

# **Belmont Town Election**

## **Voter Guide**

Election Day is  
Tuesday, April 3, 2018

*published by*

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF BELMONT

# **VOTER GUIDE**

**to the**

## **BELMONT TOWN ELECTION**

**Tuesday, April 3, 2018**

**7 AM to 8 PM**

This Guide is prepared by members of the League of Women Voters of Belmont to provide you with information on all of the candidates who will appear on your ballot for this election.

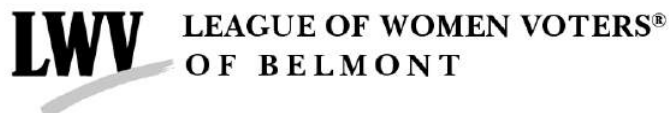
The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization. It does not endorse or oppose any candidates. The League's purpose is to promote political responsibility through the informed and active participation of all citizens.

All candidates were contacted by mail and asked to respond to the following question: "Belmont citizens look to our elected officials for fair and responsible solutions to the issues facing our community. Please discuss an issue or two which you consider important to the future of the town, presenting your ideas for managing them effectively." Responses were limited to 70 words and printed verbatim as written by the candidates.

Candidates who did not reply to the questionnaire sent to them by the League are included in the Guide so that you will have a complete list of candidates.

An asterisk (\*) preceding the candidate's name denotes an incumbent. Where applicable, attendance at Town Meeting for the past three years, according to the Town Clerk's records, is given in parentheses. In all cases, the second number indicates the number of Town Meetings the candidate was eligible to attend. If one or more Special Town Meetings are held on the same night as a regular Town Meeting, each is counted as a separate meeting. Some candidates were previously elected at caucuses and are not considered incumbents.

*If you value receiving the Voter Guide, please help us to cover the costs of printing and distribution by making a tax-deductible donation to the Belmont Voter Education Fund. This fund covers the cost of sending the Voter Guide to every household in Belmont. Please mail your contribution to LWV Belmont, P.O. Box 426, Belmont MA 02478 or use the link for "Voter Ed Fund" here: [http://BelmontLWV.org/donate\\_form.html](http://BelmontLWV.org/donate_form.html). Thank you for your support.*



**The League offers free rides to the polls for every election! Call 617-771-8500 or email [rides@BelmontLWV.org](mailto:rides@BelmontLWV.org). For more information about the League, go to our web page: [BelmontLWV.org](http://BelmontLWV.org)**

## CANDIDATES FOR TOWN-WIDE OFFICE

### **MODERATOR**

**For 1 Yr.**

**Vote for One**

\* MICHAEL J. WIDMER

126 Gilbert Road

In my 10 years as Town Moderator, I have worked hard to manage our Town Meeting to allow a broader and more informed participation of members and to better serve the town and our citizens. In addition, I am proud to have nominated highly qualified and dedicated individuals to several committees, including the Warrant Committee and the pool, high school, library and DPW/Police building committees. Thank you.

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for One**

THOMAS CAPUTO

63 Richmond Road

We have many big decisions to make as a town that will shape our community for years to come. One challenge, skyrocketing school enrollment, can be addressed in part by the decisions we make regarding the 7-12 school building project. Other challenges – capital projects, budgets, town services, economic development, environmental sustainability, housing and zoning - need to be driven by a coordinated, sequenced, and thoughtful strategic planning process.

### **BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for One**

\* MARTIN B. MILLANE

56 Radcliffe Road

Traffic: Every Belmontian is affected by increased commuting times, increased air pollution, and heightened safety concerns from an excess of cars on the road. While traffic is a regional issue, it may be alleviated through increased signage and enforcement to prevent “cut through” situations during peak commuting hours. Additionally, the town should partner with MassDOT and the MBTA to encourage use of bike lanes, carpooling, walking, and public transit.

*(Please turn page)*

**BOARD OF CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS**

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for One**

\* ELLEN O'BRIEN CUSHMAN

38 Scott Road

I will continue to work on behalf of the residents of Belmont, lot owners and families of our deceased neighbors, by advocating to mitigate the effects of the Belmont Day School expansion. Our hope continues to preserve the pastoral, restoring beauty of Highland Meadow Cemetery, in the face of the expansion along our border, as we have done throughout 2017. Work with DPW staff to migrate data systems.

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for One**

STEPHEN M. FIORE

34 Van Ness Road

I feel we need to be mindful of the anxiety and stresses that our children face related to performance/social/political/cultural pressures. We need to work together with the schools and town offices/committees for strategies to help students cope with these pressures. Similarly, the issues with opioid and marijuana use are ongoing. We need to work with our community and local legislation for outreach and education.

**MEMBER OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY**

**For 5 Yrs.**

**Vote for One**

\* GLORIA E. LEIPZIG

48 Gorham Road

BHA public housing is the town's most valuable affordable housing resource. As a Commissioner, I will work with the new Executive Director to continue our efforts to explore grant funding for resident programs and capital improvements. BHA properties are between 50-70 years old and we must begin to evaluate redevelopment for both our family and elderly developments so that we can better serve Belmont families, seniors and those with disabilities.

**TRUSTEES OF BELMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for Two**

\* ELAINE C. ALLIGOOD

265 Beech Street

As Library Trustee for the past 11 years, I've worked to guide the Belmont Public Library into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Trustees, along with Director Peter Struzziero, have expanded services, refreshed the Reference Room, and re-arranged the West Wing with great results, more space for library users and higher usage! Belmont Public Library is now the eleventh busiest in MA. Your vote allows me to continue guiding Belmont's Public Library.

*(Please turn page)*

\* CORINNE McCUE OLMSTED

28 Stone Road

The role of the community library is changing and expanding in the digital age. Supporting Belmont's library effectively as it navigates these changes is critically important. As a Trustee I seek to balance addressing short term needs with longer term goals. Increased enrollment in Belmont's schools extends to the library and as a parent of young children I am also able to provide a perspective on children's programs and services.

