## RECEIVED TOWN CLERK <br> BELMONT, MA

DATE: March 23, 2021
TIME: 9:40 AM

Approved by
Meeting Minutes
Town of Belmont Select Board Meeting
Monday, February 8, 2021
7:00 PM

## CALL TO ORDER

Select Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Roy Epstein. Vice Chair Tom Caputo and Select Board member Adam Dash were present, along with the Town Administrator Patrice Garvin, Assistant Town Administrator Jon Marshall, Director of DPW Jay Marcotte, Director of Community Development Glen Clancy, Director of Highway Division Mike Santoro and interim Director of Human Resources, Shawna Healey.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Annual town election is on Tuesday, April 6, 2021. Applications for absentee ballots will be sent out in Light Board bill. See more info on Town Clerk website: www.belmont-ma.gov/townclerk.
- Winter Programs Session 2 starting February 22. Registration begins February 9. Karate, Babysitter Training, Music Code Wiz, Music, etc. Contact: Belmontrec.org
- Public forum titled "Understand the Override Decision" will be held on February 11 at 7 pm . Final session hosted by the Warrant Commission. For more info go to www.belmontma.gov/fy22.
- Recreation Commission forum about expansion of tennis courts will be held February 10 at 6 pm at Win Brook.


## COVID Update by Wesley Chin

- 100 doses of Moderna vaccine were dispensed to Belmont residents this Wednesday. The clinic is an ongoing regional clinic held at Arlington High School gymnasium on Wednesday mornings.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES
a. January 11, 2021 - Executive Session
b. January 25, 2021 - Joint Meeting (Public Forum), Executive Session (approved)
c. January 27, 2021 - Special Meeting
d. February 1, 2021 - Executive Session (approved)

Board approved amended meeting notes from January 25 and February 1 by vote of (3-0).
Approval of January 11 and $27^{\text {th }}$ meeting notes will be approved at a later date.

## ACTION BY CONSENT

Move to continue the public hearing on the Belmont DPW to amend existing town storage tanks. Motion approved by vote (3-0).

## Storage Tanks; Discussion and Possible Vote

- Epstein said that he received information from the insurance carrier late last week so he would now ask the SB to vote. Storage tanks require general liability insurance, but underground tanks require a separate rider for possible environmental damage and, in addition, an underground tank needs monthly inspection. The main concern he has heard from residents is that an above ground tank is riskier. Weston and Sampson believes there is no extra risk. The cost of insurance for general liability is the same for above or underground tanks, which Epstein says independently reinforces the conclusion that the above-ground tank is not riskier. The added cost of insurance and monthly inspection for the underground tank is about $\$ 9 \mathrm{~K}$ year. He thinks the above ground is the best choice.
- Dash said an underground tank could leak and a rider would be required. It seems that the above ground tank is less likely to contaminate ground water and is more environmentally safe.
- The total cost of installation of an underground tank is $\$ 90 \mathrm{~K}$ higher. This would make underground cost more than what was approved by Town Meeting.
[Epstein asked for residents' comments.]
- Lisa Oteri said she is still opposed due to proximity to property. Other towns have tanks in areas removed from residents. The only one similar is Danvers situated near a single family house. She's worried because her homeowner's insurance company was concerned about the tank's proximity to her house. She asked if the town's insurance would cover any damage?
- Marcotte replied that if any damage was caused to surrounding properties that is not environmental, it would be covered by town.
- Judith Ananian Sarno, pct. 3 and abutter. She doesn't want to replace with above ground tanks. Belmont will be unlike any other neighboring town, all of which have underground tanks. She said she researched dual compartment tanks and found that these are commonly used in today's market. How can you expect us to support override when our voices are not being heard?
- Dick Madden asked what about previous money that has been spent on unfinalized projects? In the past, when residents have opposed projects, like Wellington School plans, the plans were not implemented. The library plans were paid for, and that plan was scrapped. It seems a lot of plans have been scrapped. Since the plan is already underway, if it's going to cost a couple of thousand we can afford it.
- Mark Paolillo asked is it possible to move the tanks to a location further from residents to address some of the safety concerns?
- Epstein said this project has been vetted a lot. Our meeting last week explained why other sites were not feasible. He believes that the underground solution costs more and does not have a demonstrable benefit.
- Marcotte reported that Weston and Sampson said the underground tanks need to come out of the ground. If we relocate them, then we have to pay for new sub-base and survey work. Because of existing conditions, it makes more sense for the above ground choice. We did not look at other locations, but additional costs did not make sense and would require survey work.
- Dash pointed out that there are safe, dual compartment tanks registered, but there are additional costs. As there is a need for an override, I don't see how we can ask for additional money in the budget for an underground tank with no evidence of increased safety or decreased environmental risk with such a tank. We have to do something because there is an uninsured tank that exists now.
- Caputo said he was concerned about insurance premiums, but if they are not greater, that means the risk is not greater. Cost consideration is paramount. If $\$ 9 \mathrm{~K}$ to $\$ 15 \mathrm{~K}$ more per year, then he thinks residents would not think this was prudent.
- Epstein asked Garvin to affirm that the amended license is in proper form. Garvin said only addition is that license amendment becomes active only after tanks are completely installed. She said this can be included in the approval motion.


