

February 2022

Our Community Newsletter

BELMONT



Town of Belmont Deliberative Session

Saturday, February 5, 2021, 10:00 a.m.
Belmont High School

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Articles #1 and 2

Article #1. To choose necessary officers, including Selectman three-year term (1), Town Moderator 2-year term (1), Town Clerk/Tax Collector 3-year term (1), Town Treasurer 3-year term (1), Budget Committee three-year term (4), Trustee of Trust Funds three-year term (1), Library Trustee three-year term (1), Library Trustee 2-year term (1), Library Trustee 1-year term (1), Cemetery Trustee three-year term (1), Planning Board three-year term (2), and Zoning Board of Adjustment three-year term (1).

Article #2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as summarized below?

Delete Accessory Dwelling Use as a use and instead create two new uses: Dwelling Unit Accessory to Residential Use and Dwelling Unit Subordinate to Non-Residential Use. A Dwelling Unit Accessory to Residential Use shall not exceed 1,250sf or 40% of the sum of the net floor area of both the finished primary dwelling unit and the finished accessory dwelling unit whichever is larger and is permitted in an attached or detached accessory structure. One Dwelling Unit Subordinate to Non-Residential Use shall be permitted by right in the Commercial and Industrial Districts if occupied by the business owner and family, and shall be permitted, by conditional use permit, to be occupied by the onsite business manager/security person and family. The definitions, full regulations, requirements, standards and restrictions for each type of accessory and subordinate dwelling unit are included in the Ordinance. Appropriate changes to the Table of Uses will also be made.

Articles #3 and 4

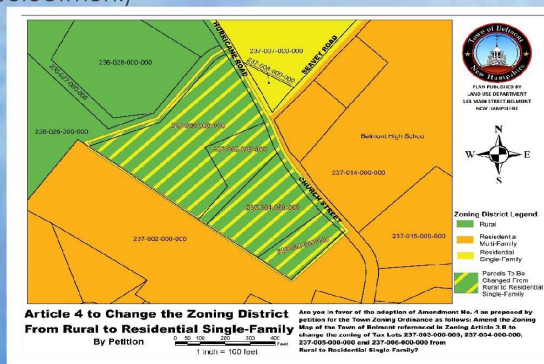
Article #3. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as summarized below?

Correct a reference in Article 11.B.2 to permit nonconforming structures which are removed to be replaced as allowed earlier in Article 11. This change removes an incorrect reference to an inapplicable provision of Article 10.

Article #4. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by Petition for the Town Zoning Ordinance as summarized below?

Amend the Zoning Map of the Town of Belmont referenced in Zoning Article 3.B to change the zoning of Tax Lots 237-003-000-000, 237-004-000-000, 237-005-000-000 and 237-006-000-000 from "Rural" to "Residential Single-Family"?

(This article submitted by Petition. This article is recommended by the Planning Board. This article is recommended by the Selectmen.)



Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Articles #5 and #6

Article #5. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million One Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand Dollars (\$3,192,000) for the purpose of constructing an Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility including engineering costs, acquisition of land or interests in land and all other costs reasonably associated with this project. This appropriation is to be funded by a grant in the amount of Six Hundred Thirty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$638,400) from the Department of Environmental Services appropriation of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funds, and further to authorize the issuance of a bond or note in the amount of up to Two Million Five Hundred Fifty Three Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$2,553,600) in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to the project and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. Recommendations required (3/5 ballot vote required).

(The Budget Committee recommends \$3,192,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)

Article #6. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) for the purpose of improvements to the Coons Point Pump Station and a Generator for the Shaker Road Station and to further authorize the issuance of not more than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. Recommendations required (3/5 ballot vote required).

(The Budget Committee recommends \$1,000,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)

Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility Proposal – Bond Article #5

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Why an Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility?

- › Iron and manganese can give water an unpleasant taste, odor and color.
- › Iron causes reddish-brown stains on laundry, porcelain, dishes, utensils, glassware, sinks, fixtures and concrete.
- › Manganese causes brownish-black stains on the same materials; detergents do not remove these stains. Chlorine bleach and alkaline builders may even intensify the stains.
- › Iron and manganese deposits build up in pipelines, pressure tanks, water heaters, and water softening equipment. These deposits restrict the flow of water and reduce water pressure.
- › Water contaminated with iron and manganese often contains iron or manganese bacteria. These bacteria do not cause health problems, but do form a reddish brown (iron) or brownish-black (manganese) slime in toilet tanks and can clog water systems.