## **MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for Two**

\* SUSAN E. BURGESS-COX

135 Radcliffe Road

As the incumbent I bring experience, vision and commitment to the School Committee. My experience includes implementing a 3-year financial plan, creating district policies and working to address our growing enrollment. Belmont continues to face budgetary and enrollment issues and is now undertaking the building of a new 7-12 facility. I intend to continue to address these issues and promote other initiatives in my continued tenure on the School Committee.

TARA DONNER

47 Payson Road

Belmont must maintain educational excellence and take thoughtful action to alleviate school overcrowding due to increasing enrollment while balancing the cost of building a new 7-12 campus. It's critical that families can access aftercare and that long-time residents are not priced out of their homes. My 16 years of public school teaching and 11 years as a Town Meeting Member give me a unique perspective to contribute to school leadership.

JILL SOUZA NORTON

96 Clark Street

I'm excited about the opportunities the new high school affords our students and community. Yet costs must be kept as reasonable as possible. If elected, I will draw on my experience managing nonprofit finances to ensure we effectively maximize our resources. I will be an ambassador for the new building – reaching out broadly to ensure all residents see how it strengthens our education system and the health of our town.

**For 1 Yr.**

**Vote for One**

\* LISA B. FIORE

34 Van Ness Road

Efforts facing the School Committee include planning for the new high school and managing continued enrollment growth, as well as our social-emotional learning initiative and efforts to understand disparities in student achievement. The success of all efforts depends greatly on the relationships that exist between town bodies and among residents of all ages. Effective planning and implementation will require clear and transparent communication and inclusive engagement over several years.

# PRECINCT 1

## CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* JOHN A. BORELLI

290 School Street

(20 of 23)

I am not in favor of the new 7-12 high school configuration. The building will be too big and too expensive. The town must live within its budget. I feel it would be better to remodel the school buildings to make room for increases in enrollment. I do not believe that class size will increase forever. Our town is a cut through for commuters. We should consider “one-way” signs.

\* PETER J. DIZIKES

34 Randolph Street

(23 of 23)

Public education is our greatest investment. We need to maintain the excellence of Belmont's schools, now and for future generations of children. I support the high school and middle school project. In turn, we can broaden our tax base through sensible commercial development without compromising our quality of life. I also endorse sustainability measures, from clean energy to pedestrian improvements. Let's make Belmont green and user-friendly for all residents.

\* MARY T.W. GAVIN

12 Long Avenue

(23 of 23)

I am interested in preserving the character of our town as a beacon of authentic community. Easy accessibility to all that the town provides, including safe crosswalks and pathways for residents, whether walking or cycling, is necessitated by increased traffic in recent years. Spending for infrastructure, the high school complex, DPW yard, police station, and library will require thoughtful action. I am excited to continue to help where I can.

\* HELEN E. GOLDING

18 Louise Road

(20 of 23)

Maintaining a high-quality education system in Belmont benefits everyone, and expanding enrollments require more space at the high school and a realignment of grades in the other schools. We should look for innovative ways to allow people to age in place, while still responding appropriately to the town's need for additional revenue to accomplish its budgetary priorities. Please contact me at [hegolding@gmail.com](mailto:hegolding@gmail.com) to share your thoughts on important issues.

\* GAIL M. GORMAN

96 School Street

(23 of 23)

1. With many capital projects on the horizon, traffic will become more of a strain on the town. It is important that we look to fund and build a Community Path that will take cars off the road and connect neighborhoods. 2. I support a debt exclusion for a new 7-12 school building. Without it, Belmont residents will end up footing the entire cost without the help from the State.

*(Please turn page)*

\* ANNE MARIE S. MAHONEY

24 Goden Street

(23 of 23)

Belmont must: 1. Fulfill its obligation to address police station and DPW facilities with the same zeal as the high school and library projects. I am working with town leaders to form a comprehensive plan for constructing and funding all four projects in a reasonable, cost effective sequence. 2. Mitigate the negative effects of overflow traffic on neighborhoods, pedestrians, bicyclists. We must protect our residents, not facilitate cut through commuters.

\* LYDIA PHIPPEN OGILBY

306 Washington Street

(21 of 23)

Long-time town meeting member, teacher, LICSW, grandmother, former Capital Budget Committee member, Belmont Historic Commission, Belmont Historical Society. Fire Department-superb police department with preventive Drug Education. Acorn at Alewife, Cushing Square, 40B development major challenges. Elders need tax relief. Early prudent planning is imperative. Belmont is an Emerald in the Olmstead necklace. The high school comes first, possible extra floors at Wellington and Chenery. I ask for your vote.

\* JAMES H. STATON

92 Long Avenue

(23 of 23)

Successful planning, financing and constructing the new high school while addressing other capital needs are critical to maintaining the quality of life enjoyed in our town. Another challenging issue is the need to maintain and create more affordable housing options for seniors and families with fixed or moderate incomes.

\* IAN L. TODREAS

16 Chenery Terrace

(20 of 23)

A supporter of Belmont's sustainability efforts and schools since 2005 (through Sustainable Belmont and the Energy Committee), I have advocated for and led efforts to reduce idling, increase biking/walking, weatherize and solarize homes, and promote EVs. More is needed. Slashed school programs, libraries, teachers, and electives should be restored to provide the 21<sup>st</sup> century education our kids need—and deserve. I support inclusion, equity, truth, science, and fiscal responsibility. [ian@todreas.com](mailto:ian@todreas.com)

\* STEPHEN TOMCZYK

47 Hamilton Road

(23 of 23)

It's important to maintain and improve the quality of town services during these tight fiscal times. I support the construction of a new high school and the renovation of the Department of Public Works and Police Department facilities. Zoning by-law changes are also important to preserve the small-town character of the Town of Belmont.

*(Please turn page)*

\* JOHN J. WEIS

30 Chenery Terrace

(23 of 23)

Finding the right balance between investing in our community and doing so in a fiscally responsible manner is the key on-going issue facing Belmont. This issue has many manifestations, perhaps most immediately reflected in the pending Grade 7-12 school building project. While no one likes seeing their taxes increase, maintaining our town's infrastructure, even elements that we all may not personally utilize, is essential for maintaining our collective quality of life.

