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DATE: June 30, 2022
TIME: 9:19 AM

**Minutes of the
Town of Belmont
Warrant Committee Meeting
Monday, June 6, 2022
5:30pm**



To view the recording of the meeting, please click [HERE](#).

Call to Order: Mr. Lubien called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Member	Present	Member	Present
Geoffrey Lubien, Chair	Yes	Andrew Levin	Yes
Christine Doyle, Vice Chair	Absent	Robert McLaughlin	Yes
Elizabeth Dionne, Secretary	Yes	Lynn Peterson Read	Absent
Tom Caputo	Yes	Paul Rickter	Yes
Jennifer Fallon	Yes	Ellen Schreiber	Yes
Elizabeth Goss	Yes	Laurie Slap	Absent
Daniel Halston	Yes	Jack Weis	Yes
Anne Helgen	Yes	Mark Paolillo, Ex-officio Designee - Select Board	Absent
Staff		Jamal Saeh, Ex-officio, School Com. Chair Appointee	Absent
Patrice Garvin, Town Administrator	Absent		

Review Any Matters Requiring Attention Prior to Town Meeting

Payson Park Project – Mr. Lubien said there may be a Motion to Dismiss and reminded the Committee that they had already voted unanimously for this article, so no further action is needed. There was a discussion of the potential motion and the implications of postponing the project.

Article 13: Middle/High School Solar Project – Mr. Lubien said the Warrant Committee does not have to vote because it is a non-binding article. Ms. Schreiber said the goal is to get the building committees to maximize the solar on any new building. The implications of this requirement were discussed.

Ms. Helgen asked if the solar on the Middle/High School was designed to be the maximum possible. Ms. Schreiber said the Building Committee vote did not specify the requirement be for maximum solar possible, and there was a discussion of this.

Mr. Weis said a yes or no vote would not be clear because of all the dimensions of the article.

Article 8: Skating Rink Amendment & Main Motion – Mr. Lubien said an amendment had been entered by Roger Wrubel which would require the Municipal Skating Rink & Playing Fields Building Committee to be guided by the Belmont Sustainable Building Design Policy:

The Municipal Skating Rink & Playing Fields Building Committee is authorized and instructed to design and construct the Municipal Skating Rink Building (the "Building") so that the Building conforms to the Sustainable Building Design Policy that was unanimously approved by the Belmont Board of Selectmen (now Select Board) March 5, 2007; so that the Building, when completed, will be all-electric (i.e., no fossil fuel combustion will be used to power the building or operate any building devices or services); so that the Building's shell and mechanical systems reduce the electric load of the Building as much as feasible; and so that the Building maximizes solar generation of electricity.

Ms. Schreiber said the policy being discussed includes a lot of "shoulds" which are therefore not requirements. However, this amendment makes them requirements, and she feels they would be a big burden for smaller projects.

Mr. McLaughlin said it is a bad precedent for Town Meeting to micro-manage a building committee.

Ms. Fallon said these requirements would apply to the Library project as well, and explained that they looked at solar but did not include the "maximum" possible for various legitimate reasons.

Motion: Ms. Schreiber moved unfavorable action on the Amendment to Article 8. Ms. Fallon seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Lubien shared the text of Article 8:

That the Town establish a new Municipal Skating Rink Building Committee for the purpose of design and construction of a new public skating rink, and to consider design and construction related to the land and its contents West of Harris Field; to authorize the Town Moderator to appoint the new Municipal Skating Rink Building Committee to oversee the design and construction of said project; and to authorize said Municipal Skating Rink Building Committee to enter into contracts and take all actions necessary to carry out said project.

There was a discussion of the main motion and available funding.

Mr. Weis expressed concern that the Middle/High Building Committee has dropped ownership of the field improvements, and that this will have a big impact on residents.

Mr. Caputo said there is alternative language for Article 8 that the Select Board is discussing which involves the Rink Committee being responsible for designing the field improvements but not having responsibility for funding the work as part of a debt exclusion. There was a discussion of how to proceed with voting if there is new language.

Motion: Mr. McLaughlin moved approval of Article 8. Mr. Rickter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

There was a discussion of what was being “lost” by not doing the field improvements at this time.

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. McLaughlin moved to the adjourn the meeting of the Warrant Committee. Mr. Levin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:02pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 8 at 5:30pm

Respectfully submitted by,

Susan Peghiny
Recording Secretary