releasing the budget in January, the Governor’s budget proposed a net increase of \$208,000 in Local Aid. In addition, as part of our ongoing budget monitoring, we recognized a projected increase of \$100,000 in Parking Ticket revenue due to a change that was adopted in April 2023, but not fully phased in until late 2023. The combined new revenue has allowed the Town to remove the need to draw from the Override Mitigation Fund (OMF), preserving the funds for use in later years.

Capital – The capital process was still underway in January, and has since been solidified.

- Revenue available for discretionary capital increased due to identified capital turnbacks (\$193,869) and higher available funding from the Capital Endowment (\$60,581), for a net increase of \$254,450.
- The Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee recommends a transfer of \$1 million from the Capital Stabilization Fund to support the proposed Rooftop Unit Replacement Project at the Chenery, leaving a balance of \$1.8 million.
- The list of recommended capital and CPA projects is included in Program 8000 of the attached budget document for ease of reference in reviewing the CPA and Capital articles.

Enterprise – The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) released their preliminary FY2026 assessments in mid-February, which included a 10% increase for Water. While we are hopeful the final assessments in June will be lower, we have offset much of the increase by shifting \$500,000 from the Water capital request to a newly released phase of the MWRA zero-interest loan program.

Other Budget Adjustments – Minimal additional changes have been identified from February. These are –

- Solid Waste Realignment – In an effort to better match revenue with expenses, \$35,000 in anticipated revenue from Trash Overflow Bags is proposed to be added to a new Revolving Fund for Solid Waste and Recycling, along with \$50,000 in fees for mattress recycling. A corresponding reduction has been applied to the DPW budget for Collection and Disposal.

- School Personnel Changes and Related Benefits – Belmont Public Schools recognized some needed staffing realignments which resulted in a net increase to benefits. This resulted in a shift of \$10,760 from School Payroll to School Benefits.

The budget packet includes the following sections, replicated from January, and reflecting the changes noted above. The intent is to make the budget more accessible for Town Meeting members, and we welcome further feedback as we strive to enhance our overall budget presentation.

- Overview – One-page summary of revenues and expenses
- Program Summary – Five-page summary of expenses by department
- Revenue Executive Summary – Four-page summary of anticipated revenues, with description of each main revenue category, summary table of historical and projected revenues, and detail for use of Free Cash.
- Capital Budget – Detailed project descriptions for Discretionary capital, Non-Discretionary capital, and CPA projects.
- Municipal-School Split – Updated Appendix A which details the level of funding for Municipal and School services by broad budget category.
- Revenue Report – Detailed report on FY2026 Revenue projections. In general, a moderately conservative approach is used, recognizing that the annual budget relies upon \$3M in Free Cash for ongoing operations. Some of that is generated from additional revenue.

Thank you for your ongoing support for the Town of Belmont. We look forward to a vibrant Town Meeting discussion.

Sincerely –



Patrice Garvin
Town Administrator

Summary of Revenues and Expenditures

Revenues	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Estimated	FY2026 Projected
Property Tax Levy	\$ 102,786,493	\$ 106,356,917	\$ 118,432,211	\$ 122,260,111
Levy for Exempt Debt	\$ 13,719,329	\$ 13,143,693	\$ 14,077,401	\$ 16,589,465
Total Tax Levy	\$ 116,505,822	\$ 119,500,610	\$ 132,509,612	\$ 138,849,576
State Aid	\$ 12,857,194	\$ 14,545,442	\$ 15,096,554	\$ 15,498,069
Local Receipts	\$ 10,800,033	\$ 12,516,517	\$ 9,570,798	\$ 8,339,390
Available Funds	\$ 8,577,788	\$ 12,498,320	\$ 8,226,055	\$ 5,438,104
Revenue Offsets	\$ (2,919,157)	\$ (3,039,119)	\$ (3,065,230)	\$ (3,109,735)
Enterprise Receipts	\$ 1,388,000	\$ 942,487	\$ 1,170,225	\$ 1,211,479
Total Revenues	\$ 147,209,680	\$ 156,964,256	\$ 163,508,014	\$ 166,226,883

Spending	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Budget	FY2026 Budget
Belmont Public Schools	\$ 56,852,294	\$ 63,486,981	\$ 66,885,704	\$ 70,618,619
Regional Schools	\$ 886,383	\$ 453,361	\$ 234,580	\$ 234,580
Total Education	\$ 57,738,677	\$ 63,940,342	\$ 67,120,284	\$ 70,853,199
General Government	\$ 5,309,726	\$ 5,366,091	\$ 5,708,750	\$ 6,068,213
Public Safety	\$ 14,219,726	\$ 13,993,695	\$ 14,482,995	\$ 14,696,297
Public Services	\$ 9,711,335	\$ 10,279,935	\$ 9,753,750	\$ 9,455,457
Health and Human Services	\$ 3,233,233	\$ 3,162,325	\$ 3,430,649	\$ 3,954,408
Total Municipal Government	\$ 32,474,019	\$ 32,802,046	\$ 33,376,144	\$ 34,174,375
Facilities	\$ 6,527,027	\$ 7,308,628	\$ 7,573,801	\$ 7,898,460
Pension Assessment	\$ 10,077,954	\$ 10,033,563	\$ 9,873,396	\$ 10,128,274
Employee Benefits	\$ 14,819,363	\$ 14,549,332	\$ 16,065,937	\$ 16,809,472
Debt Service	\$ 15,170,502	\$ 14,626,779	\$ 15,511,944	\$ 17,684,656
Other Shared	\$ 362,197	\$ 763,616	\$ 1,326,725	\$ 1,357,208
Total Shared Services	\$ 46,957,043	\$ 47,281,917	\$ 50,351,803	\$ 53,878,069
Capital - Streets	\$ 1,857,772	\$ 1,904,216	\$ 1,951,821	\$ 2,000,617
Capital - Sidewalks	\$ 237,730	\$ 243,673	\$ 499,765	\$ 512,259
Capital - Discretionary	\$ 3,787,495	\$ 3,291,681	\$ 3,173,308	\$ 4,368,000
Total Capital	\$ 5,882,997	\$ 5,439,570	\$ 5,624,894	\$ 6,880,876
Other Warrant Articles (OPEB, Stabilization Funds)	\$ 579,275	\$ 1,502,695	\$ 7,034,889	\$ 440,364
Total Spending	\$ 143,632,011	\$ 150,966,570	\$ 163,508,014	\$ 166,226,883
Net Budget Surplus/(Deficit)	N/A	N/A	\$ —	\$ —