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Why an Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility?

- › The Town of Belmont is currently developing plans to repair and reline Well #1 with the use of ARPA funds; we have contracted with Hydrosource and Underwood Engineering to develop plans for the project. We have sufficient funding from the ARPA program to complete the project.
- › During the summer of 2021, we submitted a pre-application to the SRF/Drinking Water Trust Fund for funds to construct an Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility; the Town has been aware for the past few years that the NHDES would be proposing new rules for a manganese standard. The US Environmental Protection Agency has a long-standing Federal Advisory of 0.3mg/L and further studies by the NH DES show that short-term exposure to levels as low as 0.1 mg/L are a health concern for infants. The State will be adopting rules to enforce a drinking water standard for manganese of 0.3 mg/L effective for July 1, 2022.
- › The Town of Belmont has been notified by the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund that \$638,400 in financial assistance is available for the project; these funds would be used to offset the anticipated \$3,192,000 cost for the project.

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Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Why an Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility?

- › Most recent test results in December of 2021, show an Iron level of .94 in Well 1 and a .84 in Well 3. Manganese levels while not currently exceeding the recommended level of 0.3 mg/L, we do have a manganese level of .08 in Well 3 which is our primary well; this most recent result is very close to the level of 0.1 mg/L which can cause a health concern for infants and would potentially trigger a public notification to all users on the Town's Water System.
- › **Cost to Operate**
- › It is anticipated that a Grade III Water Treatment License will be needed to operate the plant and we are currently working with Pennichuck Water Services and our engineering firm to develop an estimated cost to operate the plant. The type of treatment will determine the amount of chemicals needed as well as the electrical consumption needed to run the plant.

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Bond Article #6 – Sewer Pumpstation Improvements

- › Project includes improvements to the Town's Wastewater pumping stations consistent with the ongoing Wastewater Collection System Asset Management Plan Project; work would include but may not be limited to, pump, flow monitoring, and electrical improvements at the Coon's Point Pump Station, generator replacement at the Shaker Road Pump Station, and flow monitoring and other improvements to any other pumping stations owned by the Town and identified as part of the Asset Management project.
- › Design Engineering is slated to begin following Town Meeting with an estimated completed date of September 2022, construction engineering would begin in December 2022, with anticipated construction during 2023. Total estimated cost of the project is \$1,000,000 and we are eligible for \$20,000 in principal forgiveness. We continue to monitor on a regular basis any available grant opportunities that may become available to assist with any and all our projects.

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Construction of the facility , Engineering, Legal, Land, admin, misc. & contingency

- 50x40 foot (~2,000 sf) masonry building – likely vinyl sided
- Two (2) 7' diameter and 6' high pressure vessels (see below)
- Backwash/reclaim tank
- Clearwell
- Infiltration basins
- Pumping
- Chemical feed
- Generator
- SCADA
- Site work and more
- Piloting
- Design phase (survey and Geotech too)
- Construction phase
- Legal, land, administration & any miscellaneous
- Contingency



200 gpm Pressure Filter System

Included with the vertical pressure filter system is the following:

- **Two (2) 7'-0" diameter x 6'-0" straight side** height vertical pressure filters. System loading rate is 2.6 gpm/sq. ft. and 5.2 gpm/sq. ft. with one vessel off-line. System to include:
 - Dual media and support gravels
 - Stainless steel Simulwash™ collection troughs
 - Airwash blower and distribution header laterals
 - Tonka ABS nozzles
 - Electric actuated butterfly valves
 - Gauges and meters
 - Facepiping
 - Fully automatic PLC system and panel
 - Services include freight and start-up.

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Article #7

To see if the Town will vote to expend the income from the John M. Sargent Trust Fund for the purposes recommended by the Sargent Fund Committee?

