

Town of Belmont
Public Subcommittee of Warrant Committee

2019 MAY 24 AM 9:10

Minutes of Public Safety Subcommittee of Warrant Committee
Meeting with Police Department
March 29, 2019, 8:00 a.m.

Belmont Fire Department Station, 299 Trapelo Road, Belmont, MA

Present: Daniel Halston, Chair; Laurie Slap; Lynn Read

Also Present: Chief of Police Richard McLaughlin; Assistant Chief James MacIsaac; T. Pendergast, Operations Manager; John Steves.

Absent: Anne Helgen, John Alcock

The Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

The needs, issues and activities of the Police Department over FY 2019 into FY 2020 were discussed. Needs include IT support. Other significant issues are increasing crossing guard vacancies, requiring use of officers at school intersections; and disruptions during the upcoming renovations of the Department building.

The Police Department budget for FY 2020 was discussed. The budget is almost level funded with few major increases in particular line items. Other issues discussed included the impact to Belmont of the opioid epidemic and mental health issues; the placement of a School Resource Officer at the Chenery Middle School; cruiser replacement and reuse; the acceptance of the Department into the state's Communities for Restorative Justice program under the Juvenile Justice Reform Act; the impact of the opening of the Uplands development, which led to about seven (7) additional calls per month, not a large impact to the Department's call numbers; and costs of potentially joining a regional 911 call center.

After additional discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Peterson Read

DOCUMENTS USED DURING THE MEETING:

- Town of Belmont - Town Administrator's Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Recommendation - Police Department
- Public Safety - Police Dept. Budget Questions 2020