Program Summary

Town of Belmont, MA

Element	Description	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Approp.	FY2026 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Program 1000: General Government								
1100	Assessors Compensation	\$222,793	\$264,180	\$282,644	\$289,754	\$301,391	\$11,637	4.0%
1100	Assessors Expenses	\$101,282	\$103,777	\$119,550	\$172,500	\$166,000	\$(6,500)	(3.8)%
	<i>Subtotal 1100 Assessors</i>	<i>\$324,075</i>	<i>\$367,957</i>	<i>\$402,195</i>	<i>\$462,254</i>	<i>\$467,391</i>	<i>\$5,137</i>	<i>1.1%</i>
1200	Human Resources Compensation	\$243,923	\$212,677	\$223,447	\$222,019	\$238,244	\$16,225	7.3%
1200	Human Resources Expenses	\$37,089	\$68,839	\$52,542	\$80,450	\$79,940	\$(510)	(0.6)%
1250	Salary Reserve	\$406,299	\$750,450	\$360,949	\$571,980	\$470,215	\$(101,765)	(17.8)%
	<i>Subtotal 1200 Human Resources</i>	<i>\$687,311</i>	<i>\$1,031,966</i>	<i>\$636,938</i>	<i>\$874,449</i>	<i>\$788,399</i>	<i>\$(86,050)</i>	<i>(9.8)%</i>
1300	IT Compensation	\$342,744	\$394,488	\$457,589	\$524,773	\$640,501	\$115,728	22.1%
1300	IT Expenses	\$757,202	\$956,928	\$998,358	\$1,093,600	\$1,132,947	\$39,347	3.6%
	<i>Subtotal 1300 IT</i>	<i>\$1,099,946</i>	<i>\$1,351,415</i>	<i>\$1,455,948</i>	<i>\$1,618,373</i>	<i>\$1,773,448</i>	<i>\$155,075</i>	<i>9.6%</i>
1400	Town Accountant Compensation	\$293,774	\$291,593	\$354,187	\$354,795	\$375,777	\$20,982	5.9%
1400	Town Accountant Expenses	\$74,621	\$61,873	\$90,446	\$75,930	\$93,950	\$18,020	23.7%
	<i>Subtotal 1400 Town Accountant</i>	<i>\$368,394</i>	<i>\$353,466</i>	<i>\$444,634</i>	<i>\$430,725</i>	<i>\$469,727</i>	<i>\$39,002</i>	<i>9.1%</i>
1500	Town Administration Compensation	\$508,807	\$610,987	\$632,126	\$678,248	\$772,531	\$94,283	13.9%
1500	Town Administration Expenses	\$497,827	\$458,191	\$493,767	\$505,040	\$707,520	\$202,480	40.1%
	<i>Subtotal 1500 Town Administration</i>	<i>\$1,006,633</i>	<i>\$1,069,177</i>	<i>\$1,125,893</i>	<i>\$1,183,288</i>	<i>\$1,480,051</i>	<i>\$296,763</i>	<i>25.1%</i>
1600	Town Clerk Compensation	\$327,688	\$383,914	\$375,983	\$409,383	\$367,227	\$(42,156)	(10.3)%
1600	Town Clerk Expenses	\$82,805	\$108,280	\$107,587	\$145,085	\$114,338	\$(30,747)	(21.2)%
	<i>Subtotal 1600 Town Clerk</i>	<i>\$410,494</i>	<i>\$492,194</i>	<i>\$483,570</i>	<i>\$554,468</i>	<i>\$481,565</i>	<i>\$(72,903)</i>	<i>(13.1)%</i>
1700	Treasurer Compensation	\$479,753	\$400,578	\$368,972	\$397,294	\$420,732	\$23,438	5.9%
1700	Treasurer Expenses	\$133,709	\$242,971	\$447,942	\$187,900	\$186,900	\$(1,000)	(0.5)%
	<i>Subtotal 1700 Treasurer</i>	<i>\$613,462</i>	<i>\$643,549</i>	<i>\$816,914</i>	<i>\$585,194</i>	<i>\$607,632</i>	<i>\$22,438</i>	<i>3.8%</i>
Total General Government		\$4,510,315	\$5,309,726	\$5,366,091	\$5,708,750	\$6,068,213	\$359,463	6.3%

Program Summary

Town of Belmont, MA

Element	Description	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Approp.	FY2026 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Program 2000: Shared Services								
2110	Pension	\$9,662,058	\$10,077,954	\$10,033,563	\$9,873,396	\$10,128,274	\$254,878	2.6%
2200	Retiree Health Insurance	\$3,529,448	\$3,492,220	\$3,425,579	\$3,532,575	\$3,635,157	\$102,582	2.9%
2201	Employee Health Insurance	\$9,146,575	\$9,886,314	\$9,686,165	\$10,841,911	\$11,417,491	\$575,580	5.3%
2210	Life Insurance	\$11,077	\$16,721	\$12,553	\$19,425	\$19,425	\$—	—%
2220	Medicare	\$908,544	\$1,065,047	\$1,047,360	\$1,149,397	\$1,182,323	\$32,926	2.9%
2310	Unemployment	\$62,279	\$76,169	\$44,029	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$—	—%
2320	Workers Compensation	\$343,420	\$282,892	\$333,646	\$432,629	\$465,076	\$32,447	7.5%
	<i>Subtotal Employee Benefits</i>	<i>\$23,663,401</i>	<i>\$24,897,317</i>	<i>\$24,582,895</i>	<i>\$25,939,333</i>	<i>\$26,937,746</i>	<i>\$998,413</i>	<i>3.8%</i>
2400	Liability Insurance	\$435,877	\$350,167	\$738,098	\$794,932	\$823,826	\$28,894	3.6%
2410	Deductible Reserves	\$—	\$12,030	\$25,518	\$31,793	\$33,383	\$1,590	5.0%
	<i>Subtotal Liability Insurance</i>	<i>\$435,877</i>	<i>\$362,197</i>	<i>\$763,616</i>	<i>\$826,725</i>	<i>\$857,208</i>	<i>\$30,483</i>	<i>3.7%</i>
2450	Warrant Committee Reserve	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$—	—%
	<i>Subtotal WC Reserve</i>	<i>\$—</i>	<i>\$—</i>	<i>\$—</i>	<i>\$500,000</i>	<i>\$500,000</i>	<i>\$—</i>	<i>—%</i>
2500	Facilities Compensation	\$1,789,467	\$1,699,333	\$2,043,232	\$2,401,262	\$2,532,769	\$131,507	5.5%
2500	Facilities Expenses	\$3,949,743	\$4,827,695	\$5,265,397	\$5,172,539	\$5,365,691	\$193,152	3.7%
	<i>Subtotal 2500 Facilities</i>	<i>\$5,739,210</i>	<i>\$6,527,027</i>	<i>\$7,308,628</i>	<i>\$7,573,801</i>	<i>\$7,898,460</i>	<i>\$324,658</i>	<i>4.3%</i>
	Total Shared Services	\$29,838,488	\$31,786,541	\$32,655,139	\$34,839,859	\$36,193,414	\$1,353,554	3.9%
Program 3000: Public Safety								
3100	Fire Compensation	\$5,461,477	\$5,504,686	\$5,830,752	\$5,917,751	\$5,915,502	\$(2,249)	—%
3100	Fire Expenses	\$494,883	\$597,811	\$557,770	\$717,094	\$762,544	\$45,450	6.3%
	<i>Subtotal 3100 Fire</i>	<i>\$5,956,361</i>	<i>\$6,102,497</i>	<i>\$6,388,522</i>	<i>\$6,634,845</i>	<i>\$6,678,046</i>	<i>\$43,201</i>	<i>0.7%</i>
3200	Police Compensation	\$6,258,108	\$7,288,012	\$6,889,146	\$6,873,634	\$7,067,644	\$194,010	2.8%
3200	Police Expenses	\$707,147	\$829,217	\$716,027	\$974,515	\$950,607	\$(23,908)	(2.5)%
	<i>Subtotal 3200 Police</i>	<i>\$6,965,255</i>	<i>\$8,117,229</i>	<i>\$7,605,173</i>	<i>\$7,848,149</i>	<i>\$8,018,251</i>	<i>\$170,102</i>	<i>2.2%</i>
	Total Public Safety	\$12,921,616	\$14,219,726	\$13,993,695	\$14,482,995	\$14,696,297	\$213,302	1.5%

