

**TOWN OF BELMONT**  
**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE (CPC)**  
**PUBLIC MEETING**

Minutes: Thursday, September 13, 2018, Town Hall Board of Selectmen Meeting Room, 6:30PM  
Present: Lisa Harrington, Gloria Leipzig, Andy Rojas, Margaret Velie, Floyd Carman, Tom Caputo, Matt Sullivan, Stephen Pinkerton, Elizabeth Dionnie  
Other: Adam Dash, Patrice Garvin, Glen Castro, Michael Smith, Martin Plass, Russell Leino  
Absent:

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Margaret Velie called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**Introductory Remarks**

Margaret Velie addressed the general public explaining that this is the start of the process that will culminate in next May's Town Meeting voting on projects for funding by Belmont's Community Preservation Fund. In addition, there is a special application presentation for the Community Path Phase 1a Alexander Avenue Underpass Design. Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is made up of nine members (9), six members coming from other boards and commission in Town, three are appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

**Special Application for November 2018 Town Meeting – Presentation and Discussion**  
**Community Path Phase 1a (Alexander Avenue Underpass) Design - \$400,000**

Adam Dash stated that this Board of Selectmen are the sponsors of this project. The community path project is broken into three phases. Phase 1a is the Alexander Avenue Underpass, under the tracks, connected to the bike lane on Concord Avenue. Phase 1b runs from Brighton Street to the Clark Street Bridge. Phase II Clark Street Bridge to Waverly Square to the town line. Adam Dash stated that this project is just the Phase 1a and not Phase 1b and Phase II. The benefits are the following:

- Recreation as an extension of the existing bike lane on Concord Avenue.
- Traffic relief for Winn Brook neighborhood to access post office, underwood pool, high school, Cheney Middle School, Wellington School, and library.
- Health benefit provides more fitness for the town.
- Safety issue prevents walking over the train tracks.
- Environmental helping the climate action plan.

The Board of Selectmen appreciates CPC for reviewing and approving this special application off-cycle as the project is moving along due to state timeline and requirements. The state will pay 100% for construction cost. Russell Leino supported the project and noted that this money allows the town to engage this fiscal year with a design consultant.

### **CPA Overview**

Margaret Velie stated that the Community Preservation Act (CPA) is a state law passed in the year 2000 to establish funding for open space, historic resources, and community housing. In 2010, Belmont adopted it and voted for a 1.5% surcharge. Last year the surcharge averaged \$183.00 per single family home. The estimated revenue this year will be about \$1.1M locally. The preliminary application is to make sure projects are eligible for CPA funding. She referenced the handout from the MA Department of Revenue entitled Allowable Spending Purposes.

### **Application Process and Timeline for FY20 Projects**

Margaret Velie outlined the projected CPA timeline. On November 14, there will be a public meeting to ask sponsors questions about their projects. Final applications are due December 3, 2018.

### **Project Status Update**

Margaret Velie stated this past May town meeting funded six CPA projects.

She also gave an overview of prior year projects, noting that outdoor recreation has been the largest appropriated amount, with the biggest project the Underwood Pool, where CPA contributed \$2.3M, about ½ the total cost of the project. CPA funded projects for historic resources including the building survey for Homer House, Wellington Station Roof, and the Town Clerk's preserving vital records and digitizing town meeting records.

The community housing funded projects were the following:

- Belmont Village underground wiring
- Belmont Village interior wiring
- Sherman Gardens Redevelopment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Glen Castro