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MINUTES  
TOWN OF BELMONT  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM  
Monday, January 23, 2017  
7:00 PM

APPROVED  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
DATE: 04-03-2017

### CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order in open session at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Mark Paolillo in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Selectmen Sami Baghdady and Jim Williams were present. Town Administrator David Kale and Assistant Town Administrator Phyllis Marshall were also present.

Chair Paolillo reviewed the agenda and then turned to the first item.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Winter Weather Resources:** Visit the town's website to be kept up to date on storm warnings, parking bans, etc.
- **Nomination Papers:** Are now available at the Town Clerk's Office and are due back by 2/14/17 at 5:00 p.m.
- **Pet License Renewals:** Contact the Town Clerk's Office for information on license renewals for pets.
- **The Vision 21 Implementation Committee is presenting "Talk of the Town".** This event will be held on Tuesday, March 21, from 7-9 pm at the Cheney Middle School.
- **Mr. Kale Submits Resignation:** Effective March 13, 2017, Mr. Kale will be the Assistant City Manager for Fiscal Affairs in Cambridge. Chair Paolillo spoke of Mr. Kale's accomplishments here in Belmont. A transition plan will need to be put in place and can be discussed at the next Board meeting. Mr. Kale added that this is a bittersweet decision. He thanked Board members, past and present for their support. In addition, he expressed his thanks to elected officials, committee members, department heads and staff for their support, dedication and hard work for the many accomplishments achieved. He also thanked the Town Administrator Staff for their hard work.
- **MMA Meeting:** School funding, housing, and the Selectmen's Association were among the many relevant topics that were explored recently at the MMA meeting held in Boston.

### QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS

[There were none.]

### ACTION BY CONSENT

#### Update from the OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Committee

Dr. Ralph Jones (Chair), Mr. Geoffrey Lubien, Mr. Richard Waring, Ms. Chris Doyle, and Mr.

APPROVED

MEMORANDUM

Tim Lurman, of the OPEB Committee, appeared before the Board to provide an update on the OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) Committee. Chair Paolillo noted that this is a temporary working group charged with evaluating the town's current OPEB strategy.

Dr. Jones mentioned his understanding that the Board of Selectmen had been updated by the HR Director on December 2 about the EGWP (Employer Group Waiver Plan) about as an option that could reduce the OPEB obligation by \$13 million of our assumed obligation for OPEB.

He noted that the group has been seeking more detailed costs on health care costs for our Retirees in Belmont. He explained that he and Geoff Lubien had met with the Wayland Committee and learned that they had contracted out assistance from an actuary, which Belmont could also do. Most important was that the Wayland group could get detail because the actuary was HIPPA-certified, because the Belmont was not HIPPA certified, the data could only be provided in an aggregated manner. Our actuary could get the employee specific data that would be used to get a more robust picture of the costs are. He presented the Board with a sample RFQ from Wayland as an example that Belmont could use.

He proposed that the RFQ be used to by Belmont to hire our actuary for the FY16 biennial report on OPEB obligations. It calls for the Actuary to do two things. Using the standard GASB 45 report and the standard GASB45 assumptions for the report which don't actually reflect what is going on in the Town. The second part has the actuary do the same report only the second time use our data, assumptions about experience with health care and future trends to get a more town specific and realistic picture about our OPEB obligations. As we learned last year, they were about 30% lower than GASB45 method.

He requested that the town follow the basic format of Wayland's RFP and perhaps add one or two additional points. Also add tasks, for example: there are modifications to our plan offered by Belmont. A lot of corporations offer family, individual and couple plans which are a reduced cost. Wayland offered a couple two individual plans. RFQ has to be prepared by the Authorized entity to conduct procurement in Belmont.

Chris Doyle asked if someone on the Committee could participate in the review of the RFQ proposals.

Chair Paolillo agreed.

Dr. Jones reminded that evaluating this data is going to be a long-term, ongoing process every two years to look again at obligation and funding procedure should be for decades until the obligation is fully funded.

Geoff Lubien mentioned that Wayland group really partnered with the Actuary firm to have a consultative relationship after the reports had been generated to review policy options and changes after the report to evolve for years.

Mr. Kale then explained an RFP had been drafted by the Administration and we were

anticipating suggestions from the OPEB working group that we can incorporate and reminded that GASB regulations are changing for the FY17 and FY18. It has been recommended that it should be done once instead of splitting the GASB rule75.

Chair Paolillo asked about the time table and whether the report is as of January 1.

Mr. Kale said it is 7-1-16.

The Board expressed its support for this idea. Chair Paolillo added that we might want to find out what legislative support could be provided on this topic because it would be helpful. Issues relating to hiring an actuary for Belmont were briefly discussed. The higher discount rate option can only be used if fully funding the ARC.

Identification of firms to receive the RFP would be offered by the Committee and Selectman Williams. Geoff Lubien would work on the RFP with the Town Administrator's Office.

*The Board moved:* To accept the recommendation of the OPEB committee to issue an RFP to employ an actuary to do the next bi-annual actuarial study July 1, 2016 and incorporating the recommendations of the OPEB working committee.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Wayland was not as aggressive as Belmont, for example they were not at 50/50 split like Belmont.

**Approval of a Request from the Belmont Boosters to hold the Second Annual Becca Pizzi Family Fun Run on Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. This event would utilize the same route as the Annual Brendan Grant 5K**

Mr. Curtis Cole, of the Belmont Boosters, and Ms. Becca Pizzi, Marathon Runner Extraordinaire, appeared before the Board to discuss the request from the Belmont Boosters to hold the Second Annual Becca Pizzi Family Fun Run on Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Pizzi noted that the event was a great success last year and that funds were raised for Belmont. Mr. Cole added that \$7,000 was raised for Boosters and for student athlete scholarships. Ms. Pizzi informed the Board that she is running 10 marathons this coming year. She stated that they are hoping for 500-600 runners this year, having had about 300 last year.