Program Summary

Town of Belmont, MA

Element	Description	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Approp.	FY2026 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Program 4000: Education								
4100	Belmont Public Schools Compensation	\$43,751,812	\$46,017,121	\$47,945,147	\$50,905,478	\$53,338,597	\$2,433,119	4.8%
4100	Belmont Public Schools Expenses	\$11,507,974	\$10,835,173	\$15,541,834	\$15,980,226	\$17,280,022	\$1,299,796	8.1%
	<i>Subtotal 4100 Belmont Public Schools</i>	<i>\$55,259,786</i>	<i>\$56,852,294</i>	<i>\$63,486,981</i>	<i>\$66,885,704</i>	<i>\$70,618,619</i>	<i>\$3,732,915</i>	<i>5.6%</i>
4200	Regional Schools	\$1,124,430	\$886,383	\$453,361	\$234,580	\$234,580	\$—	—%
	<i>Subtotal 4200 Regional School Expenses</i>	<i>\$1,124,430</i>	<i>\$886,383</i>	<i>\$453,361</i>	<i>\$234,580</i>	<i>\$234,580</i>	<i>\$—</i>	<i>—%</i>
	Total Education	\$56,384,216	\$57,738,677	\$63,940,342	\$67,120,284	\$70,853,199	\$3,732,915	5.6%
Program 5000: Public Services								
5100	Planning and Building Compensation	\$719,783	\$768,642	\$922,688	\$664,495	\$723,532	\$59,037	8.9%
5100	Planning and Building Expenses	\$161,892	\$75,668	\$102,897	\$77,115	\$85,156	\$8,041	10.4%
	<i>Subtotal 5100 Planning and Building</i>	<i>\$881,675</i>	<i>\$844,310</i>	<i>\$1,025,586</i>	<i>\$741,610</i>	<i>\$808,688</i>	<i>\$67,078</i>	<i>9.0%</i>
5200	Public Works Compensation	\$2,022,462	\$2,094,539	\$2,067,314	\$2,709,357	\$2,599,427	\$(109,930)	(4.1)%
5200	Public Works Expenses	\$5,419,332	\$5,236,793	\$5,687,013	\$5,979,385	\$6,047,342	\$67,957	1.1%
	<i>Subtotal 5200 Public Works</i>	<i>\$7,441,794</i>	<i>\$7,331,332</i>	<i>\$7,754,327</i>	<i>\$8,688,742</i>	<i>\$8,646,769</i>	<i>\$(41,973)</i>	<i>(0.5)%</i>
5300	Recreation Compensation	\$592,637	\$819,886	\$848,735	\$323,398	\$—	\$(323,398)	(100)%
5300	Recreation Expenses	\$401,724	\$715,806	\$651,287	\$—	\$—	\$—	—%
	<i>Subtotal 5300 Recreation</i>	<i>\$994,361</i>	<i>\$1,535,693</i>	<i>\$1,500,022</i>	<i>\$323,398</i>	<i>\$—</i>	<i>\$(323,398)</i>	<i>(100)%</i>
	Total Public Services	\$9,317,830	\$9,711,335	\$10,279,935	\$9,753,750	\$9,455,457	\$(298,293)	(3.1)%
Program 6000: Human Services								
6100	Library Compensation	\$1,430,861	\$1,573,631	\$1,472,792	\$1,732,944	\$1,859,892	\$126,948	7.3%
6100	Library Expenses	\$685,935	\$654,608	\$784,901	\$658,858	\$627,174	\$(31,684)	(4.8)%
	<i>Subtotal 6100 Library</i>	<i>\$2,116,796</i>	<i>\$2,228,240</i>	<i>\$2,257,693</i>	<i>\$2,391,802</i>	<i>\$2,487,066</i>	<i>\$95,264</i>	<i>4.0%</i>
6200	Council on Aging Compensation	\$378,117	\$379,625	\$360,092	\$385,086	\$—	\$(385,086)	(100)%
6200	Council on Aging Expenses	\$24,361	\$19,305	\$28,720	\$37,000	\$—	\$(37,000)	(100)%
	<i>Subtotal 6200 Council on Aging</i>	<i>\$402,478</i>	<i>\$398,931</i>	<i>\$388,812</i>	<i>\$422,086</i>	<i>\$—</i>	<i>\$(422,086)</i>	<i>(100)%</i>
6300	Health Compensation	\$419,580	\$509,700	\$439,472	\$468,272	\$429,238	\$(39,034)	(8.3)%
6300	Health Expenses	\$114,501	\$96,363	\$76,348	\$148,489	\$64,583	\$(83,906)	(56.5)%
	<i>Subtotal 6300 Health</i>	<i>\$534,082</i>	<i>\$606,062</i>	<i>\$515,820</i>	<i>\$616,761</i>	<i>\$493,821</i>	<i>\$(122,940)</i>	<i>(19.9)%</i>

Program Summary

Town of Belmont, MA

Element	Description	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Approp.	FY2026 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
6400	Community Services Compensation					\$822,721	\$822,721	—%
6400	Community Services Expenses					\$150,800	\$150,800	—%
	<i>Subtotal 6400 Community Services</i>	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$973,521	\$973,521	—%
	Total Human Services	\$3,053,356	\$3,233,233	\$3,162,325	\$3,430,649	\$3,954,408	\$523,759	15.3%
Program 7000: Debt Service								
7000	Within Levy Debt Service	\$1,458,739	\$1,438,989	\$1,415,039	\$1,157,939	\$966,289	\$(191,650)	(16.6)%
7000	Exempt Debt Service	\$13,029,464	\$13,731,513	\$13,154,514	\$14,281,505	\$16,645,867	\$2,364,361	16.6%
7000	Short-term Borrowing Costs	\$90,993	\$—	\$57,226	\$72,500	\$72,500	\$—	—%
	<i>Subtotal 7000 Debt Service</i>	<i>\$14,579,196</i>	<i>\$15,170,502</i>	<i>\$14,626,779</i>	<i>\$15,511,944</i>	<i>\$17,684,656</i>	<i>\$2,172,711</i>	<i>14.0%</i>
	Total Debt Service	\$14,579,196	\$15,170,502	\$14,626,779	\$15,511,944	\$17,684,656	\$2,172,711	14.0%
Capital Expenditures								
8000	Capital - Streets	\$1,812,460	\$1,857,772	\$1,904,216	\$1,951,821	\$2,000,617	\$48,796	2.5%
8000	Capital - Sidewalks	\$231,801	\$237,730	\$243,673	\$499,765	\$512,259	\$12,494	2.5%
8000	Discretionary Capital	\$1,757,682	\$3,787,495	\$3,291,681	\$3,173,308	\$4,368,000	\$1,194,692	37.6%
	<i>Subtotal 8000 Capital Expenditures</i>	<i>\$3,801,943</i>	<i>\$5,882,997</i>	<i>\$5,439,570</i>	<i>\$5,624,894</i>	<i>\$6,880,876</i>	<i>\$1,255,982</i>	<i>22.3%</i>
	Total Capital Expenditures	\$3,801,943	\$5,882,997	\$5,439,570	\$5,624,894	\$6,880,876	\$1,255,982	22.3%
Other Articles								
	OPEB Contribution	\$50,000	\$579,275	\$552,695	\$440,364	\$440,364	\$—	—%
	Capital Stabilization Fund	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$2,003,842	\$—	\$(2,003,842)	(100)%
	General Stabilization Fund	\$—	\$—	\$950,000	\$—	\$—	\$—	—%
	Override Mitigation Fund	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$4,425,683	\$—	\$(4,425,683)	(100)%
	Student Info System Replacement	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$165,000	\$—	\$(165,000)	(100)%
	<i>Subtotal Other Articles</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>\$579,275</i>	<i>\$1,502,695</i>	<i>\$7,034,889</i>	<i>\$440,364</i>	<i>\$(6,594,525)</i>	<i>(93.7)%</i>
	Total Other Articles	\$50,000	\$579,275	\$1,502,695	\$7,034,889	\$440,364	\$(6,594,525)	(93.7)%
Grand Total		\$134,456,960	\$143,632,011	\$150,966,570	\$163,508,014	\$166,226,883	\$2,718,869	1.7%

