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**TOWN OF BELMONT
WARRANT FOR 2025 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JULY 7, 2025
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Middlesex, ss.

To any of the Constables of the Town of Belmont 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 convene on **July 23, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** by means of the audio/video conferencing platform described more particularly below, and to notify and warn the Town Meeting Members to convene by said method and act at said time on the Articles set forth on page 3 of this Warrant.

The Town Meeting shall be held remotely by the means requested by the Moderator, as follows:

Interested members of the public may see and hear the proceedings by tuning in to the Belmont Media Center's live broadcast of the proceedings on Belmont cable television (Comcast channel 8, Verizon channel 28) or by live-streaming at www.belmontmedia.org.

Town Meeting Members will attend and vote by logging into a web page portal operated by the Town's electronic voting vendor with unique credentials that will be issued to each Town Meeting Member before the meeting.

Town Meeting Members and other participants approved by the Moderator who wish to address the meeting will participate in the meeting through the "Zoom" videoconferencing service. Login credentials will be provided to all Town Meeting Members. Registered voters who wish to address the meeting as approved by the Moderator may contact the Town Clerk's office for login credentials, 617-993-2603.

For more information, see the July 2, 2025 Moderator's letter to the Select Board appended to this Warrant as Appendix A.

ARTICLE 1

REPORTS

To hear the report of the Select Board and other Town Officers, 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 Select Board 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 at the call of the Moderator.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 2 CITIZEN PETITION: ALCOHOL HOME RULE LEGISLATION: "SEATING CAPACITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL ALCOHOL LICENSES AND WINE AND MALT BEVERAGE FOR RESTAURANTS"

To see if the Town will vote to authorize and request the Select Board to (1) file Home Rule Legislation or other Special Legislation (a) eliminating the seating capacity requirements for All Alcohol Licenses and Wine and Malt Beverage Only Licenses for restaurants and (b) increasing the numbers of All Alcohol Licenses and Wine and Malt Beverage Only Licenses for restaurants and (2) revise the Town's Alcoholic Beverage Policies, Rules and Regulations so as to expand eligibility for restaurants and simplify the application process for restaurants, the Select Board and Town staff.

Submitted by Carol Berberian, Town Meeting Member Precinct 7
and Max Colice

The petitioners will report on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 3 CITIZEN PETITION: SAVE "THE SKIP" RETAIN THE NAME & CONTINUE TO HONOR THE JAMES P. "SKIP" VIGLIROLO RINK

To see if the Town of Belmont will vote to affirm the 1998 votes of both the Recreation Commission and the Board of Selectmen, that changed the name of the Belmont Municipal Rink to the James P. Viglirolo Rink, in recognition for his years of leadership, service and contribution to Belmont, and for generations the rink known as "The Skip", by retaining the name as the James P. "Skip" Viglirolo Rink, or the like, as the official name of Belmont's newly reconstructed municipal rink and sports facility, in 2025 and for generations beyond to keep Skip's legacy alive in our community.

Submitted by Gail Harrington, on behalf of the petitioners

The petitioners will report on this Article.

Non-binding vote.



Given under our hands this 7th day of July, 2025

A True Copy, Attest
Ellen O'Brien Ashman
Town Clerk of Belmont, MA

BELMONT SELECT BOARD

Handwritten signature of Matt Taylor in black ink.

Matt Taylor, Chair

Handwritten signature of Taylor Yates in black ink.

Taylor Yates, Vice Chair

Handwritten signature of Elizabeth Dionne in black ink.

Elizabeth Dionne, Member



TOWN OF BELMONT
455 CONCORD AVENUE
BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
02478

MICHAEL CROWLEY
TOWN MODERATOR

moderator@belmont-ma@gov
(617) 752-2250

July 2, 2025

By Hand

Matt Taylor, Chair Belmont Select Board
455 Concord Avenue
Belmont, MA 02478

Re: July 23, 2025 Special Town Meeting – Request to Call a Remote Town Meeting

Dear Mr. Taylor and Members of the Select Board:

I am hereby requesting, in my capacity as Town Moderator, that the Select Board call for the July 23, 2025 Special Town Meeting to be held through remote participation because of the public health and safety risk presented by holding a physical meeting with 300 people, as well as for public convenience. This letter is intended to conform to the requirements of Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, Section 26 and Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, as most recently amended by Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025.

