

**RECEIVED
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DATE: August 25, 2022
TIME: 3:04 PM

August 11, 2022

The Board of Assessors met at 7:45 a.m. Mr. Reardon, Mr. Clark and Mr. Laverty were present.

The Board opened the session to public participation. Town Meeting Member Mr. Steven Kerins of Precinct 8 joined the meeting at 8:00 AM to discuss his conversation with fellow members of Precinct 8. Mr. Kerins related his, and his fellow residents, concerns regarding the ever-increasing tax burden and his fears that Belmont will not remain an affordable community for long-term and elderly residents.

Mr. Kerins also was concerned about the cost overruns at the High School and the removal of the proposed solar panels. He went on further to discuss the proposed skating rink and why rinks built in comparable communities cost two thirds less than the proposed rink in Belmont.

The Board of Assessors explained the assessment process of which the Board sets property assessments but does not develop a town budget. The Board suggested that Mr. Kerins contact the Select Board to discuss his concerns with the High School, proposed Skating Rink & Library Debt Exclusion and the affordability of the town.

There were no other participates in the public session.

The Board discussed possible legislations to be filed that would increase the exemptions received by seniors and others who qualify for exemptions. The Board is concerned that the increase in taxes annually for vulnerable residents is becoming too much of a burden. It has been Board policy to maximize all exemptions the current allowable relief is being outpaced by the tax burden on residents.

The Board continued plans to further integrate the existing CAMA System with additional GIS capabilities. Recent updates to the standards implemented by the Department of Revenue requirements for annual certification have been combined with the Belmont IT Department standards to develop an improved module for the CAMA Software.

The Board discussed the joint meeting held on August 3rd between the Select Board, Board of Assessors, School Committee and Warrant Committee. The Board of Assessors was notified at the meeting that the Assessors Portion of the report would not be addressed that night. The Board further discussed portions of the report.

The minutes of the previous session were read. On motion by Mr. Lavery, seconded by Mr. Clark, passed unanimously, the minutes were accepted as read.

The following bills/vouchers were ordered paid:

RRC (Support Fee for Software)	dated 6/01/2022
Crystal Rock (water & delivery)	dated 8/01/2022
Staples (office supplies)	dated 8/04/2022

The Board signed the Invoice Report dated 8/19/2022 for three invoices amounting to \$1,558.24.

The weekly list(s) of taxes exempted or abated was (were) signed: 7/15/2022, 7/22/2022, 7/29/2022 and 8/5/2022. The taxes exempted totaled \$4,819.18.

The Board signed the Assessors Warrant to Collector for Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise for the Fourth Commitment of 2022, in the amount of \$142,207.10.

On motion by Mr. Reardon, seconded by Mr. Clark, passed unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

The Board voted to hold the next meeting on Wednesday, August 24th, 2022 at 7:45am.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

Charles Clark
Secretary