

**MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
Tuesday, October 14, 2014
7:00 PM**

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CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order in open session at 7:06 p.m. by Chair Rojas in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Selectmen Baghdady and Paolillo were present. Town Administrator David Kale was present; Assistant Town Administrator Marshall was not present.

Chair Rojas reviewed the agenda.

QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS

Ms. Jeanne Mooney, Town Meeting Member Precinct 6, asked whether the SAFER grant that the Fire Department recently received was an item that would be considered by Town Meeting or whether the Board of Selectmen approve it. Mr. Kale answered that the Board of Selectmen has the authority to accept the grant for the two positions.

ACTION BY APPOINTMENT

Reappointment of Town Accountant for a three year term

Ms. Chitra Subramanian, Town Accountant, appeared before the Board regarding her re-appointment. Mr. Kale noted that the Board needs to vote to support a re-appointment for a three-year term. He then explained that in addition to the day to day office matters of the Town Account such as accounts payable and payroll processing, coordination of the annual Audit and working with the annual audit committee, controls and verification of accounting practices, calculation of the recap for tax rate setting in December in collaboration with the Board of Assessors, certification of free cash, assisting in effort to perform the biannual actuarial study of the pension and OPEB. He expressed support for her handling of several critical fiscal functions.

The Board also extended its support of Ms. Subramanian and thanked her for all her efforts.

The Board moved: To approve the three year-term appointment of Ms. Chitra Subramanian as Town Accountant to October 31, 2017.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Community Friends – Program to Support Disabled Young People

Mr. Bill Skelley, former Selectman of Belmont, and Timothy Poulsen appeared before the Board to discuss the Community Friends program. Mr. Skelley explained a little about his experiences with disabled young from childhood with his special needs sister, Mary Elizabeth. He explained that he is able to communicate with Tim via eye contact in a manner similar to the way he

communicated with his sister.

He then discussed the Community Friends program. This program proposes to pair up teenagers with young children who are disabled to benefit the teens who would receive community service credit, while learning about life and helping people. He will be meeting with the School Committee and asking for their support, as well.

The Board expressed its support for the Community Friends program.

National Grid Petition for Shaw Road

Mr. Dennis Regan, National Grid Representative, and Mr. Glenn Clancy, Town Engineer, appeared before the Board regarding the National Grid Petition #144-8504-988975 for Shaw Road. Mr. Regan explained the details of the petition. Mr. Clancy said there were no issues with this request.

The Board discussed the process of adding neighboring residents to the petition for gas service as well as the status of pavement on Shaw Road. Selectman Paolillo stated that when a road is recently paved, he will not support ripping into a road for this purpose. Mr. Clancy explained the process for road pavement vis-à-vis the gas permitting process.

The Board discussed issues relating to pavement and gas permitting.

The Board moved: To approve the National Grid Petition for Shaw Road.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Special Town Meeting Warrant Vote

Chair Rojas stated that the Special TM scheduled for Monday, November 17, 2014 will address the Belmont Center Reconstruction Project.

The warrant will open on October 15 at 9:00 a.m. and close on October 15 at 10:00 a.m.

The Board moved: To open and close the Special TM Warrant on October 15 at 9:00 a.m. and close at 10:00 a.m.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

ACTION BY CONSENT

Approval of application from Mr. Kaluga T. Kaggwa for a Class II License to Buy and Sell Motor Vehicles at 280 Trapelo Road (continued from 9/29/14)

Mr. Kale explained that both of the license requests will need to be continued to the Board's next meeting.

The Board moved: To *continue* the license request, as noted above, to October 20, 2014.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Approval of application from Mr. Dennis A. Dyer for a Common Victualler License at 628 Trapelo Road

The Board moved: To *continue* the license request, as requested by the applicant to October 20, 2014.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board took a five-minute recess.

Acceptance of Donation for the Underwood Pool Project

Ms. Anne Paulsen, Chair of the Underwood Pool Building Committee (UPBC), other members of the UPBC, and Belmont Savings Bank President Mr. Bob Mahoney appeared before the Board to request that the Board accept the donations for the Underwood Pool Project in the amount of \$411,000.

Ms. Paulsen described the fundraising process and steps for moving ahead with the pool project.

UPBC member Ms. Ellen Schrieber further explained the fundraising efforts, noting that checks are still coming in and additional money will be used as contingency funding for the pool. Over 450 families contributed to the pool. She acknowledged the generosity of Belmont Savings Bank with regard to its matching grant of \$200,000.

The Board of Selectmen thanked the UPBC and Belmont Savings Bank for their hard work and successful efforts. The Board expressed its support for the project.