JESSICA LEE BENNETT

15 Trowbridge Street

I've served on the boards of the Burbank PTA, FBE, and BASEC, and Belmont's Safe Routes to School Committee. I know how growing enrollment affects our schools. We've exhausted our short-term options; we need a long-term solution that meets 21st century educational needs. We should make Belmont better for business: good businesses rejuvenate under-performing commercial areas, enrich our tax base, and give residents walk-able access to shopping and services.

EMMA L. THURSTON

101 Baker Street

(7 of 7)

The immediate need for major capital projects in our town must be managed in a pragmatic, fiscally responsible way. None of these projects are negotiable – they must be done – so we need to be creative in how we fund them while being mindful of the taxpayer burden. Also, as a small business owner in Belmont, I strongly believe that business owners should have a voice regarding business regulations.

**For 2 Yrs.**

**Vote for not more than One**

HEATHER A. BARR

180 School Street

I support strong schools and safe streets. As a parent, I have helped lead successful projects to fund education and calm traffic around school buildings. I will continue these efforts by collaborating with residents and town officials and by exploring alternate funding sources. Belmont now faces important decisions on the future of our schools. As Town Meeting Member I will work with residents to support good sustainable solutions.

JESSICA OLANS HAUSMAN

11 Sharpe Road

We need effective strategies for the new middle/high school campus to relieve overcrowding across all our schools. As a parent and co-leader of Start School Later Belmont, I hear pressing issues from after school space shortages to high school proposals. As an MBA with a specialty maximizing cost effectiveness for community programs, I will keep an eye on town and school budgets and strategies for all our schools' growth.



## PRECINCT 2

### CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* LESLIE J. AITKEN

70 Evergreen Way

(23 of 23)

Important issues for our Town continue to be the state of our roads and traffic as well as how to provide cost-effective quality education to our students. Both are important and likely to be expensive, but necessary to maintain the value of our homes and our quality of life. But, these issues need to be addressed responsibly.

\* W. SUMNER BROWN

35 Ross Road

(23 of 23)

Water Infrastructure: Before real estate sales, require inspections of the pipes that connect to town sewers. Require repairs if needed. Leaking sewer pipes contribute to excess water treated at Deer Island that significantly increases our water bills. Leaking sewer pipes pollute our streams that we are under legal pressure to stop. Traffic Congestion: Statewide congestion pricing would encourage people to get to work without driving through Belmont.

\* JOHN J. BUCKLEY

11 Leicester Road

(21 of 23)

I look forward to helping solve and find financial solution for the Town of Belmont. This includes helping building a new high school, police station, DPW yard and library.

\* SUSAN E. BURGESS-COX

135 Radcliffe Road

(22 of 23)

Belmont faces several financial undertakings in the years ahead. The MSBA has authorized funding for a new school, several town buildings require capital improvements and Belmont needs a fiscally responsible plan. I have spent the last three years working to advance these initiatives and intend to continue this work as a Town Meeting Member and member of the School Committee.

\* THOMAS CAPUTO

63 Richmond Road

(19 of 23)

We have a lot of big decisions to make as a town that will shape our community for years to come. One challenge, skyrocketing school enrollment, can be addressed in part by the decisions we make regarding the 7-12 school building project. Other challenges – capital projects, budgets, town services, economic development, environmental sustainability, housing and zoning – need to be driven by a coordinated, sequenced, and thoughtful strategic planning process.

*(Please turn page)*

\* JAMES F. GAMMILL

19 Dorset Road

(23 of 23)

1. We need an option for teens who want a career/technical alternative to BHS. When we review the Superintendent's forthcoming recommendations, let's be open to new facts and circumstances that may favor the Minuteman option. 2. We think we run a balanced budget – but we don't if we count deferred maintenance and unfunded benefits. Let's start by measuring and reporting the full cost of services we enjoy today.

\* DAVID C. HURLEY

20 Birch Hill Road

(16 of 23)

I believe the biggest issues facing the town over the next few years are fiscal issues: continued school overcrowding, potential astronomical cost of a new high school, addressing the despicable quarters that our police officers and public works employees occupy, the deplorable condition of our roads, and the list goes on. We must come up with new revenue ideas (outside of the resident taxpayers.)

\* JUDITH A. McSWAIN

35 Ross Road

(23 of 23)

My priorities are maintaining and modernizing our excellent schools, library, infrastructure, and protecting our open spaces. I continue to dream of a new state-of-the art modern Belmont Public Library. I'm an avid walker; as such, I want our community environment to be safe, pleasant and a joy to walk. Town Meeting decides crucial town issues. TOWN MEETING MEMBERS NEED TO BE WELL-INFORMED AND SHOW UP! I do both!

\* KARNIG G. OSTAYAN

35 Lantern Road

(16 of 23)

No reply received.

\* SUZANNE H. ROBOTHAM

19 Scott Road

(20 of 23)

Belmont has too much traffic and too little income. Cut-through commuters should be discouraged by signage that restricts turns into our neighborhood streets during rush hours. This must be accompanied by strict enforcement. Our town is very business-friendly in terms of the low tax rate offered to businesses here compared to surrounding towns. However, more enterprises might be successful if not for the high rents in our commercial centers.

MEGHAN A. MORIARTY

22 Garfield Road

Belmont aims to reduce carbon emissions by 80%, which will require tackling the lack of recycling/composting in our schools and community-wide. I am also concerned with our overcrowded schools, which increases waste, food and otherwise. Except for the Chenery, our schools lack cafeteria recycling programs, continue to use Styrofoam, and none of them compost. I am interested in discussing creative solutions to composting and recycling along with school overcrowding/rebuild projects.

*(Please turn page)*

JOHN P. MURPHY  
5 Stella Road  
No reply.

**For 1 Yr.**

**Vote for not more than One**

ELIZABETH S. KHAN  
3 Barbara Road (1 of 1)  
My number one issue is Belmont's fiscal challenges. Future public building projects—the high school, a new public works building and police department must occur without overburdening residential taxpayers. Secondly, Belmont needs to diversify its tax base. New businesses should be encouraged to open in Belmont. Too many new business owners have been turned away due to short sightedness. I would be honored to be a Town Meeting member.