## Motion made to replace existing fuel storage license of DPW in the town yard off C St. from two

 underground fuel storage tanks to two above ground fuel storage tanks to become effective when the above ground tanks are fully installed. Approved by vote of (3-0).
## Discussion and Possible Vote on the Recommendation from the Transportation Advisory Committee for

 a New One Hour Parking Restriction on Oxford Avenue at Belmont Street- Glen Clancy, Director of Community Development and Dana Miller are asking Select Board to take a look at parking problems. Right now on Belmont side of Belmont St, there are one hour metered parking places, and on Watertown St. there are two hour metered spots. These spots are always in use. A veterinary clinic opened on Watertown side and because of the clinic's popularity, it's hard for patrons of Lord's Cleaners to park. There is a spot around the corner off Belmont that could be identified for two more parking spaces.
- There is a multi-unit office building near the cleaners that has off street parking. It seems that mostly commuters are parking on Oxford Ave.
- When asked by Caputo, Clancy affirmed that there is parking for the multi-unit building.
- Dash asked Clancy if the veterinary clinic was approached, and Clancy replied that he did not notify anyone on the Watertown side. He said that he has the ability to notify through GIS, but he has not done that yet.
- Dana Miller said they asked people who came out of multi-unit building and they were assured all had parking on street.
- Epstein asked what established the need for two spaces vs. one space on Oxford Ave. Clancy said because there was enough room for two spaces, it was arbitrary.
- Epstein said that as long as there is no adverse impact on the residential building., it's plausible that there are commuters who park there and it's better to have turnover for businesses.
- Yasmina Spector said she goes to the cleaners and she can't find parking. Transactions only take 15 minutes and the meter is for one hour. She suggested that they put up a sign in front of business that says " 15 -minute limit, drop off pick up."
- Clancy said the possibility of a 15 to 30 -minute space came up at the Transportation Advisory Committee hearing. In this case, they are advocating for the one hour restriction, because they didn't want to focus too narrowly on the cleaners. Also there is no active enforcement in that area and it would be hard to regulate. If someone is parking for a 15 -minute errand in a one hour spot, then they will leave and spot will be freed up.

Motion to approve the request of the Transportation Advisory Committee to create two one-hour spaces on Monday through Saturday on easterly side of Oxford Ave. on Belmont St. Motion approved by vote of (3-0).

## Discussion and Presentation from the Energy Committee on a Resolution on Fossil Free New Construction

Marty Bitner, Co-chair of Energy Committee presented on the work done on a resolution (in form of Warrant article) calling on the State Legislature to make changes to the Climate Bill.

- The resolution calls on the State Legislation building code to:
- Mandate fossil free construction on all new businesses.
- Create a zero net agency stretch code.
- Add energy efficiency members to Building Regulations Board.
- Revise state gas law.
- Since 2009, Belmont has had Climate Action plans in place that strive to reduce green-house gas emissions by 2050. Belmont has had some reduction, but we need to do more. Belmont Light is committed to making the Belmont electricity supply $100 \%$ renewable by 2022. Bitner said that Belmont is converting to electric cars and high efficiency electric heating in residences at a good rate. But there is much more that can be done. Heat pumps can be 200 to $400 \%$ efficient; for one unit of electricity you can get 2 to 4 units of heat, and they are much cleaner than gas boilers. To produce same amount of heat takes $21 / 2$ times of CO2 heat emissions using gas. New pumps are not that expensive to install vs. traditional systems, especially in new construction, and efficiencies savings are going to Belmont Light.
- Epstein confirmed that this resolution is asking for Mass. Legislature to take action, not the Town of Belmont. Bitner said that the resolution was drafted with the help of the Rocky Mountain Institute, and involves shared work of 15 towns and cities.
- Epstein asked if new construction could be defined as work on existing structure? He suggested that that the language be more specific in this regard.
- Caputo asked about status of the legislation at the State House and Bitner said the bill is making progress but it's a little in flux right now.
- Bitner said that Arlington and Brookline already passed a climate bill at fall town meeting and he feels. it's better for towns to act in unison to amplify message.
- Bitner is expecting the Select Board to bring to Town Meeting. Epstein said he will include this proposal in the articles to be voted on at the Select Board's March 1 meeting.