Ms. Paulsen acknowledged the UPBC for their work as well as Mr. Kale, Mr. Boyle, and Mr. Castanino.

The Board moved: To accept the donation of \$411,000 gifted to Belmont consisting of \$211,000 in donations and \$200,000 in matching funds from the Belmont Savings Bank – for the Underwood Pool Project.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Presentation: Preserving the Silver Maple Forest

Ms. Amy Mertl and Mr. David Morimoto, Biology Professors from Leslie University, and Ms. Ann Marie Lambert, appeared before the Board to share their research findings as they relate to the Silver Maple trees located on the Uplands site.

Mr. Kale explained to the Board that these individuals will speak to the economic impact of preserving the Silver Maple Forest.

Ms. Mertl spoke about the importance of various ecosystems that would be impacted by the removal of the forest. Mr. Morimoto described several health benefits of trees. \$13M is the cost to Belmont incurred by removing the trees, as represented by Ms. Mertl.

Chair Rojas expressed the Board's support for preserving the Silver Maple Forest. He noted that the town is very aware that it has been a difficult issue and the Town has been participating in

the effort while respecting the rights of the parties. He thanked the two presenters.

The Board opened the floor to resident comments.

Ms. Lambert, TMM Pct. 8, asked the Board to consider the cost of large constructed wetlands and other mitigation associated with the Uplands project and to allocate funding from the FY16 budget development including a Stormwater user fee. She reviewed the concerns associated with the Silver Maple forest.

Selectman Paolillo highlighted the operational impact of adding 298 affordable housing units in that area. The impact to Belmont will be huge, he said, especially with regard to the schools. Selectman Paolillo also requested the assistance of Representative Rogers and Senator Brownsberger regarding efforts at the state level.

Mr. Fred Paulsen, TMM Pct. 1, spoke about the approval process with regard to this project including whether affordable housing would be extended in perpetuity. He raised the issue of purchasing this property from the owner.

Alison Light, TMM Pct. 8, said that only 60 units are affordable, the remaining units will be luxury. She said she hopes the Board will "step up" to the fight.

Vote: Green Communities Grant Application

Mr. Gerry Boyle, Facilities Director appeared before the Board to provide an application update and request the Board's support with regard to the Green Community grant application. Mr. Kale informed the Board that the application has been worked on for the past several months and the last of the five criteria steps pertains to the detailed plan specifics of reducing energy by 15-20%.

Ms. Joanne Bissetta, State Coordinator of the Green Communities Project reiterated that the final plan pertains to reducing energy use across town by 20% in five years. She said that if the 20% reduction is not achieved, there is no negative consequence.

Mr. Kale explained the costs associated with energy reduction and touched on the funding options for this undertaking.

The Board discussed the costs associated with this program, the potential energy savings, and the impact of the various available grants. The Board expressed the need to more thoroughly review the application process before voting.

The Board discussed meeting on Friday morning at 8:00 a.m. to review the documents and vote.
Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Kale will report out on the 6/30/14 Financial Report next week.

Selectman Paolillo noted that the Board of Selectmen may want to revisit the Community Bike Path topic, as many interested residents would like to see this addressed by the Board.

NEXT MEETINGS

Monday, October 20, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. (Beech Street Center)

Monday, October 20, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Precinct Meeting on Pension/OPEB

Executive Session I

The Board moved: To enter into executive session at 9:28 p.m. to discuss strategy sessions with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the Chair so declares. The Board will return to open session in order to vote.

A roll call vote was taken: Chair Rojas said aye, Selectman Baghdady and Paolillo also said aye and the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Open Session

The Board moved: To approve the Memorandum Of Understanding to the Contract between the Town of Belmont and the AFSCME Local 408 effective July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017 as detailed by Ms. Crimmins.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Executive Session II

The Board moved: To enter into executive session at 9:43 p.m. to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body and the Chair so declares. The Board will not return to open session.

A roll call vote was taken: Chair Rojas said aye, Selectman Baghdady and Paolillo also said aye and the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

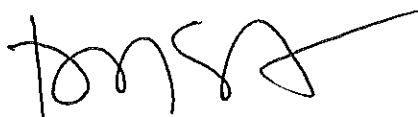
Mr. George Hall, Town Counsel, and Mr. Glenn Clancy, Town Engineer, appeared before the Board to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property.

The Board moved: To exit Executive Session and Return to Open Session at 10:50 p.m.

A roll call vote was taken: Chair Rojas said aye, Selectman Baghdady and Paolillo also said aye and the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Open Session

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 p.m.



Mr. David Kale, Town Administrator