LINDA LEVIN-SCHERZ  
75 Woodbine Road  
A 27-year Belmont resident, I've served on the School Committee, the executive board of the Foundation for Belmont Education (I helped organize the FBE's first spelling bee!), precinct captain for Chenery's debt exclusion, and many other committees. I intend to ensure that education remains a top priority--in space befitting our children. I am also committed to proper environmental stewardship. Contact me at [llevinscherz@gmail.com](mailto:llevinscherz@gmail.com) anytime.

## PRECINCT 3

### CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* JOSEPH JOHN BERNARD

71 Waverley Street

(22 of 23)

With several major capital projects at our doorstep, it is critical that Belmont elects leaders capable of making smart, informed decisions. Certainly, education and public safety are top priorities for any town, and Belmont is no exception. We must support our educators by carefully planning the high school building project to maximize benefit for all grade levels, and provide our police with a station that belongs in the twenty-first century.

\* BONNIE L. FRIEDMAN

16 Hay Road

(23 of 23)

Studied Education and Marijuana with LWV: work with town officials to reduce alcohol & drug use in our teens; keep substances away from middle schoolers, particularly in new 7-12HS; raise age on retail marijuana locally while ensuring Belmont gets additional tax revenue. Expand affordable housing in Belmont: studied need with LWV; created private fund to give professional guidance to Housing Production Plan; next step: find good locations and commence development.

\* JULIET B. JENKINS

76 Lorimer Road

(21 of 23)

Libraries are a hugely important resource, creating both a place for life-long learning and community relationships. I seek to support our current Library Director, the Friends' group and the Trustees as the Library embraces its future. I also am concerned about town boards that have presented hurdles to our citizens rather than assistance. I will support efforts to make both our appointed and elected boards more effective.

\* MARY K. KENNEDY

11 Lorimer Road

(23 of 23)

Proactive planning: With the looming cost of a new multi-million dollar high school and library, creating a sustainable budget and master plan is more important than ever. It's critical town meeting members bring attention to misdirected approaches. Maintenance of civic buildings: Belmont needs to stop deferring maintenance to town-owned buildings and grounds. Prioritize and identify repairs now that will cost significantly more in the future.

\* ROBERT V. KENNEDY

11 Lorimer Road

(20 of 23)

As a town meeting member since 1980, I have an overview of the town's problems and needs. At this time, I'm particularly concerned about the increase in traffic congestion and decay of our roads and infrastructure, and how they affect our preparedness for the coming years. It will take serious efforts to maintain the residential character we all have enjoyed. I look forward to contributing to those efforts.

*(Please turn page)*

\* VINCENT P. STANTON, JR.

32 Royal Road

(21 of 23)

1. Surging enrollment has exceeded the capacity of existing school buildings and is stressing the town budget. Is it a temporary or permanent change? We need to build a grade 7-12 school on the Belmont High School campus, and better understand the demographic forces affecting enrollment. 2. Rush hour traffic is intolerable. We need to build a community path for non-vehicular transportation, and consider measures to frustrate cut-through commuters.

\* CAROLE WILLIAMS

3 Stables Way

(5 of 7)

1. Rising traffic congestion is an inescapable condition around town. GOOGLE ...WAZE are directing cars through quiet neighborhoods, endangering children/adults playing or crossing day and night. We need action thru signage and policing to limit the problems. 2. As the BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL 'rebuilding project' moves forward, assuring that the building is accessible to all while keeping in mind the safety of our students and staff are top priorities!

STEPHANIE J. CREMENT

20 Harris Street

As a special education teacher in Boston Public Schools and a mother of school-aged children, I support a long-term plan to ensure that our schools are equipped to provide excellent education for a growing and diverse population of learners. Another priority is to make it easier for small businesses to open and succeed in Belmont, which will enhance our quality of life and increase tax revenue. Contact me at [stephcrement@gmail.com](mailto:stephcrement@gmail.com).

SHAUN A. GOHO

50 Davis Road

As a parent of three daughters in the Belmont public schools, I support the new high school proposal as a comprehensive solution to the schools' overcrowding problems. We must not miss this chance to leverage state funding. Looking forward, the Town should diversify its sources of revenue by encouraging smart commercial development in order to reduce the tax burden on homeowners.

MICHELLE A. YOUNG

34 Davis Road

As a resident of Belmont for 25 years, I have decided to run for town meeting member. I am currently on faculty at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy in the chemistry department after an industrial career in the pharmaceutical industry. I am interested in helping to resolve the current issues of excess traffic through our small town, and the building of a new middle/high school.

## PRECINCT 4

### CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* SAMI S. BAGHDADY

14 Loring Street

(21 of 23)

I have lived in Waverley most of my life, and I deeply care about our Town and our Precinct. I have fought for our Precinct, and the Daniel Butler School, to get their fair share of the Town's resources. I am concerned about the fiscal pressures we could face in the future. We need to address our outdated capital needs while still keeping the Town an affordable place to live.

\* CHARLES L. CLARK

150 White Street, #2

(12 of 23)

No reply received.

\* DEBRA DEUTSCH

56 Hull Street

(23 of 23)

Residential real estate taxes are projected to increase sharply. Belmont should develop new revenue streams, for example, from permitting the sale of marijuana in town. Deferring essential maintenance and capital projects has resulted in higher costs and the necessity for several major projects over the next few years. Increased emphasis on proactive, ongoing planning, budgeting, and action to address needs as they arise will reduce total future costs.

\* LUCIA E. GATES

11 Agassiz Street

(19 of 23)

I have been a Town Meeting Member for 30 years representing precinct four. I think that strong zoning by-laws are vital to our precinct and Town Meeting must monitor all zoning changes carefully. A current issue of concern to all Belmont is the size of the Board of Selectmen. I support a careful increase in size to better represent the full diversity of Belmont.

\* JIRAIR M. HOVSEPIAN

44 Chandler Street

(18 of 23)

No reply received.

\* HENRY V. KAZARIAN

22 Banks Street, #2

(23 of 23)

Schools and Zoning: Build a new high school as cost effectively as possible. Keep the zoning, especially in the General Residence where I live, to the minimum density allowed by zoning law.

