

**MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
Monday, May 31, 2011
7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order in open session at 7:00 pm by Chair Jones in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Selectmen Firenze and Paolillo were present. Town Administrator Tom Younger was present.

Chair Jones requested that a moment of silence be observed in memory of Mr. Robert Gardiner, former Belmont Cemetery Commissioner as well as a Town Meeting meeting member from Precinct 4, a Veteran, and a Hall of Fame athlete. He was a gentle man who will be missed by many in Belmont.

QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS

Mr. Cosmo Caterino, from Channing Road, requested to find out the Board's plans (and the process) regarding the bike path study. He said that at the last meeting, Representative Brownsberger noted that the Board will make a recommendation on this issue at some point in the future. Mr. Younger noted that there will be a meeting with the neighbors in August. Chair Jones said that there may be additional discussions with the neighbors. Selectman Firenze said that there is concern about other areas of the bike path as well as the area that Channing Road neighbors are concerned about. He said there are many issues that will be need to be addressed and resolved before this gets approved by the Board. Selectman Paolillo said he supports some type of bike path but he is unsure of the details at this point.

ACTION BY APPOINTMENT

Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) Recommendations for the Butler School

Mr. Glenn Clancy, Town Engineer, Ms. Linda Nickens, TAC Chair, and Sergeant Kevin Shea, Belmont Police, appeared before the Board to discuss the TAC's recommendations for the Butler School area. Mr. Clancy highlighted some of the background issues regarding the traffic and parking challenges. TAC held a public meeting and came up with a proposal for the Board's consideration. Mr. Clancy noted that the drop off and pick up hours are extremely chaotic in and around the school. He stated that Mr. McAllister, Butler Principal, was instrumental in the formulation of this plan. He noted the major streets involved: Dante/Maple Terrace, White and Sycamore Streets. He outlined the congestion problems and noted that they are much worse in the winter with the snowfall.

Mr. Clancy then reviewed a detailed map of the areas in question.

The plan highlights are as follows:

- Have the LABBB vans only on Sycamore Street (no parent drop off).
 - The school signage will be augmented to reflect this change.
 - White Street would be the designation for parent drop off and pick up and the “roll and go” drop off location as well. Parents who “roll and go” will turn into the turn in the road.
 - There would be one hour parking on White Street for parents who need to visit the school.
 - Dante would be made “one way” from 8-9 a.m. and 2-3 p.m. The one-way would direct traffic toward Beech Street.
 - Regarding parking issues, the TAC is recommending “one hour” parking from Sycamore to Trapelo Road and some designated teacher and resident parking.
 - On Sycamore Street, the “no parking” side would remain, and one-hour parking will be placed on the other side of the street – also with “resident” and “teacher” designation.
 - Regarding White Street, it is currently signed for “one hour” on one side and the other side is taken up by the taxi cab drivers. The taxi cab drivers have said that they are willing to park elsewhere in Waverley Square.

The Board discussed the parking issues (commuter, employee, etc.) in Waverley Square.

Mr. Clancy put forth an alternative option for consideration. Since the exemption for residents and teachers is unenforceable (and there is a ‘slippery slope’ concern as well), Sycamore would remain as it is heading toward Trapelo. Sycamore, toward Lexington, would have “two hour” parking only with no exemption for teachers or residents. White toward Trapelo would remain the same.

Selectman Paolillo said he is concerned about the permit issues. He asked how the residents could be accommodated without feeding into the slippery slope concern across town. Selectman Firenze said that it should be two hour parking across town unless you have a resident permit. He said that more police enforcement staff could be added. Sergeant Shea said Cambridge is the only nearby town doing resident parking only. Selectman Paolillo said that enforcement is a problem in Belmont, but that maybe behavior change could be addressed.

The Assistant Chief asked: where should Waverley employees park? He said the “next street over” will get impacted by commuters, employees, etc. He said his neighborhood is impacted by soccer traffic. Mr. Clancy said that Waverley Square is the perfect parking storm as it is a dense area impacted by the parking needs of the school staff, parents, residents, commuters, employees (and shoppers), all wanting parking. Mr. Younger said a bylaw change would be required to make a town-wide resident-only change.

