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**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
REORGANIZATION & WARRANT**

**TOWN OF BELMONT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
CHENERY COMMUNITY ROOM
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2012
6:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Board was called to order in open session at 6:30 pm by Chair Jones in the Chenery Community Room. Selectmen Paolillo and Rojas were present. Interim Town Administrator Kellie Hebert was not present; Budget Analyst Glen Castro was present.

Board of Selectmen Re-organization and Vote

Chair Jones began by noting that this would be an organization meeting. He added that the Board would then have a brief budget discussion.

The Board moved: To nominate Vice Chair Paolillo to Chair of the Board.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board moved: To nominate Selectman Rojas as Vice Chair of the Board.
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Vote on Final Warrant for Annual Town Meeting (April 23, 2012)

Chair Paolillo said that the Board will approve the Warrant tonight, and that the individual articles will need to be discussed prior to the annual TM scheduled for the 23rd of April.

The Board moved: To accept the Warrant for the Annual TM (April 23, 2012).
The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

The Board members signed the Warrant. Chair Paolillo then thanked former-Chair Jones for his service to the Board as Chair and he welcomed Selectman Andy Rojas to the Board of Selectmen team. Selectman Jones agreed that he was pleased to have Selectman Rojas on the Board and observed how close the election was.

Budget Update

Chair Paolillo updated the Board regarding his meetings with Town Administrator, Town Accountant, and Budget Analyst. He said the Board will meet on Monday morning to discuss the general government appropriations that have been requested by department heads. He said that the Town Administrator has been meeting with the School Department, and that he himself

met with WC Chair Allison to ensure that the budget numbers align. Chair Paolillo noted that the budget numbers are just about ready to be finalized. He added that establishing a SPED stabilization fund has been discussed. He suggested that some one-time funds may be put into the stabilization fund. Another consideration is to establish a reserve fund to ensure more regular maintenance. He said this fund – also from one-time funds – could help with the “orphan” items that are out there.

Chair Paolillo said that the school debt could be accommodated to some extent (perhaps 50 percent). He then discussed the health insurance savings, noting the money that needs to be put aside in a mitigation fund.

There is money available to help fund the general government requests, he said.

Selectman Jones suggested that the Board have a policy in place regarding funding the OPEB obligation. Selectman Jones noted what is happening in the state of Rhode Island with regard to pension funding.

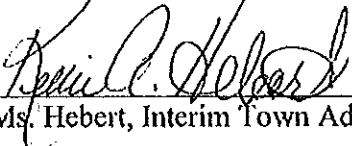
The Board discussed this issue.

Chair Paolillo noted that state aid is likely to be level-funded in the future, but that it is not expect to rise.

Chair Paolillo requested more information from SC Chair Graham regarding the change in the budgeted number for the out-of-district placements. SC Chair Graham explained that, while a sure number of students are phasing out (due to age) of the SPED program, a higher number than expected will be placed in out-of-district for the coming year.

Selectman Paolillo asked SC Rep Slap about the meals tax estimation. She explained that the Treasurer was not comfortable doubling the current projection. Selectman Jones said the budgeted number should be at least what it was for this year. The Board agreed to discuss this matter with WC Chair Allison.

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 pm.



Ms. Hebert, Interim Town Administrator