Program Summary

Town of Belmont, MA

Element	Description	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Approp.	FY2026 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Enterprise Funds								
5250	Water Enterprise	\$6,853,367	\$7,385,078	\$7,471,295	\$7,997,017	\$8,121,906	\$124,889	1.6 %
5260	Sewer Enterprise	\$9,185,359	\$10,561,359	\$9,354,261	\$10,449,565	\$10,985,551	\$535,986	5.1 %
	<i>Subtotal Enterprise Funds</i>	<i>\$16,038,725</i>	<i>\$17,946,437</i>	<i>\$16,825,556</i>	<i>\$18,446,582</i>	<i>\$19,107,457</i>	<i>\$660,875</i>	<i>3.6 %</i>
	Total Enterprise Funds	\$16,038,725	\$17,946,437	\$16,825,556	\$18,446,582	\$19,107,457	\$660,875	3.6 %
Revolving Funds								
5215	Rock Meadow Maintenance	\$4,648	\$6,359	\$7,664	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$—	— %
5240	Solid Waste & Recycling Revolving Fund	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$85,000	\$85,000	— %
6100	Library Revolving Fund	\$5,836	\$9,756	\$5,603	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$—	— %
6420	COA Revolving Fund	\$53,955	\$73,297	\$83,848	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	— %
6400	Field Maintenance Revolving Fund	\$42,285	\$25,222	\$48,400	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$—	— %
6450	Recreation Revolving Fund	\$728,917	\$1,201,847	\$1,141,192	\$1,280,000	\$1,474,431	\$194,431	15 %
	<i>Subtotal Revolving Funds</i>	<i>\$835,641</i>	<i>\$1,316,481</i>	<i>\$1,286,706</i>	<i>\$1,520,000</i>	<i>\$1,799,431</i>	<i>\$279,431</i>	<i>18.4 %</i>
	Total Revolving Funds	\$835,641	\$1,316,481	\$1,286,706	\$1,520,000	\$1,799,431	\$279,431	18.4 %

Revenue Executive Summary

Town of Belmont, MA

This revenue projection is based on the most current data available; as new information arises, the projections may be revised. The summary below presents Total General Fund Operating Revenues, and Net General Fund Revenues.

- Total General Fund Operating Revenues are from annually recurring and non-recurring revenue sources, including transfers from special revenue funds, and Specialized Stabilization Funds.
- Net General Fund Revenues are Total General Fund Revenues less revenues recommended to be set-aside to fund designated expenses.

In FY2026, Total General Fund Operating Revenues are projected to increase by approximately \$2.72 million, or 1.66%. Net General Fund Revenues, those available to support school and municipal operating budgets, are projected to increase by \$8.06 million, or 5.34%.

General Fund Revenue Summary	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Estimated	FY2026 Projected	FY2025-26 Change	
						\$	%
Property Tax Levy (Table 1A)	\$ 99,431,844	\$102,786,493	\$106,356,917	\$ 118,432,211	\$ 122,260,111	\$ 3,827,900	3.23 %
Tax Levy, Exempt Debt (Table 1B)	\$ 12,288,095	\$ 13,719,329	\$ 13,143,693	\$ 14,077,401	\$ 16,589,465	\$ 2,512,064	17.84 %
Combined Property Tax Levy	\$111,719,939	\$116,505,822	\$119,500,610	\$132,509,612	\$138,849,576	\$6,339,964	4.78 %
State Aid (Table 2)	\$ 12,458,489	\$ 12,857,194	\$ 14,545,442	\$ 15,096,554	\$ 15,498,069	\$ 401,515	2.66 %
Local Receipts (Table 3)	\$ 9,567,943	\$ 10,800,033	\$ 12,516,517	\$ 9,570,798	\$ 8,339,390	\$(1,231,408)	(12.87)%
Available Funds (Table 4)	\$ 7,854,694	\$ 8,577,788	\$ 12,498,320	\$ 8,226,055	\$ 5,438,104	\$(2,787,951)	(33.89)%
Revenue Offsets (Table 5)	\$ (2,831,921)	\$ (2,919,157)	\$ (3,039,119)	\$ (3,065,230)	\$ (3,109,735)	\$ (44,505)	1.45 %
Enterprise Receipts (Table 6)	\$ 1,188,000	\$ 1,388,000	\$ 942,487	\$ 1,170,225	\$ 1,211,479	\$ 41,254	3.53 %
Total General Fund Operating Revenues	\$139,957,144	\$147,209,680	\$156,964,256	\$163,508,014	\$166,226,883	\$ 2,718,869	1.66 %
Less - Revenues Set-Aside for Designated Purposes	\$ 3,851,943	\$ 6,462,272	\$ 8,194,286	\$ 12,659,783	\$ 7,321,240	\$(5,338,543)	(42.17)%
Net General Fund Revenues	\$136,105,201	\$140,747,408	\$148,769,970	\$150,848,231	\$158,905,643	\$ 8,057,412	5.34 %

Detailed Description:

Property Tax Levy: The FY2026 property tax levy is projected to increase approximately \$3.83 million, or 3.2%. The projected levy is a function of the FY2025 levy limit increased by 2.5% per Proposition 2½, plus an increment for new growth. FY2026 new growth will be a function of construction activity for the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. FY2026 new growth is projected at \$860,000 based on a review of historical new growth data and recommendations from the Board of Assessors.

Tax Levy - Exempt Debt: When voters approve a debt exclusion for a capital project, the debt service for those projects is tracked separately from the base tax levy. For FY2026, debt service is projected to increase by \$2.51 million or 17.84%, due to the first payments on permanent debt issued for the new library and skating rink.

State Aid: An overall State Aid increase of \$401,515 or 2.66% is projected for FY2026, which reflects the initial figures included in the Governor’s budget released on January 22, 2025. Final figures are likely to be known in late June 2025 when the Legislature adopts, and the Governor signs, the FY2026 State budget.

Local Receipts: FY2026 projections for each category of receipt are based on the history of actual collections and projections of 3- and 5-year historical averages. Main areas for adjustment include -

- Investment Income has benefited from interest rate increases since mid-2022. For FY2026, meaningful interest income is projected, but is limited to \$500,000, which is a level that is deemed recurring. Any excess revenue received above this level should be used for one-time expenses.
 - The Town issued permanent debt for the Rink and Library projects in September 2024. Before the funds are spent, the Town can earn interest up to an allowable limit. In November 2024, Town Meeting transferred \$1.425M in such earnings to the Capital Stabilization Fund. That situation will not recur in FY2026.
- The Town received the first proceeds from Cannabis excise in FY2024. FY2026 includes a total of \$40,000 in Other Excise for Cannabis.

Available Funds: Recurring Free Cash of \$3,000,000 is being used for both the operating budget and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB).

An additional \$978,800 in Free Cash is dedicated to capital, with the intent to offset a portion of the cost for the next capital project at the Chenery - replacement of the rooftop heating units. There is a growing recognition that one-time funds should be used for one-time purposes such as capital projects. The Capital Stabilization Fund is contributing \$1,002,136 to the Chenery project as well.