Chair Jones said that a solution is needed for the Butler area and that town issues could be addressed at a later date.

Selectman Firenze said TAC needs a recommendation that everyone can buy into and that the permit for residents and teachers may be necessary. Mr. Clancy said this would be unenforceable by the Police department. Selectman Paolillo said it helps impact change behavior to say teachers and residents only.

Chair Jones said if there were some tickets issued, that might lead to a change in behavior. Mr. Clancy reiterated that this area is impacted by commuter parking, bus parking, school parking, parent parking, employee parking, and patron parking needs. This is a unique and challenging situation, but that similar requests may be made town-wide.

The Board moved: To accept the TAC plan as presented this evening with the parking restrictions and permit parking for teachers and residents.

Chief McLaughlin asked: who would distribute the permits? Town Clerk Cushman (from the audience) noted that it made sense for her office to issue the permits. The Chief added that this will move the parking problem further out to other Waverley areas. Selectman Firenze reiterated that a town-wide proposal is necessary, and soon.

Ms. Sheila Flewelling, a Sycamore Street resident, began by thanking Mr. Clancy for all his work. She said the parking restrictions, with no exemptions for residents, is not helpful. She said the allowance for residents and teachers will be most helpful. She asked how the teachers and residents will be notified.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

2010 Federal Census Results, Belmont Precinct Impact – Town Clerk

Ms. Cushman, Town Clerk, and Mr. Hofmann, Board of Registrars, appeared before the Board to discuss the 2010 Federal Census Results and the impact on the various precincts. Ms. Cushman said the eight precincts need to be equally balanced. However, based on the new census data, there will be a recommendation of “no change” to the precincts. This is good news, she said, and will save the town money. She said she is required by law to present a map of the precincts as well as the census block data. She reviewed why Belmont presently has eight precincts. A precinct is required for every four thousand inhabitants. It is evenly distributed. While Belmont does not have 32 thousand residents, eight precincts will remain because more growth is expected in Belmont with new housing developments underway. She reviewed the statistical data in Belmont. No TM members need to rerun, precincts remain the same, and she requested that the Board support the map and the recommendations. The Board of Registrars supports this, as well, noted Mr. Hofmann.

The Board moved: That we, the undersigned hereby certify that at a meeting held on May 31, 2011, the Board of Selectman voted to accept as presented by the Town Clerk, the 2011 Re-Precincting Plan for the Town of Belmont, including the enclosed map, legal description, and block listings.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board signed the papers.

Ms. Cushman noted where the census results could be found.

**Public Hearing for Alteration of Premises and Change of Ownership
Entity Name, Brother's Pizza, 121 Trapelo Road**

Chair Jones said that this will be postponed until June 8

The Board moved: To move the public hearing of a beer and wine license to Markantonis Enterprises until June 8.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To move the public hearing for approval for alteration of premises at Brother's Pizza and Grill until June 8.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

One Day Liquor Licenses

1) The Cohen Family, Beech Street Center, 266 Beech Street
June 25 – Bar Mitzvah party, Beer and Wine

Mr. Cohen made some remarks about the Beech Street Center.

The Board moved: To grant approval for a Beer and Wine One Day Liquor License for June 25 as noted above.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

2) Nan Rogers for Belmont Gallery of Art, Belmont Gallery of Art, 19 Moore St.
June 10 – Retirement Reception for Adrienne Landry, Butler School Art Teacher, Beer and Wine

The Board moved: To grant approval for the Beer and Wine One Day Liquor License for June 10 as noted above.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

3) The Kelley Family, Beech Street Center, 266 Beech Street
June 11 – Graduation Party, Beer and Wine

The Board moved: To grant approval for a Beer and Wine One Day Liquor License for June 11 as noted above the above.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Wine Sales – Farmers Market – Discussion and Vote

Ms. Heli Tomford, Farmer's Market representative, appeared before the Board to discuss the selling of wine at the Farmer's Market. Ms. Tomford noted that the legislature passed a bill to have wine products sold at farmer's markets. Mr. Kip Kumler, President of Massachusetts Farmers' Wine Association, approached the table and reviewed the legislation that passed in August of last year. He said this has been a success thus far. He said that local package stores are not adversely impacted by this and that, in fact, it could generate more business for them. Ms. Tomford said that the local businesses are fine with this, as she checked with each establishment.