*(Please turn page)*

\* ELIZABETH B. SCHMIDT

59 Lexington Street

(15 of 23)

As a parent and a 30-year Belmont homeowner, I'm concerned with maintaining a high quality of life for townspeople of all ages. At present, property taxes are high enough to force some folks out, yet infrastructure is deteriorating. I believe that careful long-term planning and some consolidation are necessary. Small-scale development could help to keep tax rates down but must remain neighborhood-friendly and consistent with the character of our town.

\* DAVID M. WEBSTER

18 Holt Street

(20 of 23)

Important issues for Belmont and Precinct 4 are living within our budget and preserving our liveable community. Belmont needs to remain vigilant in prioritizing the most important public projects and leveraging non-property tax alternative funding to bolster our infrastructure, maintain our excellent schools, protect our environment, and ensure essential town services. Any zoning changes must ensure development is consistent with the character of our valued neighborhoods and commercial centers.

LINDA DeVITO GHILARDI

16 Church Street, #3L

As I am a lifelong resident of Belmont and living in Waverley Square I am looking forward to both the commercial and residential development of Waverley Square which will not only revitalize Waverley Square but will bring much needed additional revenue to the town. I am also interested in the current discussions of development on South Pleasant Street and will actively participate.

ALON JOSEPH MANELA

50 Bartlett Avenue

I am the father of two young children, one is a student at Daniel Butler School and I will support initiatives that ensure funding and community support to our public schools. I believe responsible construction of the new high school will pay off for generations. I will support initiatives that promote inclusion of residents of all backgrounds into the Belmont community.

## PRECINCT 5

### CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* CL AUS C. BECKER

20 Poplar Street

(22 of 23)

As a town meeting member my focus will continue to be maintaining quality of life for Belmontonians and ensuring we have first-rate schools at a reasonable cost.

\* SUZANNE W. BLOORE

37 Hastings Road

(18 of 23)

Belmont faces two issues, providing essential services within budget constraints, and traffic on our streets. Town officials need to work with lawmakers to secure adequate funding for our schools and roads. They also need to find solutions that are fair and beneficial for stakeholders. With the help of a professional traffic study, citizens and town officials can decide on the best options to solve the traffic problem.

\* STEPHAN W. CARLINI

31 Horne Road

(12 of 23)

Belmont resident since 1995. I will continue support our schools and will work to review the plans and process for our new high school that meets the community needs and is cost effective for the town. I continue to support town development that is keeping in scale and respects the character of our neighborhoods. I appreciate your vote for town meeting member from Precinct 5.

\* THAYER DONHAM

77 Hammond Road

(21 of 23)

I would be honored to serve as a town meeting member for another term. I also serve on the Planning Board. I am very concerned about the budgetary challenges the town continues to face and the relationship between the budget and future development opportunities.

\* HOWARD MARK FINE

88 Bay State Road

(21 of 23)

No reply.

\* MYRON J. KASSARABA

43 Hastings Road

(18 of 23)

We have a huge backlog of capital projects and need to do them in a way to try to smooth out the financial impact on the town's taxpayers. I look forward to the work of the Major Capital Projects Working Group (MCPWG) in seeking practical solutions to this challenging issue. The town needs to continue to invest in proactive communications to keep busy people informed.

*(Please turn page)*



\* TOMMASINA ANNE OLSON

10 Bay State Road

(22 of 23)

Traffic and Taxes. As a TAC member we are conducting a town-wide traffic study looking at Route 2, Brighton, and Leonard Streets and alternative transportation. Current required building projects, including combined new school will double the average homeowner's taxes. I will diligently analyze whether cost effective solutions are being sought, including the tunnel under Alexander Ave and set aside funds necessary to provide safety for our children in schools.

\* MATTHEW J. SULLIVAN

121 Hammond Road

(14 of 23)

I'm a longtime supporter of education in Belmont. We MUST meet the needs of a new high school, while coming in under budget. The need for more affordable housing is imperative, due to the number of elderly who wish to remain in Belmont. My poor attendance this term, was due to health issues that have been rectified. I look forward to representing the residents of Precinct 5. Please re-elect me.

\* ROGER P. WRUBEL

165 Slade Street

(19 of 23)

Organize for a debt exclusion to construct the new high school with additional lower school grades. It is costly but must be done. Building must be "electric" zero net energy design which will minimize maintenance cost. Use CPA funds for design phase of Community Path. Move project forward quickly. The Community Path will be a great town asset for generations to come.

PAUL G. ALOISIO

213 Beech Street

No reply.

DAVID COLEMAN

26 George Street

Issue 1: I believe we should build the new combined upper-middle/high school as economically as possible to minimize the increased tax burden of homeowners. I have two children who will likely use the new building, but I expect to live in Belmont long after they graduate. Issue 2: The town needs to develop a consensus around a financial plan that addresses the other capital projects that the town needs.

RAYMOND J. JOHNSON

53 Hammond Road

(1 of 1)

As town meeting member I will focus on the major financial decisions the residents here in Belmont are facing. I feel Belmont needs to manage the challenges of new development and the rapid growth of our schools enrollment. As a town we need to pursue the development of businesses that will work together with our community as an additional source of revenue to fund our pressing capital projects.

*(Please turn page)*

CASEY CLAIRE WILLIAMS

46 Wiley Road

As a town meeting member, my primary responsibility is to represent my neighbors, listen to their concerns and convictions, and act on their behalf. In the coming years, Belmont must repair its aging municipal infrastructure. As a professional engineer, I will be able to evaluate design and construction proposals and associated costs to ensure future building projects meet our community's needs while maintaining a sensible budget. Contact me [caseywilliamsbelmont@gmail.com](mailto:caseywilliamsbelmont@gmail.com)

**For 2 Yrs.**

**Vote for not more than Two**

JAIME PARKER MURPHY

17 Harding Avenue

Our town faces several new capital expenditures the most pressing being the High School, however, new DPW facilities, police station, and library are also under consideration. I believe there are no perfect solutions to these problems but there is always room for tradeoffs and compromise. I believe we must invest in our critical infrastructure problems while deferring or exploring financially responsible alternatives to our less compelling matters.

