

**MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
Monday, December 20, 2010
7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order in open session at 7:01 pm by Chair Jones in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Selectmen Firenze was present; Selectman Paolillo was not present as a result of the traffic caused by the inclement weather. Town Administrator Tom Younger and Assistant Town Administrator Jeff Conti were present.

[Selectman Paolillo arrived at 7:26 pm]

QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS

Mr. Matt Sullivan, Precinct 3, suggested that the \$1.2M in unanticipated free cash be used the following way: \$600K for roads, \$200K for sidewalk repair, \$300K for the schools and \$50K for police overtime and \$50K for fire overtime. The Board noted that this money was expected to show up in free cash for FY12. Chair Jones noted that the Town has avoided dipping into free cash as a reserve, and that even if the \$1.2M is used for the operating budget there will still be a substantial funding gap that needs to be closed.

ACTION BY APPOINTMENT

Police Dept. – Acceptance of \$20,000 Donation from T.A. Pappas Charitable Foundation

Police Chief McLaughlin appeared before the Board to report on the donation to the police of \$20K, which will be used for equipment upgrades. He asked that the Board accept the donation. He also noted that the Pappas Foundation has been generous in giving donations to the Police Department. Chair Jones thanked the Pappas Foundation.

The Board moved: To accept the donation of \$20K from the T.A. Pappas Charitable Foundation.

The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

Consideration of One Night Extended Hours for Il Casale Restaurant

Mr. Younger noted that this is the second year Il Casale has requested extended New Year's hours and there were no problems last year.

The Board moved: To approve the request to extend the hours for Il Casale on evening of December 31, 2010 to 1:00 am (January 1, 2011).
The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

Common Victualler's Licenses

The following establishments are renewing their Common Victualler's licenses: Asai, Belmont Pizza, Bruegger's Bagel Bakery, Golden Garden, Gregory's House of Pizza, Pho & Thai, Rancatore's Ice Cream & Yogurt, Savinos, Select Café, Hynes Collision Center, Superior Tradinc Corp., Grigorian Brothers Corp., Advantage Limo, and Boston Executive Coach.

Chair Jones noted that Belmont Pizza has requested to extend their hours on Friday and Saturday to 12:00 am. Mr. Younger advised that if the extension is granted, similar establishments in town may also request to extend hours. Chair Jones said that their requests would be considered when they come before the Board.

The Board moved: To approve the Common Victualler's licenses for the above-named establishments, and to approve the hours extension requested by Belmont Pizza.
The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

Signs for Beech Street Center

Mr. Younger wondered if the town wanted to discuss the issue of overnight parking permits (and signs) in this lot. The Board said it will revisit this topic in January.

The Board moved: To approve the proposed parking lot signs for the Beech Street Center.
The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

Approval of BOS Minutes for 8/16/10, 9/10/10, 9/27/10, 10/4/10, 10/18/10

Mr. Conti noted that 8/16/10 minutes could not be approved until Selectman Paolillo was present.

The Board moved: To approve the BOS meeting minutes for the above noted meetings [except 8/16/10].
The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

ACTION BY CONSENT

Approval of Schedule of BOS Meetings from January-June 2011

Selectman Firenze requested to change the date of the meeting on Election Day to the following Tuesday and to schedule a Board meeting on the night of Town Meeting. Mr. Younger requested to change the May 16 meeting and move it to May 23.

The Board moved: To accept the Board meeting dates for January – June 2011, as amended.

The motion passed unanimously (2-0).

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Younger reported on the following items:

- Elderly affairs regionalization will be pursued with Arlington.
 - HR Consolidation – there is a draft report being worked on by the committee.
 - Pavement Mgt. for Park Ave. will address the water runoff issues there.
 - The Wellington school project is moving forward in a timely manner.
 - Double poles – the DPW are removing poles where possible.
 - The last Belmont Center hearing on traffic flow issues is scheduled for January 13.
 - The Governor approved the additional “all alcohol” license requests for those who have the appropriate seating.
 - The Attorney General has approved actions from the town's Fall TM.

Discussion of Metered Parking

Mr. Paul Roberts appeared before the Board to discuss the use of metered parking. Chair Jones thanked Mr. Roberts for undertaking this issue. Mr. Roberts began by noting that he focused on the Return on Investment (ROI) impact of multi-space “smart meters.” Parking spaces are a resource and a source of revenue that the town needs to maximize. He noted that these meters could provide convenience to shoppers, commuters, and residents. He explored how to provide the town with better data on parking use and parking patterns. Roberts reviewed that these meters are user-friendly; take cash, credit, and coin; are attractive; and are easy to administer. There are, on average, 7-10 parking spaces per one multi-space meter. These cost about \$7K – \$9K per unit. There are on-going fees that the town would need to bear, \$50-\$75 per month. In addition to those monthly fees, there are carrier fees for wireless access and possible warranty fees. Credit card transaction fees exist as well. The lifespan of these meters is 10-12 years.