## Discussion and Possible Vote on the Request from the Shade Tree Committee for an Amendment to the Committee Charge

The Shade Tree Commission was represented by Chair, Lucia Gates.

- Ms. Gates reported that the Committee is looking to hire a new tree warden when Tom Walsh retires, and she felt this was an opportune time to change some items of the charge and to make some important points about their role. The original charge talked about a committee comprised of "professionals." But she said that some members are "interested residents," not
necessarily professionals, so should would like to revise charge to reflect the reality of the situation. Town budget has an impact on trees, and she appreciated when Town Administrator Garvin came to the committee's meeting to fill us in on the budget. She would like to ensure that the committee continues to be advised about budget issues so that they are able to recommend long range planning for future plantings and maintenance. In preparation for longrange planning, Gates said they have been building a database of projects that impact trees. They have identified 13 projects that affect trees and have identified one member to be a liaison with the town.
- Caputo asked if the Shade Tree Committee has addressed other issues in public parks, like invasive plants. Gates said they are very aware about this issue, but that they don't do the actual work. However, she said the committee has consulted with Friends of the Library, the Garden Club and with Mary Trudeau of Clay Pit Pond in an advisory role.
- Epstein asked about the division of authority between the Shade Tree Committee and the Conservation Commission. Gates said that the Shade Tree Committee only makes recommendations.
- Over the summer she and Epstein had discussed the size of the committee and they had decided that the limit would be seven members. Gates said because they had several people wanting to join, they agreed to include informal members joining in on Zoom meetings.

Motion was made to amend the charge of the Shade Tree Committee as follows. Since 1983, the Shade Tree Committee has been composed of professionals, urban forestry landscapers, horticulture and recreation interested residents. Its charge is to review current tree and vegetation practices, stay advised of the town tree budget, and make recommendations. The Committee shall recommend annual priorities, long range plans and maintenance regarding future plantings on public land to the Select Board and Town Meeting. Amended charge was approved by vote of (3-0).

## Discussion on the Structural Change Impact Group (SCIG) Preliminary Report

The Select Board had asked SCIG to make a preliminary report by the end of January 2021, and that is the report being presented tonight. The SCIG is planning to come back to the Select Board in March with an additional report, and then to have a final report by the end of the year.

- Adam Dash, member of the SCIG, gave an overview of the work of the committee, to date.
- Travis Franck, Chair of SCIG, announced that SCIG is having a Public Form on March 4. The charge of the SCIG is to recommend key structural changes to improve revenue sources and efficiencies in town. The committee has been meeting every two weeks. The goal is to evaluate work by previous groups from 2010, 2015 and Financial Task Force I. They are also trying to collect further input from residents and department heads to evaluate options to increase revenues and decrease expenses.
- Franck says they have a strong committee of 10 members. The committee will be posting an Excel file to the town website later this week with a list of 238 options and ideas considered over the last decade. Some of these ideas include: Redesigning health care bills, creating a Belmont Light substation, changed overlays on building and tax revenues, a parking meter program, COVID related grants, replacing buildings with electric "green" systems, and trash pickup changes. The overriding goal is to try to aggregate previous ideas. The committee plans to
have ongoing public forums, and the first forum will be on March 4. He said they are currently building a matrix to rank options, measuring on potential cost savings, operational impacts, ease of implementation, nature of change and time scale. The plan is to score the options and make sense of options collected. They will also collect public input and get information from Belmont citizens, as well as neighboring towns. An immediate goal is to post a web form on the town website in two weeks so that residents can post questions and ideas.
- Epstein inquired if there any ideas so far that seem more promising than others? Franck said that one of the guiding principles was to not weigh in on things until everything is gathered.
- Caputo thanked the committee for the work underway. He suggested that, to the degree possible, it would be beneficial to quantify any perceived impacts so progress can be more clearly defined. Caputo also suggested, in reference to the override, that residents take a look at what has been captured here because it shows that Belmont is being innovative and trying to conserve budget money.
- Dash said the committee is making sure that they don't reinvent the wheel. He said he was surprised at how many recommendations were completed from the Warrant Committee's 2010 list of ideas.


