

**Minutes of the  
Town of Belmont  
REGULAR SESSION  
of the  
Select Board  
April 3, 2023, 2023  
7:00pm**

**RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: May 8, 2023  
TIME: 2:39 PM



To view the recording of the meeting, please click [HERE](#).

**Call to Order:** Mr. Paolillo called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Select Board Members	Present	Staff Members	
Mark Paolillo, Chair	Yes	Patrice Garvin, Town Administrator	Yes
Adam Dash, Vice Chair	Yes	Jennifer Hewitt, Assistant Town Administrator & Finance Manager	Yes
Roy Epstein Member	Yes	Wesley Chin, Director of Belmont Health Dept	Remote
<b>Other Officials Present</b>		Glenn Clancy, Director. Office of Community Development	Yes
Chris Doyle, Chair, Capital Budget Committee		Donna David, Board of Health	Remote
Vincent Stanton, Community Path Project Committee		David Blazon, Director of Facilities	Yes
Elizabeth Dionne, Chair, Community Preservation Committee			
<b>Information Technology Advisory Committee</b>			
Paul Roberts, Chair	Yes	Jonathan Green	Yes
David Goldberg, Secretary	Yes	Phillip Lawrence	Remote
James Berets	Remote	Kristen Nelson-Patel	Yes
Jonathan Birge	Remote	Charles Smart	Remote
Daniel Ellard	Absent		

### Adam Dash

Mr. Paolillo congratulated Mr. Dash on his retirement from the Select Board and wished him good luck in the future. Mr. Dash spoke about his experiences on the Board and said the Town has many good employees and asked that residents treat them well. Mr. Epstein praised Mr. Dash's time and commitment to the Board and the Town and wished him well in the future.

Mr. Paolillo read a letter from Joanne Tzouvelis, of the Belmont Media Center, explaining Mr. Dash's positive interactions with the press and expressing her appreciation for his "6 years of dedicated and hard work during these very trying times." The letter went on to talk about his work and wish him well in the future.

### Community Announcements

Mr. Paolillo and Mr. Dash shared community announcements about Vaccine Clinics.

Judy Morrison, Chair of the Age-Friendly Action Committee, announced the upcoming "Be Well Belmont" event on April 7, 2023.

**Comments by Town Residents** – there were no comments at this time.

**Action by Consent:** Proclamation in Honor of Donna David

Mr. Chin expressed his appreciation of Ms. David's career and spoke about her service and contributions to the department, especially during the pandemic.

Mr. Dash then read the Town of Belmont Select Board Proclamation:

*Whereas; Donna S. David, RN MN, has been a valued member of the Belmont Board of Health for the Town of Belmont and,*

*Whereas; Since 1993 Ms. David has been elected and served as a member of the Belmont Board of Health for the Town of Belmont for 10 Terms and,*

*Whereas; Ms. David engaged in numerous initiatives to benefit the health and well-being of the residents of Belmont through countless hours of public meetings, telephone and email contact with the constituents, and attended to continuing education training, and*

*Whereas; Ms. David has announced her decision to not seek reelection as a member of the Belmont Board of Health for the Town of Belmont,*

*Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Select Board of the Town of Belmont joins with the Town in paying tribute to this outstanding achievement. Donna S. David, RN MM has set a high standard of commitment and dedication and serves as an inspiration to the citizens of the Town of Belmont.*

*Select Board  
Mark A. Paolillo, Chair  
Adam Dash, Vice Chair  
Roy Epstein, Member*

*April 3, 2023*

Ms. David spoke about how quickly the time had passed and her feelings of privilege and pleasure of working with Health Department personnel. She thanked the department for supporting her throughout her tenure.

**Discussion and possible vote on request from the Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee on the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in the amount of \$1,137,214.00\*. Applicant**

Ms. Doyle reviewed the ARPA funds history and requirements. She then provided details on the request to use ARPA funds to support security projects at the Butler, Burbank and Winn Brook Schools, as well as the request for funds for repairs at the Butler School. There were questions and a discussion of the requests and other projects that are under consideration.

Mr. Epstein asked about repairing or replacing the slate roof on the Butler Building. Mr. Blazon said it would be a complete replacement with a synthetic slate product that will have the same look and similar cost. This project was discussed.

