

**MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
Monday, April 12, 2010
7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Jones in the Selectmen's Meeting Room. Selectmen Firenze and Paolillo were present. Town Administrator Tom Younger and Assistant Town Administrator Jeff Conti were also present.

QUESTIONS FROM TOWN RESIDENTS

There were none.

ACTION BY APPOINTMENT

Council on Aging (COA) – Job Description for Shared Position

Ms. Nava Niv-Vogel (Council On Aging Director) and Ms. Donna Moultrup (Public Health Director) appeared before the Board to discuss the job description for the shared position between the COA and the Department of Health. The Board will need to give approval for this position, which combines the Youth and Family Services outreach coordinator position with the COA social worker position. Two positions totaling 65 hours a week will now be one position at 40 hours a week, which is an efficient use of time and will save the town about \$25K in salary expenses in FY11. Ms. Moultrup said she has met with both Mr. Younger and Ms. Crimmins regarding the job description and the salary.

The Board moved: To accept the new combined position.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Sharps (Needles, Lancets, etc.) Disposal Policy Discussion with Health Department

Ms. Donna Moultrup remained before the Board to discuss the new sharps disposal policy. Containers will be sold to residents for the disposal of their sharps and then returned back to the Health Department where a vendor will pick them up for a fee of \$75.00 per box. Ms. Moultrup said she is requesting \$3K for this program, but is hoping that it will eventually be budget neutral.

The Board moved: To approve the new sharps disposal program.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Comprehensive Plan Approval

Ms. Jenny Fallon Planning Board (PB) Chair, Mr. Larry Koff (the consultant), and Planning Director Mr. Jay Szklut appeared before the Board to discuss the Comprehensive Plan. The Plan is complete now, Fallon said, as all changes have been incorporated into the April 8 version. The PB, Board of Selectmen and Town Meeting will need to approve steps incrementally along the way. Selectman Firenze said he hopes the Board of Selectmen will take a leadership position in moving this forward. Selectman Paolillo stressed the need to get public input on the plan, as some of these changes will create concern for residents and the both the Board and PB will need to hear neighborhood voices. Ms. Fallon agreed but noted that Belmont has a tradition of viewing development projects from an immediate abutters' perspective and less from a community-at-large perspective. There is a sense that commercial centers have suffered as a result. The immediate abutters should have impact, she said, but should not be the only voice heard.

At this point, the Planning Board voted to adopt "for the Town of Belmont the Comprehensive Plan: A Vision for Belmont, Mapping a Sustainable Future, as presented in the April 8, 2010 version 'Final for Adoption'".

Mr. Younger said he would like a scheduled monthly meeting with Mr. Szklut and report to the Board quarterly on the progress of the Plan.

The Board moved to amend the above motion to include the following: Further that the Board of Selectmen in collaboration with the Planning Board lead the discussion within the community on the Comprehensive Plan and its implementation.

The motion to amend passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To adopt for the Town of Belmont the Comprehensive Plan: A Vision for Belmont, Mapping a Sustainable Future, as presented in the April 8, 2010 vision "Final for Adoption." Further, that the Board of Selectmen in collaboration with the PB lead the discussion within the community on the Comprehensive Plan and its implementation.

The motion passed unanimously.

One Day Liquor License for Belmont Hill School

Ms. Betsy Parrot and Ms. Lee Mara, representatives for the Belmont Hill School, appeared before the Board to request a one-day liquor license for Belmont Hill School on April 15 and on May 1, 2010.

The Board moved: To approve the request for the one-day liquor licenses on the above dates.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Solid Waste and Recycling Committee Waste Collection RFP

The Solid Waste and Recycling Committee appeared before the Board to discuss two new options to adjust the program and improve its efficiencies. The goals would be for behavior change (to recycle more) with cost savings for Belmont. The cost savings result because it costs less to take recycled goods away than it does to remove solid trash waste. The first option is to charge a fee if residents use more than one barrel for waste. The second option is to collect the waste with automation.

The Board discussed the issues related to these options including a potential joint procedure on trash collection with Watertown. Mr. Castanino (DPW Director) noted that state grants are available and that he would like to consider a “recycling coordinator” position for the future.

The Board moved: That the Belmont DPW be directed to request proposals based on the following three options: retaining the current program (status quo), solid waste reduction with increased recycling, and waste reduction with automated collection.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

ACTION BY WRITING

Bid Recommendation – FY11 Water Capital

Mr. Castanino, DPW Director, appeared before the Board to request approval for the water main replacement on Trapelo Road, which should be done prior to any future road construction on Trapelo Road.

The Board moved: To approve the recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Approval of Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure – July 23-25, 2010

Ms. Meg Lelli appeared before the Board to request that participants be allowed to walk through Belmont during the Susan G. Komen walk on July 23-25, 2010. Mr. Younger noted that various town departments are fine with this.

The Board moved: To grant permission to the Susan G. Komen group to conduct the 3-Day Walk for the Cure in Belmont.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Rep. Brownsberger Legislative Update

Representative Brownsberger appeared before the Board to give a legislative update. He touched upon the following topics:

- Local Aid Cuts – These will be better known on Wednesday, April 14. FY12 will be worse than FY11. State revenue is beginning to stabilize and is tracking to revised predictions.
- Health Insurance Plan Design – This has been a battle on the State level, but Belmont is in pretty good shape. The Board discussed this as well as the GIC and plan design.
- Pension Schedule Extension – The Governor is addressing this and the Board will discuss in more detail at a later date (after budget season) and give input into this matter. The Board agreed that retirement compensation needs a cap.
- Trapelo Road – There is a Trapelo Road TIP meeting on May 5. Representative Brownsberger advised the Board to “be ready” as Trapelo Road could come up sooner than expected on the State’s docket. The Board discussed the tunnel under tracks at Alexander Avenue. Brownsberger asked if the tunnel should be looked at in conjunction with the bike path? In doing so, we may get the State to focus on it more easily, he said. The Board discussed.