## Vote to Open Annual Town Meeting Warrant

- Epstein explained that the Select Board has a tentative list of warrant articles to be considered at next Town Meeting. When town opens the annual warrant, it allows residents to submit warrant articles through citizens' petitions. Epstein is proposing that the open warrant period be kept open until February 22. The final list of warrant articles will be voted on at the March 1st Select Board meeting.

Motion made to open the Annual Town Meeting warrant on February 11, 2021 at 9 am and to close the warrant on February 23, 2021 at 3 pm . Approved by vote of (3-0).

- Patrice Garvin supplied a list of warrant articles to date (non-standard items) that includes:
- Resolution to start Indigenous Peoples Day.
- Acceptance of public way (Oakmont Lane)
- Climate Action plan resolution
- Sanitary sewer easement for 100 Common St.
- Disposition of property on 90 Trapelo Rd
- Rock Meadow article 97 to repurpose town owned property
- Leaf blower control By-law
- Rink building committee creation
- Belmont Light Board governance.

This is a partial list. There are a total of 23 articles for town meeting, to date.

- Epstein said that he would like to ask Town Meeting for a schematic design for a new rink. If approved, it could go to bid in Fall. Architects are reviewing high level plans, including a rink with tennis courts at the high school. He reported that there is a possibility that the rink and tennis courts could fit on the high school campus. If a rink and tennis courts do not fit at high school, then tennis courts at Winn Brook would proceed and a schematic for a rink could still be approved by Town Meeting in June. We have to wait until we get back the report from the architect, and then
we can get clearer basis of what we are approving. Goal is to have rink incur no net incremental costs to town.
- Caputo said that Garvin, Phelan and the Middle and High School Building Committee have been working to push things forward and explore a plan that embraces multiple uses. There are challenges to figure out how to get it done.
- Dash commented that he has been working with the Recreation Commission to put tennis courts at Winn Brook with the CPC application, and this is the first time he has heard of this plan about tennis courts at the high school campus being reviewed again.
- Caputo said it is unlikely that a plan that includes tennis courts on the high school site is viable. Epstein said discussions started in September and moved slowly so he hasn't been able to discuss with Select Board yet. Dash commented that it seems redundant to be working on the design of tennis courts at Winn Brook and at the same time look into putting them at the high school.
- Dash feels that this high school tennis court idea and project should have come up at a January Select Board meeting. Epstein replied that he didn't want to get people's hopes up without having more information.
- Garvin reported that she should be getting a response within the next week or so on the additional assessment. The report on the options for site layout on the High School site west of Harris Field is due March 15. Garvin felt that the town owed it to the residents to research the possibility of the project. She suggested we let the CPC process play out and wait until after March 15 to take public comment on this.


## Discussion on FY22 Failed Override Budget and Possible Vote of the Select Board to Endorse Passage of the Override <br> Epstein said that town residents have asked to see what Fiscal 2022 budget would look like on town and school side if override was not successful.

Patrice Garvin reported on ramifications if override is not successful.

- The model to determine the budget gap includes $\$ 157.2 \mathrm{M}$ of revenues and $\$ 163 \mathrm{M}$ in expenditures. With this model she anticipates a deficit of $\$ 5.7 \mathrm{M}$ without an override.
- In this unsuccessful override scenario, additional free cash of $\$ 1.9 \mathrm{M}$ in used in the FY22 budget, which leaves a deficit of $\$ 3.8 \mathrm{M}$. After reducing the OPEB contribution to the minimal $\$ 50 \mathrm{k}$, there is a deficit of $\$ 3.4 \mathrm{M}$. The reduction target breakdown is $40 \%$ of the reduction for School Department and $60 \%$ of the reduction for the Town. Her job was to look for $\$ 1.38 \mathrm{M}$ reduction in the Town budget. The final budget reductions result in budget decreases for Town Administration, COA, DPW, Community Development, Fire Department, and Police Department, Town Clerk, Recreation and Library.
- Impact of reduction:
- Delay of projects at Community Development.
- Loss of staff will delay DPW operations, ie. hazardous waste, recycling.
- Fire Department would have loss of staff.
- Town Clerk office would be impacted due to lack of overtime for elections and Town Meetings.
- Police may lose one officer and removing one cruiser will require more maintenance.
- Town Administration office would have to eliminate procurement person which would add to workload of existing staff.
- The elimination of Social Worker at COA would impact the aging population.
- Services at library and recreation would be reduced.
- Loss of discretionary capital of $\$ 500 \mathrm{k}$ would cause maintenance deferrals.
- Epstein says that Belmont cannot maintain level services without the override. He thanked the School Department for working collaboratively. Phelan is presenting budget reductions at their meeting tomorrow night.
- Budget is predicated on hiring as of July 1, 2021. High School Building System Manager is really necessary. It's a critical position and we are discussing other options.
- Epstein is happy to consider a motion to endorse override.