The need for improved security facilities at various schools was discussed, with the Board indicating that the need is real and the request is timely.

*A Motion was made to approve the request from the Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee on the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in the amount of \$245,000.00 for security projects at the Butler, Burbank and Winn Brook schools. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by 3-0 vote.*

*A Motion was made to approve the request from the Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee on the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding in the amount of \$892,214.00 for repairs to the Butler school. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by 3-0 vote.*

**Public Hearing – Discussion and possible vote on the liquor license application from Syx Belmont Corp, dba Hanami, 89 Trapelo Road, Belmont, MA for a new \$12 on-premises restaurant liquor license (all alcoholic beverages). Joseph Mirin, Attorney; Jack Syx, Principal of Syx Belmont Corp; and Brian Giamo; Bar Consultant.**

Mr. Paolillo opened the public hearing at 7:30pm.

Mr. Mirin explained Mr. Syx's plans for a Japanese-style family restaurant, and efforts that have already been made with other Town committees and boards. He outlined the size and layout of the restaurant. He reviewed

Mr. Syx's experience in the industry, pointing out that Mr. Syx lives in Belmont. There was a short discussion of the application.

Steven Rosales, Town Meeting Member, welcomed Mr. Syx to Cushing Square and spoke in support of the project.

Mr. Epstein asked that the trash not be picked up in the middle of the night, as previously happened. Mr. Syx said he would ensure this would not happen.

Elizabeth Dionne, Town Meeting Member, thanked Mr. Syx for persevering through this process and expressed hope that the Town works to ensure that future businesses do not have such a difficult time.

Mr. Paolillo closed the public hearing at 7:39pm.

*A Motion was made to approve the liquor license application of Syx Belmont Corp, dba Hanami for a new §12 on-premises restaurant liquor license (all alcoholic beverages) 89 Trapelo Road, Belmont. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by 3-0 vote.*

**Discussion and possible vote to award the contract for the 2023 Roadway Patching Contract to Cassidy Corporation of Haverhill, MA for an amount not to exceed amount of \$145,269.00. Applicant**

Mr. Clancy explained that purpose of the request, as well as the bidding process. He pointed out that the company has the yearly patching project from the DPW and that Mr. Santoro (Highway Dept Manager) had given a positive recommendation. He also explained the funding involved. There was a discussion of the details of the request and repair, the funding, and other roadway problems.

*A motion was made to award the contract for the 2023 Roadway Patching Contract to Cassidy Corporation of Haverhill, AfA for an amount not to exceed \$145,269.00. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by 3-0 vote.*

**Refer citizens petition from Ralph Jones to the Planning Board in order to hold a public hearing in time to hold an Annual Town Meeting.**

Ms. Garvin explained the purpose of this agenda item, which was discussed along with the Select Board's role in this process.

*A motion was made to refer the citizens petition submitted by Ralph Jones to the Planning Board in order to hold a public hearing in time to hold an Annual Town Meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by 3-0 vote.*

**Take position on Community Preservation Committee Applications. Applicant**

Mr. Epstein pointed out that the Board typically waits until after the election to take positions on these applications. Ms. Dionne, who will join the Select Board later in the week as she is running unopposed, recommended that the current Board vote on these applications because of her current role as Chair of the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). Since all involved support the applications it was decided to proceed with the current Board.

Mr. Epstein asked how much would be left in the Trust Fund if all the projects are approved. Ms. Dionne said approximately \$7000 and explained the funding approach of the CPC.

*Mr. Dash moved favorable action on the following Community Preservation Act projects and amounts:*

- *Conservation Fund, \$200,000*
- *Fund to Support the Creation of New Affordable Housing, \$250,000*
- *Grove Street Baseball and Basketball Reconstruction, \$941,935.07*
- *Historical Object Preservation Plan – Belmont Public Library, \$86,787*
- *PQ Basketball Court Replacement – In Kind, \$124,592*
- *Predevelopment Planning for Rejuvenation of Sherman Gardens, \$40,000*
- *FY24 – Off-Cycle Final Application – Belmont Women's Club Request, \$31,500*

*For a total of \$2,034,814.07*

Ms. Dionne pointed out that the request for the Predevelopment of Sherman Gardens should read \$400,000 (not \$40,000).

