

Approved by
the Select Board on:

6/9/2021

SELECT BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2021
REMOTE MEETING
7:00 PM

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA

DATE: September 2, 2021
TIME: 2:15 PM

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Select Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Adam Dash. Vice Chair Roy Epstein and Select Board member Mark Paolillo were present, along with Town Administrator Patrice Garvin, Assistant Town Administrator Jon Marshall and Director of DPW Jay Marcotte.

ACTION BY CONSENT

[NONE.]

Proclamation in honor of Sandra Bailey Kendall

- The proclamation will be read at Town Meeting.

Motion was made to approve the proclamation in honor of Sandra Bailey Kendall. Motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

Dash announced that the Select Board would be entering 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; To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; Belmont Patrolman's Association

Motion was made to enter into Executive Session. Motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

Discussion and possible vote on positions for articles and amendments for Annual Town Meeting, Segment B

Article 7 – MGL The Brave Act and amendment

- Epstein thinks that the best way to analyze the costs of this bill is to look at what the expense would have been since the Brave Act started in January 2019.
- Dash said the Warrant Committee voted to postpone voting on the article until the Fall in order to do more financial analysis.
- Epstein said the estimated cost of implementing this article could be similar to the amount to hire a part time social worker for the COA, which was put off due to failure of the override. He feels that in this no-override environment, we have to be careful about adding new budgetary expenses. Epstein said he could support the work-off provision of the article.
- Paolillo feels that this is an expense we have to incur. There are only 4 or 5 veterans in our town and one Gold Star parent who would benefit from this act.

- Dash thinks the work-off, trust and Gold Star family provisions, should be passed because they are not budgetary issues. He would like to pass three out of four of the provisions of the act.
- Pikilingsis, the petitioner for the article, said that the Moderator can make the decision to separate the motions at Town Meeting.

Motion was made for the Select Board to recommend favorable action on replacement amendment to Article 7. Motion approved by a vote of 3-0.

Motion A: Motion was made to recommend favorable action to approve Chapter 33, Section 59 -- Town Employee Pay. Motion was approved by a vote of 2-1. Epstein opposed.

Motion B: Motion was made to recommend favorable action to approve Section 59(N) -- Tax Work-off Program. Motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

Motion C: Motion was made to recommend favorable action to approve Sec. 59(5), clause 22g -- Veterans Home Owner Buyer Trust. Motion was approved by a vote of 3-0.

Motion D: Motion was made to recommend favorable action to approve Section 59(5), Clause 228 -- Gold Star Family Tax Exemption. Motion was approved by a vote of 2-1. Epstein opposed.

Article 12 – Amendment to the Community Preservation Act Budget and Projects

- The amendment proposed by Frank French seeks to cancel the Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding for the right of way study for the Community Path. The \$200K would be returned to the undesignated CPA fund. Frank French made a statement about his amendment. French said that six years ago money was appropriated for a feasibility study funded by taxpayers and we are still not close to finalizing the path alignment. He allowed an easement in good faith and now the Town wants more. He is standing up for his family and business. He said he is still willing to negotiate if given the chance. He thinks the path alignment needs to be voted by Town Meeting.
- Paolillo said the French family has done a lot for Belmont. He said he will not support an eminent domain taking. But he feels the \$200K needs to be appropriated before the Town can understand what temporary or permanent easements are required. He was originally a proponent of the South side plan for the path, but that was determined unviable.
- Dash said the study gives us the opportunity to go to the Department of Conservation and Recreation to dispute this. Frank still has a chance to dispute the taking. Town Meeting has to provide a 2/3 vote in order to do a permanent taking.
- Epstein believes there will be a taking for Brighton St. He said if the taking is trivial then he will support expenditures but we don't know the extent of the taking. Epstein said we need to determine design plans before we appraise.
- Paolillo said the Select Board needs to work with the engineering consultants and our state legislators to ensure we stay on the original plan. But he would rather not delay funds now because it will further delay the project and that would jeopardize our federal and state funding.

Motion was made for favorable action on the French amendment to Article 12. Motion was opposed by a vote of 1-2. Epstein approved; Dash and Paolillo opposed.

Discussion of the Belmont Light contribution toward the DPW tank replacement project

Discussion was tabled to June 7.

Discussion of Rink Presentation at Annual Town Meeting

Discussion was tabled to June 7.

Discussion and possible vote on a future cardboard event

- Jay Marcotte, Director of DPW said that there will be a change in the fee structure from last year. The DPW agreement with Waste Management for free containers was exhausted at the last event so there will be an additional cost of \$1300 and two police details are needed. That will drive the costs to \$4076 so we will need to increase the fee from \$5 to \$10.
- Epstein said he will personally guarantee any financial shortfall to the town. Paolillo said he would split that cost with Epstein.
- The date for the event was scheduled for June 26th from 8 am to 1 pm.

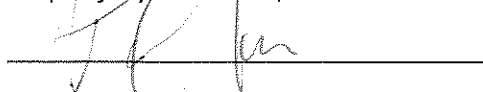
Motion was made to approve the Cardboard Event as described by Jay Marcotte. Motion was approved by vote of 3-0.

Discussion and possible vote on remote participation in meetings

Discussion was tabled to June 7.

Motion was approved to suspend the Select Board meeting until the start of Town Meeting. Motion approved by a vote of 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Patrice Garvin', is written over a horizontal line.

PATRICE GARVIN, Town Administrator