Motion for Select Board to endorse passage of an override on the April 2021 town election ballot. Motion approved by vote (3-0).
[Epstein said the meeting will take a break and return at 9:29.]

## Discussion on Request to Temporarily Close One Lane on Leonard Street

- Garvin announced that the Select Board should have all the pros and cons of this venture in the packet supplied to them.
- Epstein commented that it was nice to have the lane closed last summer, but some of the merchants have different views on closing the street. He would like to do something similar again, except maybe dates of the closure could be changed. He thinks that starting in April is early and that a June start date makes more sense. This also allows a few weeks to think about strategy. Garvin suggested having a meeting with staff and business owners to look at alternative traffic plans.
- Epstein said that he thinks it's premature to make decision and they should take some time to study it.
- Dash thinks we should do it again and suggested changing period from May until Labor Day. He commented that it created a great atmosphere for dining, and residents seemed to enjoy it.
- Caputo agreed that it is a good opportunity for community to gather. He feels it was put together quickly last year and if we have more time this year, we can solicit more feedback to make sure everyone is happy.
- Epstein said that Zoom calls are being scheduled with abutters. Garvin would like to get this decision finalized by early March.
- Epstein deferred action on this until more discussions have transpired.


## Continuation of Discussion on Leaf Blower Bylaw

- Epstein drafted an initial draft of this bylaw. Epstein reported that they did actual noise measurements on real leaf blowers. The focus will not be on pollution issue in this bylaw, leaf blowers are being assessed only as source of noise and emissions danger.
- Epstein reported that the leaf blower measurements at DPW yard, included a gas back pack unit, conventional gas hand-held unit, electric and battery units. The back pack unit was so
noisy that it exceeded noise bylaw. They also measured single units and multiple operating units at same time. Results were that the battery operated and electric units were not silent but were quieter. After testing, Epstein proposes that four electric units in Summer and one gas unit in Spring and Fall would be allowed. If you compare two gas leaf blowers used the entire season, to single leaf blower used a couple of weeks in Spring and Fall, hydrocarbon units will be reduced by $75 \%$. Gas unit would be allowed in Spring and Fall for power.
- Caputo said it would make sense to receive feedback again from landscaping contractors.
- Dante Muzzioli, landscape contractor was asked to comment. Mr. Muzzioli said he understood the intent, but he feels that the electric units are not powerful enough and they take a longer time. He said he is in favor of June-August reduction, but in September it would be cost prohibitive to use one leaf blower in larger yards. When it snows, everyone runs snow blowers so why would leaf blowers be different. He says the decibel reading of snowblowers exceeds the acceptable level too. Also the electric leaf blower batteries don't last long enough to get through the day. He said the focus should be on modifying noise in the summer when people are outside. He also added that push blowers are very capable of moving leaves. And he feels push blowers are more effective than smaller leaf blowers, but he's not sure of the decibel level.
- Epstein's draft had prohibition on back pack units and wheel units because it exceeds noise bylaw.
- Caputo said he worries if we limit the bylaw to one leaf blower for larger property rather than having simultaneous units being used, that the one unit would have to be run for a longer time.
- Muzzioli thinks that residents just want to limit noise to a shorter time period. He suggests that we have a separate team to enforce the bylaw, as in Cambridge because who else would be willing to take complaints? The restricted use will cost residents more money for yard work because it's taking twice as long to pick up leaves.
- Epstein said that two hand held gas units operating simultaneously meet the threshold of noise bylaw. He asked if two gas and two electric units would work. Muzzioli said that is a fair compromise. Two gas units would be a workable situation or one push blower and one back pack blower. We need to find common ground to appease people. Back pack in summer is not good, but useful in other months.
- Clancy, Director of Community Development spoke to enforcement. He said his department and the Police Department, would identify problems and Community Development would send out letters. Enforcement will be directed to the property owner and not workers or contractors.
- Dash brought up some questions that will need to be answered. The questions include: The exact definition of Spring and Fall? When do we switch to electric? Do we allow gas at all? Maybe we should allow two gas units for shorter time than one for longer time. What are hours of operation? Who do you notify for special permits?
- Dash said he was trying to review drafts and would like to edit the current draft. Epstein said we will probably not vote on the proposal tonight but we need to reach decision about number of gas units.
- Geoff Lubien suggested that we don't ban any gas units, even in Summer. If only electric units are allowed in Summer, then he would need two because it would take so long. This problem was raised because people worked from home last summer. And he agrees with Dash about being clearer about the rules and usage hours, especially on weekends.
- Jeanne Mooney commented that having information all in one place in one bylaw would be helpful. We need to limit hours on weekends, probably not before 8 am or 9 am .
- Epstein said he has no objection to including hours in bylaws, but hours affecting leaf blowers should be no different than bylaws generally.
- Clancy reported that the current noise bylaw is 7 am to 8 pm on Monday - Saturday and 9 am to 8 pm on Sunday.
- Epstein said we are not going to resolve tonight. He now realizes that limiting a contractor to one unit is too restrictive and he can now see the rationale for allowing up to two gas units.
- Caputo said that maybe only DPW back pack units violated noise bylaws. Caputo said he owns a back pack unit and it doesn't seem louder than other types of units. Caputo said he thinks we should just let the public know we are working on this and then maybe we need to schedule a leaf blower forum.
- Garvin agreed to schedule an initial Zoom forum, in early March. And then if it turns out we need a field test, then we can schedule that later.
- Dash said he would revise the draft in time for the forum on Zoom.