*Mr. Dash amended his motion to read \$400,000.*

Mr. Epstein asked if the Conservation Fund and the Fund for Affordable Housing will create a protocol for spending the money. Ms. Dionne explained that for the Affordable House Fund the existing Housing Trust grant agreement would be amended to reflect the additional amounts, and that something similar would be done for the Conservation Fund. Oversight of the spending of the funds was discussed.

*The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by 3-0 vote.*

**Discussion and possible vote on request for one day liquor license from The Friends of the Belmont Public Library to host an event on Friday, April 28, 2023 from the hours of 6:00 PM through 11:00 PM at the Belmont Public Library, 336 Concord Avenue., Belmont.**

Mr. Dash explained the Books & Bloom event that his request is for.

*A Motion was made Move to approve a one-day liquor license for an event on Friday, April 28, 2023 from the hours of 6:00 PM through 11:00 PM at the Belmont Public Library, 336 Concord Avenue, Belmont hosted by The Friends of the Belmont Public Library. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by 3-0 vote.*

**Discussion and possible vote on request from Belmont Center Business Association for proposed outdoor dining plan and traffic plan.**

Ms. Garvin provided a review of the situation with the State extending outdoor seating, and outlined the proposal and restaurants requesting seating. The issue of the transformer on the street was discussed, including fencing it more closely. The outdoor seating plan would be in effect on May 2, 2023 – October 31, 2023.

Mr. Epstein said a business elsewhere in Belmont has asked if an accommodation could be made in addition to Leonard Street. Ms. Garvin suggested businesses in other areas of Town contact her office. She explained that the DPW is providing the labor for the barriers, but the barriers themselves are being donated. Outdoor dining in other areas was discussed.

*A motion was made to approve the request from the Belmont Center Business Association for proposed outdoor dining plan and traffic plan as presented to start on May 2, 2023 and end on October 31, 2023 and include a space for Bake House at the Town Administrator's discretion. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by 3-0 vote.*

**Liaison Reports**

Capital Projects Planning Committee (CPPC): Ms. Garvin provided an update on their recent activities. Mr. Paolillo asked that they meet with the Select Board in April.

MBTA Advisory Board: Mr. Epstein reported that the MBTA has been very constricted due to leadership changes but that seems to be loosening up.

**Approval of Minutes**

February 27, 2023 & March 6, 2023 Open Session:

*A Motion was made to approve the February 27, 2023 minutes as amended and the March 6, 2023 Regular Session minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by 3-0 vote.*

**Next Meetings**

- |   |                             |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | • April 7, 2023 at 8:00am   | 4 | • May 1, 2023 at 5:30pm – Pre ATM |
| 2 | • April 10, 2023 at 7:00pm. | 5 | Meeting                           |
| 3 | • April 24, 2023 at 7:00pm  | 6 | • May 3, 2023 at 5:30pm – Pre ATM |
|   |                             | 7 | Meeting                           |

**Comments by Town Residents** – Vincent Stanton provided an update on the Community Path, saying that the MBTA would permit cut and cover, and explained how this would happen.

## **Executive Session**

*A motion was made go into Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; Belmont Fire Chief. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by 3-0 rollcall vote.*

The Select Board went into Executive Session at 8:24pm.

*A motion was made to return to Open Session. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by 3-0 rollcall vote.*

The Select Board returned to Open Session at 8:41pm.

## **Open Joint Session with Information Technology Advisory Committee and Close Open Session and Go to Executive Session.**

Mr. Roberts called the Information Technology Advisory Committee to order with a quorum at 8:43pm.

*A motion was made for the Select Board to go into Executive Session to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies in respect thereto; Information Technology. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by roll call 3-0 rollcall vote.*

*A Motion was made for the Information Technology Advisory Committee to go into Executive Session to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies in respect thereto; Information Technology. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by a roll call vote.*

The Select Board and Information Technology Advisory Committee went into Executive Session at 8:43pm and will not be returning to Open Session.

Respectfully submitted by,

Susan Peghiny  
Recording Secretary