Mr. Roberts reviewed Brookline's experience with multi-space meters. He then noted specific areas in Belmont where meters are already in use. He reviewed the main areas throughout town where the multi-use meters could be employed. Leonard Street and Trapelo Road could be well utilized, he said.

He reviewed meter revenue from past years across town and including the lots in Belmont Center, Cushing Square, and Waverley Square. The ticketing is currently manual. He reviewed the potential revenue and costs of the multi-space meters.

The on-street parking on Royal Road near the train station, he said, would be an ideal “test case” for these meters. He projected the income that could be generated if these meters were installed there: \$30K per year – perhaps \$300K over the life of the meter. He concluded by saying that the ROI for the town for this project would be less than 1 year.

Chair Jones thanked Mr. Roberts. The Board discussed next steps, which would include meeting again on January 10 to discuss this matter further.

ACTION BY APPOINTMENT

Executive Session

The Board moved: To enter into executive session at 7:52 pm to discuss the value of real property. The Board will return to open session very briefly and then return to executive session again at which time they will meet with the School Committee.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

(During executive session, no substantive motions were made.)

The Board returned to open session at 8:15 PM.

Executive Session with the School Committee

The Board moved: To enter into Executive Session at 8:19 pm to discuss collective bargaining and to discuss strategy with respect to security. The Board will return to open session.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0). The School Committee unanimously passed an identical motion.

(During executive session, one substantive motion was made and passed unanimously.)

The Board returned to open session at 9:38 PM.

One Day Liquor License, Friends of Belmont Public Library

Ms. Nancy Dignan, President of the Friends of the Belmont Public Library, appeared before the Board to request a liquor license for the *Books in Bloom* event to be held January 28, 2011.

The Board moved: To approve the one-day liquor license request.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Benton Library License Agreement

Selectman Paolillo raised a question about the wording of the license agreement. He wanted to be sure that this would be completely “cost neutral” to the town. He then asked about future PILOT payments. Ms. Elizabeth Gibson, President of the Friends of the Benton Library, replied that if the funds were there, PILOT payments would be made, but that there was no way of saying for sure, at this point.

The Board moved:~ To accept the license agreement as written.~~
The motion passed 2-1 (Firenze nay.)

The Board and Ms. Gibson signed the license agreement.

Proposed Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC)

Selectman Paolillo said that he has been working with Mr. Younger on this and together they referred to other communities to model the objective of an EDAC in Belmont. He read the objective(s) aloud. Chair Jones proposed to strike the word “balance” from the first line of the charge. The Board discussed how to make appointments to this new committee and how to recruit members.

The Board moved: To form the Belmont EDAC as outlined here tonight (with the one change noted above), and to solicit participation over the next 30 days, with the Board appointing the members.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Discussion of Committee Appointments

The Board moved: To appoint Mr. Steve Mazzola to the Belmont Energy Committee.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To appoint Vincent DeNovellis to the Council on Aging.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To appoint Ms. Ann Shullenberger-Levy and Ms. Ilyse Robbins Mohr to the Cultural Council.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To reappoint Ms. Fran Yuan to the Human Rights Commission.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To reappoint Mr. Daniel Ellard, Mr. Matthew McGovern, and Mr. Charles Smart to the Information Technology Advisory Committee.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To reappoint all current members to the Local Emergency Planning Committee, as they represent various town departments.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To reappoint Mr. Timothy McCarthy and Ms. Gretchen McClain to the Municipal Light Advisory Board.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To reappoint Ms. June Roberts to the Property & Casualty Insurance Advisory Committee.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To reappoint Ms. Ann Bere, Mr. Dennis Rocha, and Mr. Lee Slap to the Recreation Commission.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To reappoint Mr. Jim Staton as a Registrar of Voters.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To reappoint Ms. Ruth Foster to the Shade Tree Committee.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To reappoint Ms. Tomi Olson and Mr. Laurence MacDonald to the

Traffic Advisory Committee.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To reappoint Mr. William Shea to the Water Advisory Board.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Warrant Committee Update – Chairman Jones

The WC heard preliminary subcommittee reports at their December 15 meeting.

ACTION BY WRITING

Approval of James Palmer as Acting BMLD Manager

The Board signed the papers appointing Mr. Palmer, which they had previously voted to do at a Light Board meeting.

The Minutes of 8/16/2010

Selectman Paolillo made a change to the wording in one section.

The Board moved: To approve the minutes of 8/16/10, as amended.

The motion passed unanimously (2-0). Selectman Firenze abstained as he was not present at the 8/16 meeting.

Goals and Objectives Update – Town Administrator

Selectman Firenze did not receive the full packet including the section on Goals and Objectives. Therefore the Board decided to cover this agenda item on January 3, 2011.

OTHER

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 pm.

Thomas G. Younger, Town Administrator