## Vote to Approve New Common Victualler License for Craft Beer Initiative, dba Trinktisch, 87 Leonard Street, Suite 5, Belmont

- Glen Clancy said that we need to confirm the correct address for this tenant site.
- Suzanne Schalow, the owner of the establishment, said that the premises occupied are Suites 1, 4 and 5. She agreed that the address should be changed to Suites 1,4 and 5 .

Motion to approve a common victualler license for Craft Beer Initiative, dba Trinktisch at 87 Leonard St. to include Suites 1, 4 and 5. Motion approved by vote (3-0).

## TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- $\$ 10 \mathrm{~K}$ for COA, approaching budget committee for balance.
- Supplemental appropriation for tree damage caused by climate change.
- $\$ 60 \mathrm{~K}$ for information technology for additional disk space.
- $\$ 250 \mathrm{~K}$ from Economic Development bill for design of Phase II of community path. Town is also submitting trails grant to state for $\$ 199 \mathrm{~K}$ for Phase 2 design of community path.
- COVID phone bank being set up at Town Hall; seeking to get election workers to assist in overflow of calls to Health Department and COA.


## SELECT BOARD COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

- Caputo reported that the Capital Budget Committee and High School Building Committee are meeting this week.
- Epstein said as liaison to Conservation committee he is reviewing erosion damage to Clay Pit pond. We need to review policy on how work gets done on town land.

Motion to enter 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. Motion approved by vote (3-0).

Motion to leave Executive Session and return to Public session was approved by vote of (3-0).

## Hire of new Fire Chief

Shawna Healey, interim Director of Human Resources, summarized the highlights of contract details for the hire of David DeStefano as Fire Chief of Belmont.

- 3-year contract commencing March 15, 2021 with $\$ 152,000$ salary and COLA on July 1, 2021, 2022 and 2023. The position will be eligible for merit raises as well.
- 3 months to submit and apply for MA fire chief certificate.
- Required to move within 15 miles radius of Belmont within 6 months after start date

Motion made to ratify the employment agreement with Town of Belmont and David DeStefano to be Fire Chief along the lines Ms. Healy just indicated and the contract be executed with the language as negotiated. Motion approved by vote (3-0)

- David DeStefano thanked everyone for an amicable process. This culminates the hopes and aspirations he has had during his entire fire services career. He will give $100 \%$ of his energy into this role. He will have safety of Town of Belmont and the health and safety of officers in mind and will ensure best possible performance and accountability.

Meeting was adjourned by vote of (3-0).


PATRICE GARVIN, Town Administrator