Such a meeting would be conducted using a combination of technologies, described in more detail below, that will allow Town Meeting Members (TMMs) to see and hear the Moderator and other participants, to be recognized and addressing the meeting, and to vote securely. This combination of technologies will allow non-TMMs to see and hear the proceedings and, when authorized in advance by the Moderator, to address the meeting in the same manner as is the practice in Belmont. It will allow TMMs to signal the Moderator when they wish to address the pending question and be put in line to speak, as is customary at live Town Meetings, to determine whether a quorum is present, to raise a point of order where appropriate, and to determine whether their votes have been properly recorded. The technologies will allow interested members of the public to watch the meeting remotely for purposes of witnessing the meeting and it allows for the meeting to be recorded so that the proceedings can be heard and viewed at a later time. Lastly, our court reporter would be creating the word-by-word transcript as required by Belmont General Bylaw §20-210.

Belmont Select Board Request for the May 5, 2025 ATM by Hybrid Participation

The combination of technology methods I am proposing includes the following:

- TMMs will attend the meeting remotely and vote using "TurningPoint," a secure online application operated by Turning Technologies, the same company that provides the electronic voting system acquired by the Town and used at Town Meetings since 2014. Each TMM will be assigned unique login credentials to use the system. TMMs who are logged in through TurningPoint will be deemed present at the meeting and will be able to vote using its features. All votes will be recorded electronically and the vote of each TMM will be displayed on the screen so that each member can verify that his or her vote was correctly recorded, as a roll call vote.
- Active participation in the meeting will be conducted through "Zoom," a proprietary video conferencing platform (<https://zoom.us/>). The Town currently has a license to conduct a Zoom meeting with up to 500 participants. This number is sufficient to accommodate the 288 TMMs from the Town's 8 precincts, the at-large members, and town officials and staff, with more than sufficient additional capacity for additional speakers if necessary. All approved speakers and TMMs will be issued an invitation allowing them to log in to the meeting from a desktop or laptop computer, tablet or smartphone, or to call into the meeting with any telephone (audio only). For security and clarity of presentation, the screen and the audio will be controlled by Town staff acting under my direction, as is our custom. All speakers will be muted until recognized by the Moderator. TMMs may use the "raise hand" feature of the software to get in line to speak, and will be recognized in order, unless I choose to recognize a town official to answer a question or address a particular point. Any non-TMM who has made arrangements with me in advance of the meeting to speak can be recognized in a similar manner.
- Town officials and staff will participate by logging in to the Zoom meeting in the same manner described above.
- If a TMM has a point of order, it can be raised by using the "Q&A" feature, which will be monitored by one of my staff assistants so that any such point of order can be brought to my attention promptly. This same feature would allow a TMM who does not have a microphone to contribute to the meeting, as above, with a member of the staff reading the comments and questions submitted through the Q&A feature so that they may be entered into the record.
- The Zoom video and audio feed will be simultaneously broadcast by Belmont Media on local cable stations and by livestreaming on the internet. It will also be simultaneously recorded for future viewing. Any member of the public, whether or not a Belmont resident, will be able to view the proceeding live. TMMs may choose to listen to and view the proceedings in the same manner, but will not be considered present unless also logged in to TurningPoint.

Belmont Select Board Request for the May 5, 2025 ATM by Hybrid Participation

With the assistance and cooperation of the Town Clerk's office and the Town's Information Technology Department, these platforms have been tested and I am satisfied that they will allow the conduct of a Special Town Meeting that will function in substantially the same manner as a Special Town Meeting conducted in a physical location and in accordance with the operational and functional requirements set forth in Chapter 92. Furthermore, since 2020, Belmont has held many successful sessions of Annual and Special Town Meeting by remote and hybrid means that were attended by 250 or more Town Meeting Members, using the combination of technologies described in this letter.

I hereby confirm that I will confer with the Chair of the Belmont Disabilities Access Commission about accessibility to the Special Town Meeting.

I appreciate your consideration of this request. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Michael Crowley
Town Moderator

cc: Patrice Garvin, Town Administrator (by email)
Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Town Clerk (by email)
Mina S. Makarious, Town Counsel (by email)

A True Copy, Attest
Ellen O'Brien Cushman
Town Clerk of Belmont, MA

