

**MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
Monday, July 7, 2014
6:45 PM**

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA
2014 AUG 20 AM 10:49

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order in open session at 6:51 p.m. by Chair Rojas in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Selectmen Baghdady and Paolillo were present. Town Administrator David Kale and Assistant Town Administrator Marshall were also present.

Chair Rojas reviewed the agenda.

QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS

Ms. Rita Butzer Carpenter, Oak Ave., asked why the Starbucks discussion was removed from the July 7, 2014 agenda, and when it will be discussed by the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Baghdady explained that Chris Starr (Cushing Village Developer) and his associates are not prepared to move forward at this time. He said they will appear before the Zoning Board of Appeals in the near future before there will be a meeting with the Board. Ms. Carpenter added that there are parking concerns from the neighbors and 67 residents signed a letter expressing concerns about the anticipated location and parking. She stated that the neighborhood is not conducive to this business.

Selectman Baghdady noted that these concerns have been heard. Chair Rojas added that the relocation of Starbucks was proposed as a temporary situation. He noted that Cushing Village will be an asset to the entire town.

ACTION BY APPOINTMENT

Comcast Petition represented by Precision Valley Communications

Mr. Kale recommended that this issue be continued to the next Board meeting, as several issues are being worked out.

The Board moved: To continue the Comcast petition request, until the BOS meets again July 21, 2014.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

National Grid Petition for Robin wood Road

Mr. Dennis Regan, National Grid Representative, appeared before the Board to request a petition for 290 feet of gas main on Robin wood Road. He detailed the project involved.

Chair Rojas noted that concerns have been raised regarding whether adding additional homes for the project would reduce the cost. Mr. Regan explained that he is not allowed to solicit additional homes, but that other homes can make their official requests to National Grid.

Ms. Fariba Rostam, 12 Robin wood Road, said there are many neighbors who have expressed interest in having a gas hook-up, but only four residents ended up submitting applications to National Grid.

The Board asked what would be involved in adding additional homes to the existing plan. Mr. Regan said it might not be possible to add homes to this particular petition. Selectman Baghdady requested that Mr. Regan try to add the additional homes to this petition.

Selectman Paolillo noted that National Grid was recently involved in laying gas main on Brighton Street (without permission) during rush hour. He asked how this situation could be avoided in the future. Mr. Kale said that a meeting will be arranged to discuss the scheduling of work, going forward.

The Board moved: To approve the gas main petition request, on Robin wood Road, as noted above.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Megan O'Halloran, Executive Director of Watertown-Belmont Chamber of Commerce

Ms. O'Halloran introduced herself. She said she would like the Chamber of Commerce to have a stronger presence in Belmont. The Chamber of Commerce can be a resource to local businesses. She expressed her excitement in working with Belmont.

The Board discussed the role of the Chamber of Commerce in Belmont. It was noted that the most of the local banks are participating members in the Chamber of Commerce. Chair Rojas suggested that Ms. O'Halloran reach out to the Belmont Center Business Association, as well as the *Think Big, Think Belmont* group. Selectman Baghdady suggested that Ms. O'Halloran meet with the Belmont Economic Advisory Committee, as well.

Proclamation: Carl F. Barron

Mr. Kenneth Barron, Police Chief McLaughlin, and Fire Chief Frizzell appeared before the Board.

Chair Rojas read the Proclamation.

The Board moved: To approve the proclamation as read.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Selectman Paolillo acknowledged the generosity of Mr. Barron. Mr. Kenneth Barron spoke briefly about his father. He added that his father had great respect for the Belmont Police

Department and Belmont Fire Department. Chief McLaughlin said that Mr. Barron's goal was to make the world a better place. Chief Frizzell noted that Mr. Barron supported good work and shared his wisdom with the public safety departments.

Mr. Kenneth Barron thanked the Board for their acknowledgment of his father.

