



# Office of Board of Selectmen

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## Selectmen's Meeting

Monday, April 5, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Belmont Mill 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Tioga Meeting Room

Chairman Ruth Mooney called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Also present were Selectman Claude Patten, Selectman Jon Pike, Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin, Assistant Town Administrator Alicia Jipson, Police Chief Mark Lewandowski, Ron Mitchell and Vicki Donovan via Zoom, DPW Director Craig Clairmont, and Building Inspector Russell Wheeler.

### **Abatements, Exemptions & Credits**

The appropriate abatements, exemptions, and credits were signed by all attending Board members.

Selectman Patten moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 15, 2021 as written; seconded by Selectman Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Pike moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 24, 2021 as written; seconded by Selectman Patten and the motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

New Hire- Fire Department- It is Fire Chief Mike Newhall's recommendation that the Belmont Fire Department hire Thomas Ryan for the position of fulltime day Firefighter. Gina Harris retired after 17 years leaving a vacancy in the department. Chairman Mooney asked if Thomas is a Paramedic. Chief Newhall responded that no he is not, and that we intended to utilize more of the inhouse paramedics at this time to fill the gap. Selectman Pike motioned to accept the hiring of Thomas Ryan as of April 11, 2021 to the Belmont Fire Department; seconded by Selectman Patten, and the motioned passed unanimously.

Code Enforcement Quarterly Update- Code Enforcement Officer Russ Wheeler was present and handed out his list of active cases that he is currently working on.

Request to Amend Noise Ordinance- TA Beaudin received a letter from Joe Rolfe requesting to amend the Noise Ordinance relative to exempting farming and agricultural

activities from noise restrictions. TA Beaudin suggested that we add the act of spraying to the exempt list for just that activity. We would need to bring this to Town Meeting next year, to vote on it. TA Beaudin will let Mr. Rolfe know that there is nothing right now in the ordinance right now prohibiting him from spraying his crops after hours. Police Chief Lewandowski suggested he notify his neighbors of his intent to spray at night, to be neighborly and avoid any complaints.

Belmont Road Race- In conjunction with Old Home Day, Jason Roberts has agreed to organize and run the Road Race but wants confirmation from the Board that he could proceed. The Board unanimously agreed that since we are moving forward with OHD, the race was ok to proceed with as well.

581 Driveway Permit Request- Director of Public Works Craig Clairmont received a driveway permit request from the owners of 581 Union Road, the property is accessed from the Class 6 section of Range Road and they would like to pave a portion of the road where it enters their property; Town Attorney indicates the Selectmen must approve- approval of the request does not change the classification of the road it remains Class 6. TA Beaudin suggested that Craig add verbiage to the permit saying that we are not liable for the road if and when they do pave it. Selectmen Pike Motioned to approve the Driveway Permit and allow the resident to pave the portion of road; seconded by Chairman Mooney and the motion passed unanimously.

Acceptance of LCHIP Incentive- We received our annual incentive from the LCHIP in the amount of \$200 for our timely annual report submission on the care and maintenance of the Bandstand. TA Beaudin noted that in the past we have added this to the Heritage Commission Fund. Vicki Donovan was present via Zoom to update the Board on the Heritage Commission, noting that the Commission had a bit of a setback due to Covid-19 last year, and are now just starting to get back to a bit or normal. Meetings have been limited. They continue to work on the videos from 2019 and will be sending out surveys to residents to get their stories and suggestions on Belmont's History. The Commission has plans to visit the Elementary School to speak with the kids about our Town's history. Ron Mitchell via Zoom mentioned the history at Mohawk Point aka the Town Beach. He suggested placing a historical marker there. Chairman Mooney motioned to accept the LCHIP funds in the amount of \$200.00; seconded by Selectman Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

Atlantic Broadband Cable Franchise Agreement- The Town received a letter awhile back from Atlantic Broadband in regard to their intent to renew our contract for 2023. TA Beaudin noted that contract renewal is a lengthy process. Our Attorney recommends that we open up an ascertainment process. Residents would be able to send in their concerns to us about the cable portion of their service. We would leave the process open for 6 months. The purpose would be to assess the cable needs and interest of the community. Selectman Mooney motioned to open the Ascertainment Process relative to renewal of the Town's Cable Franchise Agreement with Atlantic Broadband; seconded by Selectman Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

## Old Business

Reauthorization of the Town's Investment Policy- TA Beaudin noted that we have not done an update to our investment policy in some time. We have not made any changes to the policy other than the date. The document has been reviewed by the Town's bank, Northway to ensure compliance. The document is needed for the Audit. The Audit process is underway as of Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Mooney motioned to reauthorize the Town's Investment Policy; seconded by Selectman Patten and the motion passed unanimously.

Update on Finance Director Position- We have received 2 strong applications for the open position. We have heavily advertised for the position. We will continue to keep it open in the hopes we receive more applications.

Ron Mitchell- Ron Mitchell via Zoom wanted to voice that he was on board with the removal of the old bank building.


PD Construction Follow Up- TA Beaudin received a call from Barrett Salta from BPS that we received a quote from Eversource that the bill for the three-phase power will be \$96,000. Barrett worked closely again with Eversource and they have now cut down the quote to approximately \$45,000. Governor & Council is meeting this week and our generator grant is on the agenda, and we should be able to move forward with that this week.

## Non-Public

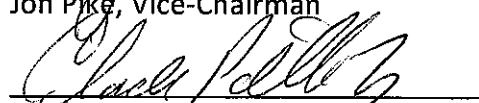
Chairman Mooney moved to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91: A:3 II (b & c) at 10:51 a.m. Those present and voting were Ruth Mooney, Claude Patten, and Jon Pike. Also present were TA Beaudin, Asst. TA Alicia Jipson. Discussion was had relative to the Assistant DPW Director's position and recent employee discipline.

At 11:45 a.m. Chief Mark Lewandoski joined the non-public session. TA Beaudin and Asst. TA Jipson left the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

  
Ruth P. Mooney, Chairman

  
Jon Pike, Vice-Chairman

  
Claude B. Patten, Jr., Selectman