Revenue Offsets: Revenue Offsets are projected to increase by approximately \$44,505 or 1.45%. Revenue Offsets represent the set-aside of a portion of projected revenues legally required for particular purposes, including:

- (1) cherry sheet assessments - estimated charges to be levied by the Commonwealth to cover the costs of state and regional services provided to the Town, based on preliminary state budget information; and
- (2) the Assessor's Overlay account which covers the cost of abatements and exemptions granted to property taxpayers.

Enterprise Receipts: This category of revenue represents transfers from the Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds and the Belmont Municipal Light Department to the General Fund to cover General Fund expenditures that support the operations of the water, sewer and light departments. Beginning in FY2024, Finance staff conducted an annual detailed review of the water and sewer indirect charges which resulted in a decrease in indirect transfers, which were mostly offset by water and sewer making higher direct contributions for other budget items.

Revenue Summary							
	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Estimated	FY2026 Projected	FY2025-26 Change \$ %	
Table 1A: Property Tax Levy							
Tax Levy	\$ 96,008,913	\$ 99,443,942	\$ 102,870,712	\$ 106,441,425	\$ 118,439,132	\$ 11,997,708	11.27%
Prop. 2.5%	\$ 2,400,223	\$ 2,486,099	\$ 2,571,768	\$ 2,661,036	\$ 2,960,978	\$ 299,943	11.27%
New Growth	\$ 1,034,806	\$ 940,671	\$ 998,945	\$ 936,672	\$ 860,000	\$ (76,672)	(8.19)%
Override/Excess Levy Capacity	\$ (12,099)	\$ (84,219)	\$ (84,508)	\$ 8,393,079	\$ —	\$ (8,393,079)	—
Subtotal	\$ 99,431,844	\$ 102,786,493	\$ 106,356,917	\$ 118,432,211	\$ 122,260,111	\$ 3,827,900	3.23%
Table 1B: Tax Levy - Exempt Debt							
Exempt Debt	\$ 12,288,095	\$ 13,719,329	\$ 13,143,693	\$ 14,077,401	\$ 16,589,465	\$ 2,512,064	17.84%
Subtotal - Combined Tax Levy	\$ 111,719,939	\$ 116,505,822	\$ 119,500,610	\$ 132,509,612	\$ 138,849,576	\$ 6,339,964	4.78%
Table 2: State Aid							
Chapter 70	\$ 9,891,949	\$ 10,158,889	\$ 11,784,535	\$ 12,254,719	\$ 12,595,069	\$ 340,350	2.78%
Reimb. - Charter Sch./Voc. Transp.	\$ 43,318	\$ 66,832	\$ 58,957	\$ 28,233	\$ 28,233	\$ —	—%
Unrestricted General Govt. Aid	\$ 2,481,546	\$ 2,615,549	\$ 2,669,247	\$ 2,780,224	\$ 2,841,389	\$ 61,165	2.20%
Veterans' Benefits & Exemptions	\$ 37,196	\$ 15,924	\$ 28,063	\$ 33,378	\$ 33,378	\$ —	—%
Subtotal	\$ 12,458,489	\$ 12,857,194	\$ 14,545,442	\$ 15,096,554	\$ 15,498,069	\$ 401,515	2.66%
Table 3: Local Receipts							
Motor Vehicle Excise Tax	\$ 3,647,472	\$ 3,657,004	\$ 3,877,070	\$ 3,650,000	\$ 3,725,000	\$ 75,000	2.05%
Other Excise	\$ 328,822	\$ 324,660	\$ 403,332	\$ 345,000	\$ 380,000	\$ 35,000	10.14%
Penalties & Interest	\$ 515,182	\$ 245,001	\$ 328,242	\$ 260,174	\$ 250,500	\$ (9,674)	(3.72)%
PILOT's	\$ 36,092	\$ 37,059	\$ 50,885	\$ 48,075	\$ 49,048	\$ 973	2.02%
Rentals	\$ 6,800	\$ 13,531	\$ 18,110	\$ 5,500	\$ 18,000	\$ 12,500	227.27%
Departmental-Schools	\$ 378,935	\$ 150,213	\$ 178,107	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ —	—%
Departmental-Municipal	\$ 2,626,950	\$ 3,093,947	\$ 3,013,376	\$ 1,666,175	\$ 1,631,175	\$ (35,000)	(2.10)%
Licenses & Permits	\$ 1,556,574	\$ 1,645,498	\$ 1,615,125	\$ 1,371,550	\$ 1,371,550	\$ —	—%
Fines & Forfeits	\$ 200,020	\$ 264,872	\$ 265,489	\$ 199,324	\$ 314,117	\$ 114,793	57.59%
Investment Income	\$ 156,917	\$ 1,119,249	\$ 2,256,446	\$ 1,925,000	\$ 500,000	\$ (1,425,000)	(74.03)%
Miscellaneous Non-Recurring	\$ 114,179	\$ 248,997	\$ 510,335	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	---
Subtotal	\$ 9,567,943	\$ 10,800,033	\$ 12,516,517	\$ 9,570,798	\$ 8,339,390	\$(1,231,408)	(12.87)%
Table 4: Available Funds							
Parking	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ —	—%
Capital Endowment Fund	\$ 125,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 107,761	\$ 91,316	\$ 151,897	\$ 60,581	66.34%
Capital Projects Fund - Prior Auth.	\$ 260,000	\$ 545,121	\$ 179,029	\$ 246,196	\$ 193,869	\$ (52,327)	(21.25)%
Free Cash - Operating Budget	\$ 7,113,925	\$ 5,380,478	\$ 9,693,014	\$ 2,559,636	\$ 2,559,636	\$ —	—%
Free Cash - OPEB Contribution	\$ 50,000	\$ 579,275	\$ 552,695	\$ 440,364	\$ 440,364	\$ —	—%
Free Cash - Capital Projects	\$ —	\$ 649,699	\$ —	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 978,800	\$ (521,200)	(34.75)%
Free Cash - General Stabilization	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 950,000	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	---
Free Cash - Override Mitigation	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 3,129,439	\$ —	\$ (3,129,439)	(100)%
Perpetual Care Fund	\$ 27,193	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ —	—%
Sale of Town Land/Kendall Fund	\$ —	\$ 1,042,722	\$ 950,000	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	---
Overlay Surplus/ARPA Funds	\$ 235,000	\$ 163,303	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	---
Capital Stabilization Fund	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,002,136	\$ 1,002,136	---
Bond/BAN Premium Amortization	\$ 13,576	\$ 12,190	\$ 10,821	\$ 204,104	\$ 56,402	\$ (147,702)	(72.37)%
Subtotal	\$ 7,854,694	\$ 8,577,788	\$ 12,498,320	\$ 8,226,055	\$ 5,438,104	\$(2,787,951)	(33.89)%
Table 5: Revenue Offsets							
Cherry Sheet Assessments	\$ (1,982,588)	\$ (2,089,526)	\$ (2,220,669)	\$ (2,225,230)	\$ (2,269,735)	\$ (44,505)	2.00%
Overlay (Abatements)	\$ (849,333)	\$ (829,631)	\$ (818,450)	\$ (840,000)	\$ (840,000)	\$ —	—%
Subtotal	\$ (2,831,921)	\$ (2,919,157)	\$ (3,039,119)	\$ (3,065,230)	\$ (3,109,735)	\$ (44,505)	1.45%
Table 6: Enterprise Receipts							
Water	\$ 519,000	\$ 519,000	\$ 244,166	\$ 246,442	\$ 279,311	\$ 32,869	13.34%
Wastewater (Sewer)	\$ 519,000	\$ 519,000	\$ 248,321	\$ 273,783	\$ 282,168	\$ 8,385	3.06%
Belmont Municipal Light Dept.	\$ 150,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 650,000	\$ —	—%
Subtotal	\$ 1,188,000	\$ 1,388,000	\$ 942,487	\$ 1,170,225	\$ 1,211,479	\$ 41,254	3.53%
Gross General Fund Revenues	\$ 139,957,144	\$ 147,209,680	\$ 156,964,256	\$ 163,508,014	\$ 166,226,883	\$ 2,718,869	1.66%
Revenues Set Aside for Designated Expenses	\$ 3,851,943	\$ 6,462,272	\$ 8,194,286	\$ 12,659,783	\$ 7,321,240	\$(5,338,543)	(42.17)%
Net General Fund Revenues Available for Appropriation	\$ 136,105,201	\$ 140,747,408	\$ 148,769,970	\$ 150,848,231	\$ 158,905,643	\$ 8,057,412	5.34%