The Board moved: To grant approval for an Agricultural Wine permit at the Belmont Farmers' Market, Belmont Center, valid from June 9 through October 27, to Turtle Creek Winery.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To grant approval for an Agricultural Wine permit at the Belmont Farmers' Market, Belmont Center, valid from June 9 through October 27 (one time per month), to Westport Rivers, Inc.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board took a two minute break.

Committee Appointments: Planning Board

Chair Jones noted that there are two members with expiring terms (Ms. Jenny Fallon and Mr. Karl Haglund) and that another resident has requested appointment to the Planning Board. Selectman Firenze said that both members have served two terms and should be replaced. He would like to see Mr. Joe DeStefano appointed and Mr. Haglund made an alternate member. He said this would be useful for the Cushing Square development, which is upcoming. Chair Jones noted that Ms. Fallon has only served two terms and that the Board usually does not appoint after three terms.

The Board discussed making the appointment at next Wednesday's Board meeting to allow time for Selectman Paolillo to meet with the other applicant (Mr. Sanderson.) Selectman Firenze said that the PB Chair is comfortable with what he put forth. Chair Jones said that this will be voted on at the June 8 Board of Selectmen meeting.

ACTION BY WRITING

Removal of Damaged Light Pole – Lincoln Circle

Mr. Younger noted that the pole was struck by a plow in the winter and it is leaning to one side. The residents have asked that the pole be removed. Selectman Firenze said that the Light Board General Manager ought to make this decision.

The Board moved: To refer this decision to the Light Board General Manager.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Tony Schinella Leaving

Chair Jones recognized the Editor of the Belmont Citizen-Herald, Mr. Tony Schinella, who is going to be leaving Belmont at the end of this week. The Chair thanked Mr. Schinella for his years at the Citizen and said that he will be missed.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Younger reported on the following items:

- 3 He thanked an Eagle Scout (Mr. Sam Marino) for the new message board.
- 3 The Senate has approved health care reform changes (which will impact plan design changes and GIC discussions). This would be effective July 1, 2011. He said the Board is the approving body, not TM. This could impact the FY12 budget. The Board discussed issues related to this.
- 3 Representative Browsberger will give a Trapelo Road update and it is expected that Trapelo Road will be on the TIP. Selectman Firenze raised the topic of the poles of the electric busses being removed. Mr. Younger said that pole consolidation would be discussed. The Board discussed poles and the electric busses.
- 3 Commuter Parking – Mr. Younger is meeting with Mr. Roberts to move forward on that.
- 3 Cushing Village has done the environmental testing on the parking lot.
- 3 Surplus Town-Owned Land – he will review several parcels (near Beaver Brook) and will get back to the Board on next steps.
- 3 Facility Naming Rights – Wellington School is being explored. He met with the School Committee. Chair Jones said that he was approached about setting up a naming rights and alumni fund-raising opportunity.
- 3 Mr. McKinney (Recreation Department) has retired and Mr. Younger is looking to restructure and reorganize that department.
- 3 Summer Hours – Mr. Younger noted that there was \$2,500 savings on air conditioning last summer as a result of the summer hours. He requested the Board's approval to end work Friday afternoons at 1:00 this year as well. Selectman Firenze said he was opposed to this the last two years. The Board discussed issues related to this. The Board has directed Mr. Younger to look at alternative ways to save money, e.g., heat savings.

The Board moved: To continue the Summer Hours for 2011.
The motion passed (2-1).

OTHER

Selectman Firenze Other:

- 3 The Town Administrator's evaluation needs to move forward.

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 pm.

Thomas G. Younger, Town Administrator