Belknap County 4-H Fair Assn. \$3,500

Belmont Baseball Organization \$2,000

Belmont Cemetery Trustees \$250

Belmont Boy Scouts Troop 65 \$600

Belmont Conservation Commission \$250

Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 12117 \$400 Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 20431 \$150

Belmont Community Girl Scouts \$250

Belmont Heritage Commission \$250

Belmont Historical Society \$300

Belmont Middle School Fifth Grade Camp Cody \$3,432

Belmont High School PTO \$500

Belmont Public Library \$1,485

First Baptist Church of Belmont Mission/Food Pantry \$2,424

Saint Joseph Food Pantry \$2,424.60

Save our Gale School \$200

Winni Womenade \$2,000

Articles #8 and 9

Article #8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Six Dollars (\$60,776), for the sixth year's payment on the long term lease/purchase agreement entered into in 2016 for the purchase of a new pumper truck for the Fire Department, and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of said amount from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund previously established in accordance with RSA 31:95, c (Created 1994/Amended 1999). The Town is obligated by the terms of the lease/purchase agreement, as well as the super majority ratifying that agreement in Article 4 at the 2016 Town Meeting, to make these yearly payments.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$60,776 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.) **The Current Balance in the Special Revenue Account as of December 31, 2021 was \$618,778.46.**

Article #9. To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken on Article 7 at the 1999 Annual Meeting to restrict all revenues from ambulance billings to be deposited in the Special Revenue fund known as the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Fund to instead restrict all but the first \$124,500 of revenues from ambulance billings received during the 2022 budgetary year to be deposited in the Special Revenue fund known as the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Fund. The first \$124,500 of revenues from ambulance billings will be deposited in the Town's General Fund to defray the cost items identified below. This restriction shall only be effective for the 2022 budgetary year (2/3 Majority Ballot Vote).

Training Expenses \$3,000

Medical & Supply Expenses \$30,000

Ambulance Billing Fees \$20,000

Overtime \$40,000

Telephone \$2,000

Conferences & Dues \$1,500

Office Expense \$12,000

Vehicle Repair & Parts \$8,000

Fuel \$8,000

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Articles #10 and 11

Article #10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Four Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-One Dollars (\$74,561) for the cost of a Command Vehicle for the Fire Department and further to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of Seventy-Four Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-One Dollars (\$74,561) from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund previously established in accordance with RSA 31:95, c. (Majority ballot vote required.)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$74,561 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Article #11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) for the cost of a Rescue Boat for the Fire Department and further to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of Twenty Five Thousand dollars (\$25,000) from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund previously established in accordance with RSA 31:95, c; the balance of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) is to come from the Locality Equipment Purchase Program Grant. In the event the Town does not receive the grant; this appropriation will not be funded. (Majority ballot vote required.)

(The Board of Selectmen recommend \$75,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) **We have received notification that we are eligible for the \$50,000 grant; following the vote on March 8th, if the article passes, the Town will/can submit to the program an invoice or sales order and we will be reimbursed.**

Article #12

To see if the town will vote to amend, pursuant to RSA 72:81, the new construction property tax exemption for commercial and industrial uses (as defined in RSA 72:80) originally adopted in 2018 to incorporate legislative changes adopted in 2019. Specifically, the percentage and duration of the exemption shall now be granted on a per case basis based on the amount and value of public benefit, as determined by the selectmen, rather than uniformly to all projects. For the purpose of this exemption, in order to satisfy the public benefit requirement a minimum of one of the following must be provided: enhance economic growth and increase the Town's tax base; creation of needed services or facilities not currently available in the Town; redevelop and revitalize commercial or industrial area; prevent or eliminate blight; or, retain local jobs, increase local job base, and/or provide diversity in the job base. If amended this exemption shall take effect in the tax year beginning April 1, 2022 and shall remain in effect for a maximum of 5 tax years.

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Article #13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the deliberative session, for the purposes set forth herein, totaling Eight Million Eight Hundred Fifteen Thousand Six Hundred Sixteen Dollars (\$8,815,616)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Eight Million Five Hundred Nine Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-One Dollars (\$8,509,481) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Note: This warrant article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant article.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$8,815,616 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)

Articles #14, 15 and 16

Article #14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to be placed in the Dry Hydrant and Cistern Repairs and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2010).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$2,500 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) **The current balance in the reserve account as of 12/31/21 is \$19,277.30.**

Article #15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000) to be placed in the Highway Reconstruction and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$750,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) **The current balance in the reserve account as of 12/31/21 is \$1,483,478.74.**

Article #16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Town Bridge Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2003).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$25,000 and the Budget Committee support this recommendation.) **The current balance in the reserve account as of 12/31/21 is \$178,036.36.**

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Article # 17, 18 and 19

- › **Article #17.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) to be placed in the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2002).
- › (The Board of Selectmen recommends \$60,000 and the Budget Committee support this recommendation.) **The current balance in the reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$81,518.92.**
- › **Article #18.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Ninety Thousand Five Hundred Nine Dollars (\$190,509) for the reconstruction of highways, said appropriation to be offset by Highway Block Grant funds provided by the State of New Hampshire?
- › (The Board of Selectmen recommends \$190,509 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)
- › **Article #19.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500) to be placed in the Heritage Fund previously established (2005).
- › (The Board of Selectmen recommends \$4,500 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) **The current balance in the Heritage Fund as of 12/31/2021 is \$41,828.63.**

Articles #20 and 21

Article #20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand dollars (\$75,000) to be placed in the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund previously established (2008), and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$75,000 from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2021.