Revenues Set Aside for Designated Expenses: This represents components of Gross General Fund Revenues that are set aside for designated purposes under the proposed Override budget. The proposed purposes are shown in the table below.

		Financing Sources				
Expense Item		Tax Levy	Free Cash	Other	Total	Notes
1	Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)		\$ 440,364		\$ 440,364	Annual contribution to fund the liability for retiree benefits.
2	Pavement Management Program	\$2,000,617			\$2,000,617	Dedicated funding from prior overrides which grows 2.5% per year.
3	Sidewalk Replacements	\$ 512,259			\$ 512,259	Dedicated funding from prior overrides, plus \$250,000 added in 2024.
4	Discretionary Capital	\$ 2,132,614	\$ 978,800	\$ 1,256,586	\$4,368,000	Capital projects which are authorized by Town Meeting separate from the Operating Budget.
5	Subtotal	\$4,645,490	\$1,419,164	\$1,256,586	\$7,321,240	
6	Revenue to Support Operating Budget		\$2,559,636		\$2,559,636	Town Leaders have reached consensus that \$3M in Free Cash is regularly replenished and can be used for the Operating Budget and OPEB.
7	Grand Total	\$4,645,490	\$3,978,800	\$1,256,586	\$9,880,876	
8	Planned Carry Forward		\$4,324,702			

8000 - Recommended Capital Investments

Town of Belmont, MA

Appropriation Summary	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Approp.	FY2026 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Capital - Streets	\$ 1,812,460	\$ 1,857,772	\$ 1,904,216	\$ 1,951,821	\$ 2,000,617	\$ 48,796	2.50 %
Capital - Sidewalks	\$ 231,801	\$ 237,730	\$ 243,673	\$ 499,765	\$ 512,259	\$ 12,494	2.50 %
Discretionary Capital	\$ 1,757,682	\$ 3,787,495	\$ 3,291,681	\$ 3,173,308	\$ 4,368,000	\$ 1,194,692	37.65 %
Total Capital Investments	\$ 3,801,943	\$ 5,882,997	\$ 5,439,570	\$ 5,624,894	\$ 6,880,876	\$ 1,255,982	22.33 %



Program Overview

The Belmont Capital plan consists of Non-Discretionary, Discretionary and Enterprise capital projects.

- Non-Discretionary projects are for the Pavement Management Program and Sidewalk Maintenance, both of which were funded by voters via operating overrides in prior years. Funding grows by 2.5% each year, in parallel with Proposition 2½ growth.
- Discretionary capital funds were set-aside through an earlier override, and also grow by 2.5% each year.

- A subset of discretionary projects have previously been funded by within levy debt issuances. As those obligations are paid down, the funding is transferred back to the Capital budget.
- Both Water and Sewer Enterprise also have capital investments in their respective systems, which are funded from user charges.
- The Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee (CCBC) reviews annual requests from Town departments for capital projects.

FY2024-25 Achievements

- Funded \$1.6M for the first of three phased projects for the Chenery Upper Elementary School – boiler replacement.
- Set aside funds in the Capital Stabilization Fund to help offset the anticipated costs of future Chenery projects.
- Kicked off a building assessment project which will help to inform future capital project prioritization.

- Completed a Townwide tree inventory including tree health assessment and a tree management plan.
- A Townwide sidewalk assessment is nearly complete, which will update the sidewalk replacement list.
- Completed a Townwide pavement assessment, which will allow the Town to revisit its pavement management priorities.

FY2026 Goals

- Continue to build out the long-term capital plan.
- Identify additional sources of funding to support capital investments.

- Start conversations in the community around prioritizing the backlog of building investments identified by the building assessment, once it is complete.

Staffing and Structure

Staff from Town Administration and Facilities support the work of the Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee (CCBC). Departments work with the CCBC as needed to submit capital requests, respond to questions, and implement the projects.

Budget Recommendations

The FY2026 budget request for Capital Investments is \$6,880,876, which is an increase of \$1,255,982 or 22.3% from the FY2025 budget. Both fiscal years dedicated sizeable amounts of one-time funding to capital projects, which is a best practice.

In FY2025, \$1.5M in Free Cash was dedicated to the Chenery boiler replacement project, and \$246,196 in prior capital projects was identified for reallocation. Both amounts are one-time funding sources.

In FY2026, funding growth is attributable to three main areas-

- The annual increase of 2.5% for the Non-Discretionary and Discretionary capital items;
- The continued transfer of reductions in Within Levy debt service payments as prior capital projects are paid off, which amounts to \$191,650 in FY2026; and
- Dedication of \$978,800 in Free Cash and transfer of \$1,002,136 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to offset large capital needs at the Chenery.

8000 - Capital Project Recommendations

Town of Belmont, MA

Capital Budget Summary

Appropriation Summary	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Approp.	FY2026 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Capital - Streets	\$ 1,812,460	\$ 1,857,772	\$ 1,904,216	\$ 1,951,821	\$ 2,000,617	\$ 48,796	2.50 %
Capital - Sidewalks	\$ 231,801	\$ 237,730	\$ 243,673	\$ 499,765	\$ 512,259	\$ 12,494	2.50 %
Discretionary Capital	\$ 1,757,682	\$ 3,787,495	\$ 3,291,681	\$ 3,173,308	\$ 4,368,000	\$ 1,194,692	37.65 %
Total 8000 Capital	\$ 3,801,943	\$ 5,882,997	\$ 5,439,570	\$ 5,624,894	\$ 6,880,876	\$ 1,255,982	22.33 %

Capital Project Summary	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Approp.	FY2026 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Capital - Streets	\$ 1,812,460	\$ 1,857,772	\$ 1,904,216	\$ 1,951,821	\$ 2,000,617	\$ 48,796	2.50 %
Capital - Sidewalks	\$ 231,801	\$ 237,730	\$ 243,673	\$ 499,765	\$ 512,259	\$ 12,494	2.50 %
<i>Non-Discretionary Capital</i>	<i>\$ 2,044,261</i>	<i>\$ 2,095,502</i>	<i>\$ 2,147,889</i>	<i>\$ 2,451,586</i>	<i>\$ 2,512,876</i>	<i>\$ 61,290</i>	<i>2.50 %</i>
Discretionary Capital - Tax Levy	\$ 1,497,682	\$ 1,549,953	\$ 2,138,702	\$ 1,170,012	\$ 1,940,964	\$ 770,952	65.89 %
Discretionary Capital - Debt Service			\$ 23,950	\$ 257,100	\$ 191,650	\$ (65,450)	(25.46)%
Discretionary Capital - Free Cash		\$ 649,699		\$ 1,500,000	\$ 978,800	\$ (521,200)	(34.75)%
Discretionary Capital - Turnbacks	\$ 260,000	\$ 545,121	\$ 179,029	\$ 246,196	\$ 193,869	\$ (52,327)	(21)%
Discretionary Capital - Capital Stabilization	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,002,136	\$ 1,002,136	— %
Discretionary Capital - Other Sources		\$ 1,042,722	\$ 950,000	\$ —	\$ 60,581	\$ 60,581	— %
<i>Discretionary Capital</i>	<i>\$ 1,757,682</i>	<i>\$ 3,787,495</i>	<i>\$ 3,291,681</i>	<i>\$ 3,173,308</i>	<i>\$ 4,368,000</i>	<i>\$ 1,194,692</i>	<i>37.65 %</i>
Total 8000 Capital	\$ 3,801,943	\$ 5,882,997	\$ 5,439,570	\$ 5,624,894	\$ 6,880,876	\$ 1,255,982	22.33 %