The Board expressed its support for this event.

*The Board moved:* To approve the request from the Belmont Boosters to hold the Second Annual Becca Pizzi Family Fun Run on Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

**Vote to Open and Close the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) Warrant (2/6/17 - 3/6/17)**

Ms. Marshall noted that Warrant articles will be submitted during the timeframe that the Warrant is open. No articles can be submitted after March 6. Draft article language will be submitted to the appropriate committees. This information will be posted on the town's website. The

financial articles will be included as “drafts”.

The Board briefly discussed the dates.

*The Board moved:* To open the Warrant on Monday, 2/6/17 at 9:00 a.m. and to close at the Warrant at 3:00 p.m. on March 6, 2017.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

**Approval of One Day Liquor License Application from the Patrons of the Belmont Performing Arts Company to serve Wine and Malt at a fundraiser event to be held on February 10, 2017 at the Beech Street Center, 266 Beech Street, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm**

*The Board moved:* To approve the one-day license request, details noted above.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

**Approval of One Day All Alcohol Liquor License Application from Paulette Balk of the Beth El Temple Center for an event to be held on April 1, 2017 at the Beth El Temple, 2 Concord Avenue, 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm**

*The Board moved:* To approve the one-day license request, details noted above.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

**Committee Appointment: MBTA (Massachusetts Bay Transportation Association) Advisory Board, Matthew Haskell as Town Administration Staff Liaison**

Mr. Kale explained that, while the Chair usually serves in this role, an alternate is appointed as well. Mr. Haskell, of the TA’s Office is looking forward to being the alternate. Chair Paolillo requested that Selectman Williams serve on the Board in his place.

*The Board moved:* To designate Selectman Williams to serve on the MBTA Advisory Board as the Selectmen’s liaison, in place of the Chair of the Board.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

*The Board moved:* To appoint Mr. Matthew Haskell to the MBTA Advisory Board as the Town Administration Staff Liaison.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board then discussed the speed of the MBTA train leaving the Center as it crosses through Belmont. The MBTA is reviewing the request to slow the speed down. Selectman Williams stated that there is probably a more reasonable speed that the train could engage in as it heads a mile toward Alewife.

**Discussion on Selectman Liaison to the Warrant Committee (WC)**

The Board discussed the various Selectmen liaison roles.

Selectman Baghdady informed the Board that his schedule will not support him continuing to serve as the Board's liaison to the WC; Chair Paolillo stated that he could serve on the WC. Selectman Baghdady will serve as Capital Budget Committee liaison.

### **Town Administrator's Report**

Mr. Kale reported on the following items:

- **Update on the Home Rule Petition – License Transfers:** Mr. Kale reported that he has been in touch with Representative Rogers and Senator Brownsberger on this issue. Language has been submitted to the House and Senate Counsels. The feedback is expected soon and the Board will have an opportunity to finalize the language. Once reviewed, it can be submitted as a Warrant article for Town Meeting. The Board discussed supporting the more restrictive and shorter language. Mr. Kale will keep the Board informed on the process. The Board discussed the BYOB option, which is allowed because there is no bylaw restricting this.
- **Toll Brothers:** Will host a public meeting (on 2/24/17) concerning the Cushing Village development. There will be a licensed site professional and the Board may need to be in communication with this person and may want to consider hiring someone to review the environmental impacts. The public has expressed concern about the environmental issues.

*The Board moved:* To approve the Town Administrator in engaging a licensed site professional to provide a peer review at the Cushing Village site.  
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

### **Committee Liaison Reports / Other**

#### *Capital Budget –Major Building Projects*

Chair Paolillo stated that there is an ad hoc working group that has been reviewing a priority matrix scheme (developed by the CBC) as a way to move forward with the major building projects. The group is conducting tours of the Police Station, BHS, the DPW, the Library, and the Incinerator Site. The town needs a plan for moving forward and for prioritizing these remaining capital projects.

#### *Community Path Implementation Committee (CPIC)*

Chair Paolillo noted that this group has been holding public meetings to introduce the process to examine possible path routes across town. The process has been objective. Chair Paolillo described the purpose of the public meetings, going forward. He thanked the CPIC members for their efforts throughout this process. He then briefly explained the evaluation criteria matrix which will offer potential paths. The approach, he said, has been rather complex.

#### *Community Preservation Act (CPA)*

Selectman Williams noted that the Board will weigh in soon on the CPA projects. The CPA committee has voted on the projects.

#### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- **July 11, 2016 Regular Session**
- **August 22, 2016 Regular Session**
- **September 12, 2016 Regular Session**
- **October 24, 2016 Executive Session**
- **October 28, 2016 Working Session**
- **November 7, 2016 Joint Meeting with the Warrant Committee**
- **November 14, 2016 Regular Session**
- **December 2, 2016 Working Session**
- **December 2, 2016 Executive Session**
- **December 12, 2016 Executive Session**
- **December 19, 2016 Regular Session**

*The Board moved:* To approve the above noted meeting minutes, with Executive Session where noted.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

- **December 12, 2016 Regular Session**
- **December 28, 2016 Working Session**

*The Board moved:* To approve the above noted meeting minutes, as amended.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

#### **NEXT MEETINGS**

Thursday, February 2, 2017 Working Session 9:00 a.m. BOS Room

Monday, February 6, 2017 Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m. BOS Room

Monday, February 13, 2017 Joint Meeting with WC and SC 6:00 p.m. BOS Room

Monday, February 27, 2017 Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m. BOS Room

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.



Phyllis Marshall, Interim Town Administrator