The Board moved: To explore the subject of a bike path together with a tunnel study package in the Winn Brook area with the Department of Transportation (no bike routes specified).
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

- Flood Relief – The Board and Representative Brownsberger discussed the water draining issue of Clay Pit Pond during recent severe weather.

The Board moved: That Chair Jones meet with the Town Engineer(s) in Belmont and Cambridge to discuss options to mitigate the flooding of Clay Pit and Blaire Pond.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board and Rep. Brownsberger discussed the town’s obligation with sewer backups in town. Mr. Conti added that while most municipal systems are not designed to handle what happened recently, that the town’s liability for sewer backups is lessened as long as the Town can show that it is making a good faith effort to renovate the sewer system.

- Regionalization – The Board and Rep. Brownsberger discussed what incentives the State may offer to towns to move toward regionalization. Mr. Younger noted that he has been meeting with Watertown about regionalizing a position with them, and that he is working with nearby libraries regarding library

hours and how to keep a branch open on Sundays. Selectman Paolillo offered to lead the Board's initiative on regionalization.

- Cell Tower – Rep. Brownsberger said that the State terminated its lease with Verizon for the Route 2 property and that Verizon is looking at town-owned sites.

ACTION BY CONSENT (continued)

Rancatore's Ice Cream – Approval of 4 Fenway Park Chairs

Mr. Joe Rancatore appeared before the Board to request approval for 4 original Fenway Park Chairs to be placed in the outdoor seating area on Leonard Street. The chairs would be anchored down permanently. Mr. Younger raised the issue (via Mr. Clancy) of trash location.

The Board moved: To approve the request for 4 Fenway Park Chairs on Leonard Street.

The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Budget Discussion

Mr. Younger gave an overview of the reductions made to the “needs budget” in order to reach the “available budget” target number. He noted that while reductions were made, he is still \$38K off.

Reductions include:

\$17K – reduction in legal services account

\$217K – reductions in insurance and social security

\$40K – elimination of one police cruiser

\$132K – elimination of two police positions * (traffic management and community)

\$90K – elimination of two fire suppression positions *

\$122K – elimination of three DPW positions *

\$11K – elimination of part-time administrator in DPW

* The noted positions were eliminated for the FY10 budget, but were put back for the FY11 needs budget, and are again eliminated for the FY11 budget

Mr. Younger said he will not reduce the Capital Budget allocation, and he will not reduce the part-time budget analyst in the accounting office.

The Board then discussed the wording and amount that will need to be specified for the override. Chair Jones suggested that the Board allocate a sum for the town side and a sum for the school side as he would not like to see allocation changes made on Town Meeting floor. Selectman Paolillo suggested that the Board hold some type of “budget

forum meetings” to illuminate the budget conditions and explain to the public what the override and non-override budgets look like.

Minuteman

Mr. Joe Scali and Ms. Camie Lamica appeared before the Board to discuss the Minuteman feasibility study. There is a misconception that the feasibility study has an expansion component in it, but there is no specific plan for a large expansion, explained Ms. Lamica. The study would examine the issues of the size of the building. Chair Jones said that the wording does imply expansion. He added that while he supports vocational education, the enrollment has not been met by the 16 communities and as such each community is subsidizing non-member communities’ students. Selectman Paolillo noted that while Minuteman is in need of repair, the Belmont High School needs repair as well. He agreed with Chair Jones and stated his concern about “right sizing” the building. More needs to be done before we can support a feasibility study, he said, and \$98M to rebuild remains very concerning, as it will cost \$300-\$400K per year from Belmont.

Ms. Lamica agreed that the cost to rebuild is something that is being explored, but that it is not the only option being explored. She said that the enrollment issue is a part of a feasibility study, as well. She added that the building has a 24-year-old roof and that a \$2.8M roof replacement is coming down the road.

Chair Jones suggested that Minuteman send the Board a statement about the options it is looking into.

Mr. Scali requested that both a Massachusetts School Building Authority and a Minuteman representative be allowed to speak at Town Meeting on this issue.

Town Administrator’s Report

Mr. Younger reported that the Selectmen’s “goals and objectives” meeting went well. He said he would postpone his full report until another time.

ACTION BY WRITING (continued)

Proclamation Arbor Day on Friday, April 30, 2010

The Board moved: To proclaim Arbor Day in Belmont on Friday, April 30, 2010.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Police Department – Acceptance of Gift from Mr. Carl F. Barron

The Board moved: To accept the gift of \$2,500 from Mr. Carl F. Barron.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Renewal Licenses

Mr. Younger noted that regarding license renewals, he would like to have one grouping of establishments and have one vote to approve all the requests done at the end of the year. The Board agreed that this would be appropriate.

Rancatores, Arams Coffee Cafe, Yellow Cab of Belmont, Marcou Jewelers, Fancy That, As Tyme Goes By, Dick's Place, and All That Matters are requesting license renewals at this time.

The Board moved: To approve the requests of the above named establishments. The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Approval of BOS Minutes 10/19/09, 11/2/09, 1/4/10, and 3/15/10

The Board moved: To approve the above noted minutes. The motion passed unanimously (2-0). Selectman Paolillo abstained.

Executive Session

The Board moved: To enter into Executive Session at 9:55 pm to discuss litigation and value of real property. The Board will not return to Open Session.

(During executive session, no substantive motions were made. The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 pm.)

—
Thomas G. Younger, Town Administrator