*In FY2025, the Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee voted to transfer \$466,511 of discretionary capital funding to the Capital Stabilization Fund in anticipation of large requests for the Chenery in FY2026 and FY2027.

8000 - Capital Project Recommendations

Town of Belmont, MA

The Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee (CCBC) has voted to recommend the following projects for consideration at Town Meeting.

	Department	Project Description	Recommended	Override	Tax Levy	Free Cash	Cap. Stab.	Ent. Debt	Enterprise
1	Engineering	Pavement Management Program	\$ 2,000,617	\$ 2,000,617					
2	Public Works	Sidewalk Maintenance	\$ 512,266	\$ 512,266					
3	Public Works	Street Tree Planting	\$ 35,000		\$ 35,000				
4	Public Works	DPW Highway Equipment	\$ 100,000		\$ 100,000				
5	Water Dept.	Water Main Replacement	\$ 1,166,400					\$ 1,000,000	\$ 166,400
6	Water Dept.	Water Enterprise Equipment	\$ 307,855						\$ 307,855
7	Sewer Dept.	Sewer and Drain Rehabilitation	\$ 900,000						\$ 900,000
8	Sewer Dept.	Stormwater Repairs	\$ 275,000						\$ 275,000
9	Sewer Dept.	Sewer Enterprise Equipment	\$ 247,320						\$ 247,320
10	Facilities	Chenery HVAC Replacement	\$ 3,700,000		\$ 1,719,064	\$ 978,800	\$ 1,002,136		
11	Fire Dept.	Ambulance Replacement	\$ 118,000		\$ 118,000				
12	Fire Dept.	Breathing Apparatus Fill Station	\$ 90,000		\$ 90,000				
13	IT Dept.	Fiber/Cabling and AV Upgrades	\$ 100,000		\$ 100,000				
14	IT Dept.	IT Infrastructure Upgrade Plan	\$ 150,000		\$ 150,000				
15	COA	COA Transportation Accessible Van	\$ 75,000		\$ 75,000				
Total Project Costs			\$ 9,777,458	\$ 2,512,883	\$ 2,387,064	\$ 978,800	\$ 1,002,136	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,896,575

Capital Projects Funded via Dedicated Override Funds

1. **Pavement Management Program - \$2,000,617 (Tax Levy, Dedicated Override funding):** Reflects annual pavement management program funded from dedicated override funding, adjusted by 2.5% per year. In addition to the dedicated local funding, state Chapter 90 funding is applied to this purpose. In FY2026, \$546,536 is projected to be available from Chapter 90 funding. There is a proposal to expand overall Chapter 90 funding via revenue from the Fair Share amendment; that is pending in the state legislature.
2. **Sidewalk Maintenance - \$512,266 (Tax Levy, Dedicated Override funding):** Sidewalk repair is one of the most common requests from residents and businesses. The Department of Public Works has received countless requests for repair, and has diligently been working through them. A sidewalk assessment is nearly complete, which will inform project prioritization going forward. This program was originally funded via an override and grows by 2.5% per year.

General Fund Capital Projects

Public Works

3. **Street Tree Planting - \$35,000 (Tax Levy):** Trees are an under-recognized element of Belmont's overall infrastructure. The Town commissioned a Street Tree assessment which was published in April 2023 ([view here](#)) and will inform where the DPW will focus its tree maintenance efforts, as well as investments in new plantings to replace removed trees and areas where there are gaps in the tree canopy. More funding will be allocated based on available funds.

4. **DPW Highway Equipment - \$100,000 (Tax Levy):** While the DPW Highway Division operates year-round in many capacities, one of its most recognizable roles is snow removal, and staff work to ensure sufficient equipment and supplies are available when needed. The equipment replacement plan for FY2025 would convert an existing piece of equipment for use during snow operations.

Enterprise Fund Capital Projects

Water Department

5. **Water Main Replacement - \$1,166,400 (Water User Fees/MWRA Loan):** Ongoing water main replacement program which typically addresses 5,000 linear feet of pipe each year. The division has been able to take advantage of zero-interest loans from the MWRA to support its efforts. In addition, a 30-year program to replace unlined mains is nearing completion, and staff have begun planning for the next phase of work.
6. **Water Enterprise Equipment - \$307,855 (Water User Fees, Retained Earnings):** As part of an ongoing equipment replacement schedule, the water division is requesting a large Dump Truck (40,000 GVW), and will also replace a administrative vehicle with an electric utility vehicle.

Sewer Department

7. **Sewer and Drain Rehabilitation - \$900,000 (Sewer User Fees, Retained Earnings):** Reflects annual sewer infrastructure evaluation, maintenance, and rehabilitation program, typically conducted in conjunction with the work done for the pavement management program and EPA/DEP mandated work.

8. **Stormwater Repairs - \$275,000 (Sewer User Fees):**
Federal and state regulations around stormwater continue to grow, requiring ever increasing local interventions, necessitating a dedicated capital request to highlight the investments being made. These funds will be used for interventions specific to stormwater such as culverts and catch basins done in conjunction with the annual pavement management program.
9. **Sewer Enterprise Equipment - \$247,320 (Sewer User Fees):** The next vehicles on the Sewer Division's equipment replacement schedule is a large Dump Truck (40,000 GVW). The dump truck is a workhorse for the division, used extensively in day-to-day operations and also during snow season.

General Fund Capital Projects, cont.

Facilities Department

10. **Chenery HVAC Replacement - \$3,700,000 (Tax Levy):**
The Chenery's 20 rooftop units (11 heating only, and 9 heating and cooling) are failing and need to be updated in advance of a full roof replacement in FY2027. The new air-source heat pumps are eligible for rebates and a Green Communities grant, which are pending. Staff have also applied for an MSBA grant for the roof replacement. The work will be scheduled for Summer 2026.

Fire Department

11. **Ambulance Replacement - \$118,000 (Tax Levy):** An ambulance will be ordered once full funding has been authorized; this is the fourth year in the next 5-year replacement cycle. In July 2023, a new ambulance was delivered and the former frontline vehicle was placed in reserve status. Each ambulance has a 10-year total service period within the department. These vehicles are under extreme use, including transporting patients to hospitals in Boston daily. As an ambulance approaches the 5-year mark, it typically requires more intensive repairs and maintenance. This has an obvious financial impact, but also places the ambulance out of service for ever-increasing periods of time.
12. **Breathing Apparatus Fill Station - \$90,000 (Tax Levy):**
This project will replace a breathing apparatus fill station that was purchased used and is no longer supported for some of its replacement parts. Its capacity is not capable of fully supporting the breathing apparatus currently used by the Belmont Fire Department. It is likely to fail and become non-repairable.