MICHAEL N. RUSSO

105 Slade Street

No reply.

## PRECINCT 6

### CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

**\* JOHN J. BOWE**

20 Elizabeth Road

(21 of 23)

We should feel confident about the progress Belmont has made in recent years, both in our infrastructure and daily operations. Cushing is moving forward, roads much are better than 10 years ago and budgets are stable. But challenges lay ahead - DPW, Police Station, a new BHS. Mix in leadership changes, zoning for marijuana, and ongoing budget management. Town Meeting must vigorously participate to bring your ideas and interests forward.

**\* THEODORE DUKAS**

236 Payson Road

(20 of 23)

Two issues important to the future of the town are making Belmont an age-friendly community and continuing Belmont's struggle to find affordable housing for its citizens in line with state guidelines. On the first, I will support the Council on Aging initiative to meet the objective outlined in this designation. On the second, I support the efforts to develop affordable housing, where possible, to meet goals accepted by the citizens.

**\* JUDITH F. FEINLEIB**

87 Oakley Road

(23 of 23)

Precinct 6 and Belmont will likely be affected by state zoning law legislation requiring multiple family dwellings. Construction should be spread throughout Belmont; Cushing Square and the Belmont Street/Trapelo Road corridor should not be targeted. Capital building projects and any operating overrides should be staggered and structured to put as small a burden as possible on property tax payers. Private investment compatible with public interests should be used where possible.

**\* LAURIE A. GRAHAM**

32 Warwick Road

(23 of 23)

We must address the infrastructure and building needs of the town while ensuring we mitigate some of the tax burden facing homeowners. Thoughtful planning is required to ensure we maintain the high quality of the BPS with a projected growth in student population. As a Town Meeting member, I will continue to participate in the planning for, and development of, solutions that will meet the needs of the entire community.

**\* ROBERT P. REARDON**

73 Van Ness Road

(18 of 23)

The problems facing the town of Belmont are many, including school and government funding issues and numerous capital and infrastructure needs. State aid, efficiency in town government and cuts in the labor force have allowed the town to mask the hidden problem of limited revenues to keep pace. Town meeting must promote responsible development through zoning and continuing to make efficiency in government.

*(Please turn page)*

\* JOEL M. SEMUELS

18 Bellevue Road

(22 of 23)

Our schools are among the best in the Commonwealth and we must make every effort to maintain their high quality. I am in favor of the proposed high school debt exclusion question, which combined with 57% state funding, will ensure needed education space for generations of children while protecting our property values. As a member of the C.O.A. Board, I will continue to advocate for senior citizen programs.

\* JAMIE H. SHEA

149 Washington Street

(13 of 23)

Belmont is at a crossroads. Without proper investment in the town and the schools, Belmont will change. Many of our buildings are crumbling, many of our roads almost impassable. Enrollment in our schools is increasing and space and resources are limited. We need to tackle these issues with proactive measures and support upcoming, and much needed, capital projects starting with the Belmont High School.

\* JUDITH R. SINGLER

53 Selwyn Road

(23 of 23)

Belmont faces particular challenges in housing and in sustainable finances. Seniors wanting to downsize have few options to remain in town and this in turn creates a shortage of family housing. I'm working to support new housing options through the Housing Production Plan. Additionally, the increasing tax burden to maintain infrastructure, schools and all town services will push us to consider regional options for some services.

\* PHILIP K. THAYER

39 Oak Avenue

(20 of 23)

The town faces a potential budget shortfall. Energy conservation reduces operating costs and helps Belmont meet its climate action goals. A part-time energy manager could implement additional conservation measures beyond those begun in 2006 which has saved the town \$125K/year. Retain our community character by revising and updating zoning bylaws that currently allow for out-of-scale new construction. Provide opportunities for appropriate commercial development to broaden our tax base.

\* PETER A. WHITMER

41 Hurd Road

(19 of 23)

As homeowner, parent with school-age kids, and Town Meeting Member, I am committed to improving our vibrant community and keeping our schools top-notch. To do both, we need an approach that is both pro-Business and pro-Community. Through creative zoning we can work to attract more businesses and increase our financial base. Partnering with the private sector, we can build our town's priorities without resorting to frequent overrides.

*(Please turn page)*

CABELL EAMES

26 Lewis Road

I have a child at the Wellington School and a child at the Chenery School. I'm a member of both schools' Green Alliance, as well as Sustainable Belmont, and Belmont's Democratic Town Committee. The two issues that I would like to bring progressive action to is creating a diverse business-oriented town and Belmont's Climate Action Plan.

GAIL S. MANN

196 Payson Road

My husband and I have lived in Belmont for 40 years; our two children attended the public schools. I am a Library Trustee, and formerly was a director of the Belmont Education Foundation and PTO Treasurer. I recently retired from the practice of law. The prudent management and prioritization of competing capital and operating requirements are essential to maintaining Belmont's enviable quality of life. My background is suited to this effort.

AARON B. PIKCILINGIS

24 Branchaud Road

It sometimes feels as if Belmont lets infrastructure reach the point of failure before finally addressing it, citing costs as rationale for continued delay. As a parent of young children, I support thoughtful, long-term investment in our town like the proposed 7-12 high school project. We need to be strategic in finding creative new ways to bring in the revenue needed to properly care for our town.

## PRECINCT 7

### CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* RICHARD A. "NICK" CANDEE

21 Anis Road

(11 of 23)

With my business background, I think that Belmont must budget for public asset renewal, and funding pension and healthcare benefits for employees, by restructuring fixed and variable costs rather than increasing taxes. My "town work" includes: Co-organizer, "Belmont Citizens for Responsible Zoning" in 2016; Chair, "Yes to Belmont Fire Stations" Committee 2004 to fund two new stations; Co-chair, Friends of Belmont Wrestling 2004, to raise funds for equipment and uniforms.