Signing of the Election Warrant for the September 9, 2014 Primary Election

Ms. Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Town Clerk, appeared before the Board regarding the state election scheduled on Tuesday, September 9, 2014. She described the offices that would have candidates running for office on the primary ballot. The general election will be November 4, 2014.

The Board moved: To approve and sign the Election Warrant for the September 9, 2014 Primary Election.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Cable Assessment Report

Mr. Jeff Hansell, Executive Director of Belmont Media Center, Mr. Myron Kassaraba and Mr. Mark Carthy, both of the Cable Advisory Committee, and Mr. Chet Messer, Chairman of the Belmont Media Center Board of Directors, appeared before the Board to provide a presentation on the Cable Assessment Report.

Mr. Kassaraba began by reviewing the work that has been undertaken during in preparation of the Comcast negotiations. The BUSKE Group as consultant to the Belmont Media Center has experience with preparation of ascertainment and assessment in other communities to describe the needs of communities by incorporating the results of town-wide focus groups and online survey. The Town of Belmont contract for the Comcast cable franchise expires in October, 2014 and renewal negotiations are under way.

Mr. Hansell stated that the report includes a compilation of all the feedback that was gathered since February, 2014. The goal of the outreach was to identify the needs of the cable television services provided as assessed by the Community.

Mr. Hansell added that the community and schools were very responsive and provided detailed information on programming it would like to see.

The Board briefly discussed the assessment report.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Kale reported on the following items:

- Amendment to the Agreement for two additional ZipCars that would be available in the Cushing Square area of Belmont. Currently two ZipCars are available in Belmont Center. The Board discussed this option.

The Board moved: To approve the proposed Amendment to the existing Agreement between the Town of Belmont and ZipCar so that two additional cars are allowed at \$150/month per space paid to the Town.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

- Committee Appointment Process – Mr. Kale updated the Board on the status of applications for Committee Appointments and noted that some committees have received no applications so further outreach is necessary. A summary report was provided for the Board at the meeting on July 7, 2014. Selectman Paolillo said he would like to re-establish a Youth Commission. Mr. Kale noted that this concept could be revisited. The Board agreed that this idea is worth exploring.
- Minuteman Update – The proposed sizing for a new school has been revised from 800 to approximately 640 students. Non- member districts may need to pay a “facilities fee” which has not yet been determined. Requirements of debt obligation for non-member and member towns as well as an Intergovernmental Agreement will be discussed at upcoming meetings. 10 member towns accepted the amendment, 5 member towns “indefinitely postponed” or passed over the Article on the Amendment to the Minuteman Regional Vocational School Agreement and one voted to decline. Selectman Paolillo noted that Mr. Weis voted no on the 640 number. The Board expressed its support for Mr. Weis’ vote.
- Precinct Meeting – Monday, September 8, 2014 at 7:00 is the date/time set to discuss the proposed renovations to Belmont Center. Monday, October 20, 2014 is another date proposed for a Precinct Meeting to discuss Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) that will be held at the Beech Street Center.
- Special Town Meeting – The proposed date is Monday, November 17, 2014.
- Financial Task Force Update – Selectman Paolillo informed the Board that the FTF continues to meet and gather data. The report will hopefully be issued this fall, presented to the Board of Selectmen and at Precinct Meetings. There is more work that needs to be done and subcommittee findings that need to be combined into a complete report.

Executive Session I and II

I. The Board moved: To enter into executive session at 8:17 p.m. to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the Chair so declares. A roll call vote was taken: Chair Rojas said aye, Selectmen Baghdady and Paolillo also said aye and the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

II. The Board moved: 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 may 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).

Open Session

The Board moved: To exit Executive Session and Return to Open Session at 9:50 p.m.
A roll call vote was taken: Chair Rojas said aye, Selectmen Baghdady and Paolillo also said aye and the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

NEXT MEETING

Monday, July 21, 2014

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DKale", written over a horizontal line.

Mr. David Kale, Town Administrator