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$75,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) **The current balance in the Expendable Trust Fund is \$7,985.88 with current liabilities for those eligible for retirement exceeding \$300k.**

Article #21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Eighty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$281,975) for the operation and maintenance of the Water Distribution and Treatment System for the ensuing year, said sum is to be offset by users' fees. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Two Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-Four Dollars (\$272,364) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$281,975 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Article #22, 23 and 24

Article #22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$548,460) for the operation and maintenance of the Sewage Collection and Disposal System for the ensuing year, said sum is to be offset by users' fees. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Five Hundred Forty Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Six Dollars (\$540,476) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$548,460 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Article #23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) to be placed in the Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2005).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$75,000 and the Budget Committee support this recommendation.) **The current balance in the reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$36,054.78.**

Article #24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be placed in the Water System Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006) said sum is to be offset by users' fees.

(The Board of Selectmen recommend \$100,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) **The current balance in the reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$164,777.60.**

Article #25, 26 and 27

Article #25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Library Building Improvements Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2000).

(The Board of Selectmen recommend \$25,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) **The current balance in the reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$309,006.23.**

Article #26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) to be placed in the Municipal Facilities Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$300,000 and the Budget Committee support this recommendation.) **The current balance in the reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$193,487.08.**

Article #27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Information Technology Non-Capital reserve account previously established (2002).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$10,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) **The current balance in the reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$20,005.01.**

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Article #28, 29 and 30

- › **Article #28.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Durrell Mountain Road Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2021). This sum to come from the December 31, 2021 unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required)
- › (The Board of Selectmen recommend \$5,000 and the Budget Committee supports that recommendation.) **The current balance in the reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$500.88; the Town did undertake minimal repairs to the road during 2021.**
- › **Article #29.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the already established General Cemetery Maintenance Fund governed under the provisions of RSA 31:19-A for the purpose of cemetery maintenance, said amounts to be expendable at the discretion of the Cemetery Trustees (1997).
- › (The Budget Committee recommends \$5,000 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.) **The current balance in the reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$24,758.49.**
- › **Article #30.** To see if the Town will vote to rescind the vote previously taken in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 I which places the unexpended Conservation Commission appropriation into the Conservation Fund each year, allowing it to accumulate from year to year; and instead allow the Conservation Commission's unexpended appropriation to lapse to the General Fund on December 31st each year. This article is recommended by the Conservation Commission in a vote taken January 5, 2022.

Petition Warrant Articles

- › **Article #31.** To see if the Town of Belmont, New Hampshire, will vote to Discontinue the Municipal Facilities Capital Reserve Fund established in 2006, pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 35:16-a. (This article submitted by petition.)
- › **Article #32.** To see if the Town of Belmont, New Hampshire, will vote to prohibit any local law, rule or policy imposing medical limitations upon any individual within its jurisdiction, buildings, or schools, including, but not limited to, vaccination, face masks, physical distancing, or medical testing, except where in a hearing pursuant to RSA 141-C, the Superior Court has made an individual assessment and determined by clear and convincing evidence that such individual poses a serious threat to the public health. (This article submitted by petition.) **The Board of Selectmen have the authority to regulate Town property under RSA 41:11-a. The Selectmen cannot require the general public to be vaccinated or tested.**
- › **Article #33.** To see if the Town of Belmont, New Hampshire, will vote to Terminate the Appointment of Mark Lewandoski as Chief of the Belmont Police Department pursuant to the New Hampshire Attorney General's Cease and Desist Order of November 4, 2021, condemning his actions and indicating he induced his subordinates to engage in criminal conduct in violation of electioneering law, thereby undermining public confidence in the integrity of law enforcement. (This article submitted by petition.) **Results of the vote on this article would be advisory only upon the Board of Selectmen.**
- › **Article #34.** To see if the Town of Belmont, New Hampshire, will vote to move the date of Town Elections (SB2) from the second Tuesday in March to the second Tuesday in May, beginning in the year 2023. Such action shall extend until May the terms of all offices expiring in March of that year. (This article submitted by petition.)