\* JILL EDEN CLARK

45 Dartmouth Street, #1

(7 of 7)

The proposed new high school will enhance the quality education that Belmont is already known for and alleviate overcrowding at all levels. However, equally important are other capital needs of the town: the library, police station, and DPW. I am committed to support the financial needs of the school building project while finding an equitable balance between the school and other pressing projects to ensure benefit to all town residents.

\* JOAN A. DREVINS

61 Betts Road

(17 of 23)

The quality of life for our children and elders is of the utmost importance. Develop a visionary and innovative approach to manage, maintain and repair our infrastructure and buildings, to enable our citizens to walk and drive safely. Include educational programs at the senior center related to the concerns of elders (exercise, financial, long term care, etc.). Develop volunteer programs whereby students and elders can learn from each other.

\* LAURA JOYCE HILL

10 Hartley Road

(22 of 23)

I grew up in Belmont and returned 10 years ago to raise my children here. One of my primary interests is to support the Belmont public schools. I believe that the building of a new high school will eliminate the overcrowding of the schools and will enable the district to continue providing high quality education. I will also vote for initiatives that encourage the development of new businesses.

\* THOMAS DOUGLAS JOHN

3 Livermore Road

(18 of 23)

No reply received.

*(Please turn page)*

\* GEOFFREY G. LUBIEN

38 Unity Avenue

(20 of 23)

Economist, proud Belmontian, Precinct 7 Town Meeting member, serve on Warrant and OPEB Committees. Used research, data evaluation and collaboration with town departments and consultants to reduce Belmont's retiree health benefit liability by \$100M effective in 2018. Retaining and building school system excellence, maintaining town buildings and providing town services in such a way that all taxpayers can pay their bills are my priorities.

\* GLEN ALEXANDER MOHR

281 Washington Street

(9 of 23)

No reply received.

\* STEPHEN R. PINKERTON

139 Dalton Road

(21 of 23)

I have resided on Dalton Road for 20 years and represented Precinct 7 at Town Meeting for much of that time since 2000. I also serve on Belmont's Planning Board and Capital Budget Committee. Past community accomplishments: helped to obtain funds and design Grove Street Park improvements; stopped further invasion of "McMansions." Current issues/objectives: secure CPA funding for Grove Street Park Intergenerational Path; increase local downsizing opportunities for "empty nesters."

\* ALEXANDRA E. VAN GEEL

64 Livermore Road

(23 of 23)

Belmont faces multiple major capital project needs as well as increasing pressure on operating expenses. In the longer run, pension and OPEB funding will add to these challenges, as will the increasingly urgent need to make progress on Belmont's climate action plan goals. Prudent governance requires a data-driven focus on long-term sustainability, including not only financial sustainability but also responsible stewardship of the town's infrastructure, human resources, and natural resources.

\* GLENN P. WONG

70 Livermore Road

(22 of 23)

As a father of three school aged children, I support public and private efforts to keep our public schools strong. As a 12-year Belmont resident, I support thoughtful, inclusive, and transparent approaches to neighborhood changes and making sure we plan for the future needs of our town.

ELIZABETH ANN GOSS

102 Fairview Avenue

As Chenery mom, small business owner and attorney, I would be honored to represent you as a town meeting member. Ensuring quality of education and access for all students, including strong vocational education opportunities is crucial for our children. Community input and a comprehensive plan to attract quality businesses that support both the financial and environmental goals of the town are a necessary part of any growth strategy.

*(Please turn page)*

DOVIE YOANA KING

27 Oxford Avenue

My name is Dovie Yoana King. I live on Oxford Avenue with my son, a Wellington student, and rescue dog. I'm a parent volunteer and PTA member. I'm also a lawyer and elected delegate to the 2018 Democratic Convention. I believe Belmont Town Meeting needs more diversity because together we are stronger. I will be a unifying voice for residents. Please email me at [dovieking@hotmail.com](mailto:dovieking@hotmail.com), and thanks for your vote.



## PRECINCT 8

### CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For 3 Yrs.**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* KATHLEEN M. BASKIN

73 Munroe Street

(22 of 23)

With skyrocketing enrollment, I support the town's forward-looking decision to move ahead with a 7-12 grade configuration model for the high school. We should use this option to maximize flexibility and opportunities to serve our students. Cut-through traffic, from increased development and online apps directing out-of-town commuters into our neighborhoods, has impacted congestions, air quality and public children. I support Belmont's recent steps to hire a consultant to develop solutions.

\* KEVIN P. BROSNAN

31 Tobey Road

(19 of 23)

Two issues that I consider important to the future of the town of Belmont are: 1. School funding—it is important to maintain and (in the case of the high school) rebuild the existing infrastructure. 2. The police and public works buildings should proceed ahead, as waiting will only increase the costs.

\* ANTHONY A. FERRANTE

15 Westlund Road

(23 of 23)

One of the key issues facing the town is the need to complete the four remaining major building projects, Belmont High School, library, and the Police Station and DPW facilities, while minimizing the impact of those projects on the Town's debt load. I am serving on the DPW-BPD Building Committee. We seek to perform temporary improvements to improve their function until plans and funding for new facilities become available.

\* ANTOINE G. HRAIZ

38 Plymouth Avenue

(15 of 23)

The education of our children is a priority. We must use fiscal responsibility to preserve our town's character and maintain its excellent school system. I support a new high school, library and commercial development that will expand our town's commercial tax base, ease the tax burden on residents, and keep Belmont a desired town.

\* DONALD H. MERCIER

96 Cross Street

(23 of 23)

I will continue to work to solve the traffic problems in Precinct 8 and the town. It is time to build a new police station and to remodel the space at the Public Works facility. These projects are long overdue. I also support the continuing work on the plans for the new high school.

*(Please turn page)*

\* DAVID T. NUSCHER

50 Winn Street

(7 of 7)

A first important issue for Belmont's future: ensuring successful implementation of the solutions that the Major Capital Projects Working Group will propose for the funding and sequencing of the department of public works, police station, and library. A second critical issue: ensuring our new high school and other projects like it are constructed as zero net-energy buildings. Thank you for your consideration on April 3.