Information Technology Department

13. **Fiber/Cabling and AV Upgrades - \$100,000 (Tax Levy):**
The Town of Belmont shares a network between municipal and school operations. As such, there are connections across Town. If any of those connections are broken, the entire network goes down. A redundant network had been built in the past, but recent construction damaged the connections in several areas, reverting the network back to a single point of failure design. In addition, the new Chief Innovation Officer has identified several areas in need of updating and enhancement. This project has been phased over several years and is supported by a \$250,000 competitive state grant.
14. **IT Infrastructure Upgrade Plan - \$150,000 (Tax Levy):**
This project aims to upgrade and maintain all Town and Public Safety servers, storage, battery backups, data closets, network equipment, phone systems, and other core infrastructure. The result will be greater opportunities for hybrid cloud integration, increased efficiency, capacity, performance security, and continuity.

Council on Aging

15. **COA Transportation Accessible Van - \$75,000 (Tax Levy):** The Council on Aging's current accessible 2016 Dodge Grand Caravan has started to fail and needs to be replaced after many years of daily, short-range, urban driving. Staff have applied for a grant, and the results should be known before Town Meeting. If received, the capital request would be reduced to cover the required local match.

Community Preservation Committee Projects

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) will likely recommend seven (7) projects to Town Meeting for FY2026 funding. Each of these projects was evaluated by the CPC in light of the articulated criteria for eligibility and appropriateness under the Community Preservation Act (CPA).

The projects have been presented at a CPC public hearing held on November 13, 2024 and at its regularly scheduled meetings on January 8, 2025 and January 9, 2025. The projects will also be presented at Select Board meetings in April 2025; and at Warrant Committee meetings in April 2025.

More information about these projects and the Belmont CPC can be found on the Town website:

www.belmont-ma.gov/CPC.

<u>Project Sponsor</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>			<u>Funding Category</u>
		<u>Base Project</u>	<u>Bid Reserve*</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Recreation Department	Chenery Park Renovation - Phase 2	\$ 2,000,000	\$ —	\$ 2,000,000	Recreation
Belmont Conservation Commission	Clay Pit Pond Walking Path - Full Design with Construction Documents and Drawings	\$ 100,000	\$ —	\$ 100,000	Recreation
Town of Belmont	West of Harris Softball Field	\$ 429,433	\$ —	\$ 429,433	Recreation
Belmont Housing Authority	Predevelopment Planning for Redevelopment of Belmont Village	\$ 650,000	\$ —	\$ 650,000	Community Housing
Department of Public Works	Complete Restoration of "Burial Hill" Original Cemetery - Design	\$ 60,000	\$ —	\$ 60,000	Historic Preservation
Facilities Department	Homer Building Restoration (Town Hall Annex)	\$ 550,396	\$ —	\$ 550,396	Historic Preservation
Facilities Department	Restore Failed Retaining Wall, Town Hall	\$ 750,000	\$ —	\$ 750,000	Historic Preservation

**The Bid Reserve is a new element that was introduced in FY2025. Many recent projects have suffered from public bids coming in higher than expected and therefore delaying projects for a year or more. The bid reserve is an attempt to prevent this from happening while at the same time ensuring that leftover bid reserve funding will be returned to the CPA Fund balance if it isn't used. The Committee is still reviewing the use of bid reserve in FY2026 at this time.*

Community Preservation Act Projects

- 1. Chenery Park Renovation - Phase 2 - \$2,000,000:** The Chenery Park revitalization project aims to renovate the outdated and deteriorating park to better serve both the school and the wider Belmont community. The project, approved for design and engineering and a first round of construction funding in Spring 2024, has strong community support, with extensive engagement efforts and planned collaboration with various stakeholders. The current target to begin construction is Fall 2025, with completion forecast for Summer 2026.
- 2. Clay Pit Pond Walking Path - Full Design with Construction Documents and Drawings - \$100,000:** This project continues a 2014 CPA-funded Master Plan for an Intergenerational Walking Path at Clay Pit Pond. In 2017, CPA financed 2,500 feet of the path, but completion was delayed due to High School construction. This request funds design for the remaining 1,700 feet, improving access from Hittinger Street, around the pond's north side, to Concord Avenue. Once complete, the path will fully encircle the pond, eliminating the need to navigate school driveways.
- 3. West of Harris Softball Field - \$429,433:** The project aims to revitalize the softball field at 221 Concord Avenue, adjacent to Harris Field, by reconditioning the grass surface, installing an irrigation system, improving fencing, and re-installing the discus throwing area. It aligns with broader campus improvements, ensuring better field quality, increased playing time, and enhanced safety. The project is a collaborative effort involving the School Committee, School Department, and Town Administration.
- 4. Predevelopment Planning for Redevelopment of Belmont Village - \$650,000:** This project will redevelop Belmont Village by replacing the existing outdated affordable housing with new, modern, and sustainable buildings. The \$650,000 in CPA funding will support predevelopment work, including feasibility studies, site planning, and design needed for zoning and site plan approvals. The new all-electric buildings will meet Passive House standards to ensure long-term affordability and environmental sustainability.
- 5. Complete Restoration of "Burial Hill" Original Cemetery - Design - \$60,000:** This project supports the design phase for the future restoration of Historic Burial Hill, with the goal of preserving its historical significance and ensuring long-term structural integrity. While this funding is solely for design work, the plan will address key needs such as gravestone repair, pathway restoration, improved accessibility, and erosion control. The resulting design will guide future restoration efforts to protect and maintain this important historic site for generations to come.
- 6. Homer Building Restoration (Town Hall Annex) - \$550,396:** This project focuses on the restoration of the historic Homer Building, addressing masonry repairs, wooden trim and brackets, and necessary work on gutters. The work will prevent further deterioration, control water infiltration, and extend the building's useful life. The \$550,396 in funding follows a prior CPA-funded study by Spencer Preservation Group, which assessed the building's needs and guided this restoration effort.

7. Restore Failed Retaining Wall, Town Hall - \$750,000:

This project aims to restore the failed retaining wall that supports the driveway on the west side of Belmont Town Hall. A section of the wall has collapsed, and temporary shoring was installed to prevent further deterioration. The funding will support structural repairs designed by Bayside Engineering, addressing driveway support and water runoff management, resetting granite structures, and bringing railings up to code.

Appendix A - General Fund Budget Alignment Across Municipal and School Functions

Category	Budgeted	Municipal	Schools
Municipal Depts.	\$ 34,174,375	\$ 34,174,375	
Belmont Public Schools	\$ 70,618,619		\$ 70,618,619
Facilities	\$ 7,898,460	\$ 1,618,037	\$ 6,280,423
Pension	\$ 10,128,274	\$ 7,093,352	\$ 3,034,922
Benefits - Empl/Retiree	\$ 16,809,472	\$ 5,869,903	\$ 10,939,568
OPEB	\$ 440,364	\$ 153,776	\$ 286,588
Debt Service	\$ 17,684,656	\$ 1,986,287	\$ 15,698,369
Liability Insurance	\$ 857,208	\$ 416,910	\$ 440,298
WC Reserve	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	
Regional Schools	\$ 234,580		\$ 234,580
Capital - Streets/Sidewalks	\$ 2,512,876	\$ 2,512,876	
Discretionary Capital	\$ 4,368,000	\$ 668,000	\$ 3,700,000
Total General Fund	\$ 166,226,883	\$ 54,993,516	\$ 111,233,367
		33.1%	66.9%