\* LYNN PETERSON READ

62 Munroe Street

(17 of 23)

The capital projects needed in Belmont present challenges for the town that will take many years to resolve. I will continue to work hard to understand the needs of our town departments and residents and consider all sides of these issues before voting. I will work to preserve the qualities that make Belmont a great place to live for people from all backgrounds. Contact me at [Lpetersonread@gmail.com](mailto:Lpetersonread@gmail.com)

\* MARK P. SMITH

73 Chilton Street

(14 of 23)

The biggest issue facing Belmont is how we plan, schedule and fund our major capital projects – the 7-12 school, the library, DPW, and police department. I am committed to help ensure we invest in our future and do so in way that is as affordable as possible. Secondly, with expanding school enrollment we must continue to support our schools to deliver the high quality education that benefits the entire community.

\* ELLEN J. SUGARMAN

119 Cross Street

(23 of 23)

I look for creative ways to build community, be fiscally responsible, and move Belmont's capital projects forward. Toward these ends I've supported: creating Green Space in the Center, declaring Belmont a Welcoming Community, building a Community Path, withdrawing from the Minuteman District, revitalizing the Belmont Library Foundation so it can raise some of the funds needed to build a new library, the Housing Trust's creation of a Housing Production Plan.

LAURA S. CAPUTO

75 Oliver Road

I support the successful implementation of the BHS building project, and the responsible funding and sequencing of our other critical capital projects. We should invest in energy efficient building designs that lower our impact on the environment and save us money. Likewise, we should create, improve, and maintain safe walking and biking paths around town. Thank you for your consideration on April 3.

*(Please turn page)*

PAMELA G. EAGAR

138 Claflin Street

Two important issues: high property taxes and aging infrastructure. Focus on building wealth (not by taxing all but the wealthiest out of town), by building a thriving commercial tax base in business centers. Exorbitant rents discourage new businesses from opening or prevent them from remaining viable. Belmont citizens, please brainstorm and share innovative solutions to REPAIR, MAINTAIN, RE-USE, RE-PURPOSE current facilities where possible. Make and keep Belmont beautiful!

SHILPA LAWANDE

137 Chilton Street

I am passionate about education and quality of life in Belmont. I support the proposed high school project but also believe the town must explore additional revenue streams. I am keen on reducing our environmental footprint via the Community Path, reduced traffic congestion, and sustainable energy initiatives. I promise to research every issue with data, represent diverse perspectives, and look for win-win solutions. <http://facebook.com/electshilpa>

PATRICK J. MURPHY, IV

130 Claflin Street

I consider the building of the new high school important. While the plan is currently set, I do believe that it is crucial for the elected officials to properly shepherd the building of the new high school from a financial and student perspective. The 2nd issue is that of financial stability. We must be sure that our buildings and facilities are properly maintained as well as prepare for the future.

SONJA B. PLESSET

27 Arthur Road

I am committed to Belmont, ensuring the continued strength of Belmont schools. I will work towards successful implementation of high school renovation project and responsible funding and sequencing of other critical capital projects. I believe in reducing our town's environmental footprint (including energy-efficient designs for new buildings) and enhancing safe walking and biking paths. Thank you for your consideration and please let me know about issues that matter to you.

JOSEPH P. ROFINO

37 Statler Road

Having a young child, I chose Belmont for the schools, and for the small town feel. I plan to focus on making wise long-term investments that include plans for future educational needs, not just current needs. I would also vote for less intrusive ways of preserving the feel of Belmont, while maintaining its desirability. That includes improved roads, friendly commercial development, and more reasonable rules for housing improvement and development.

# **LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF BELMONT

**The League of Women Voters (LWV) is a non-partisan, multi-issue organization, established at the national, state and local levels to promote voter education and participation in government. We study and take positions on issues, but do not endorse or support candidates or political parties.**

## **What does the League of Women Voters do?**

- Conducts studies on issues and develops positions based on member consensus.
- Studies local issues such as education, housing, open space, marijuana, and regionalization.
- Sponsors Candidates' Nights for local elections.
- Sponsors Warrant Briefings before Town Meetings.
- Hosts forums on issues including education, ballot questions and affordable housing.
- Hosts local speakers at our Winter Luncheon and regular "brown bag" lunches.
- Publishes the Belmont Voter (newsletter) for our members.
- Works with the State and National Leagues on issues of common concern.
- Publishes and mails the Belmont Voter Guide for local elections to every household in town.
- Registers voters and encourages individual participation in the political process.

We welcome new members. For more information contact:  
[info@BelmontLWV.org](mailto:info@BelmontLWV.org) or look at our website [BelmontLWV.org](http://BelmontLWV.org)

# PRECINCT MAP



For more information about Precincts, including Precinct Listing by Street Name and Polling Locations with maps, go to the Town Clerk's website:

<http://www.belmont-ma.gov/town-clerk/pages/elections-information-for-residents-media>

<http://www.belmont-ma.gov/sites/belmontma/files/file/file/precinctmap.pdf>

# POLLING PLACES

7AM to 8PM

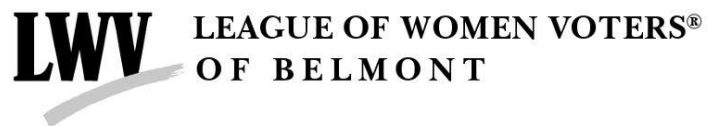
Precinct 1	Belmont Public Library 336 Concord Ave. Assembly Room
Precinct 2	Belmont Town Hall 455 Concord Ave.
Precinct 3	Beech Street Center 266 Beech St.
Precinct 4	Butler School Gymnasium Enter from White St.
Precinct 5	Beech Street Center 266 Beech St.
Precinct 6	Fire Station Headquarters 299 Trapelo Rd.
Precinct 7	Burbank School Gymnasium Enter from driveway
Precinct 8	Winn Brook School Enter from Cross St.

Note: Precincts 3 and 5 both vote at the Beech Street Center.

## WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided on the ballot. Completely fill in the oval to the right of that line. It is helpful, but not required, to list the street address of the candidate as well.





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**Belmont Town Election**  
**Voter Guide**  
**Tuesday, April 3, 2018**