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Petition Warrant Articles Continued.....

- › **Article #35.** To see if the Town of Belmont, New Hampshire, will vote that it be the practice in all elections in the Town of Belmont that such elections shall be made on paper ballots only and all such ballots are to be counted by hand in full view of the public without the use of any electronic means whatsoever. (This article submitted by petition.)
- › **Article #36.** To see if the Town of Belmont, New Hampshire, will vote to prohibit at any time the use of public resources, official channels, or public personnel, to market or otherwise promote, in any way, explicitly or implicitly, any proposal that is placed before the voters of the Town of Belmont. Material provided to the voters by the Town of Belmont merely to inform them on any such proposal shall be neutral in nature and permitting discussion both for an against such proposal. (This article submitted by petition.) **Ref. NH RSA 659:44-a**
- › **Article #37.** Are you in favor of increasing the Board of Selectmen from 3 members to 5 members? (This article submitted by petition.) **If the article passes, the change would take effect at the 2023 Town Meeting.**
- › **Article #38.** To see if the Town will go on record opposing the retail sale of dogs and cats in pet stores in the town. This resolution is necessary because the majority of dogs and cats sold in pet stores are sourced from large-scale, inhumane commercial breeding facilities commonly called "puppy mills". The record of this vote shall be transmitted by written notice from the selectmen to the town's state legislators and to the Governor of New Hampshire. (This article submitted by petition.)

2021 and 2022 Grant Activity

2021

April 12, 2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant for the EOC Equipment and Generator Project (Police Station) **\$123,180** awarded/match was provided through the overall cost of the building project.

July 15, 2021 Local Fiscal Recover Funds under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 **\$767,689.20** awarded to the Town; the Town expended \$81,232.70 for a complete Body Camera set up for the Police Department. The balance of the funds are earmarked to repair and reline Well #1.

September 2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant to update the Town's Emergency Operations Plan in the amount of **\$4,500**; a 50% match is required and is met by staff time and materials.

November 5, 2021 ARPA Asset Management Grant, the Town was awarded under the program up to **\$30,000** to complete or enhance a Wastewater Asset Management Program.

November 9, 2021 NHDES ARPA 2021 fund grant in the amount of **\$638,400** for the purpose of constructing an Iron and Manganese Water Treatment Plant

2022

January 3, 2022 COSSAP Award \$ 357,376.86 NH awarded 4,710,993 to the New Hampshire Department of Justice (NH DOJ) to lower rates of substance use disorders and provide support to affected families. New Hampshire has been on the frontlines of this crisis and was among the top ten states in the nation for drug overdose-related deaths in 2019. The \$4.7 million grant holistically responds to the substance use disorder crisis by integrating two key programs: The Prevention, Enforcement & Treatment Program (PET), first started by the Laconia Police Department, and the Manchester Adverse Childhood Experiences Response Team Technical Assistance Center (ACERT TAC). The funding for PET will expand full-time officers that respond to overdose calls and connect individuals and families with life-saving resources to more communities across the state. The program also partners with ACERT TAC, which connects families and children to trauma and mental health services after intervention from first responders. Paired together, the program takes a multigenerational approach to treat these disorders and prevent future overdose recidivism.

January 3, 2022 NH DOJ ARPA grant in the amount of **\$46,290** for the purpose of purchasing 10 ruggedized laptops to be assigned to patrol officers under the Clean Work Station Grant Program.

January 14, 2022 Locality Equipment Matching Program Grant to assist with the purchase of two boats for the Belmont Fire Department; we were awarded **\$50,000**, the balance of the purchase price is to come from the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund.

Town Clerk's Corner



What will the Groundhog predict??? More snow or blooming flowers? One thing for sure is we can predict the Town Clerk's Office will have a busy month ahead!

The deliberation session for the 2022 Town Elections will commence at 10 am Saturday, February 5, 2022 in the Belmont High School Cafeteria. The High School is located at 255 Seavey Road. The deliberative session is the time for all warrant articles that are proposed for the official ballot for the Town election to be read and discussed. While no voting on warrant articles will take place this day, wording and dollar amounts or warrant articles can be discussed and possibly amended.

Town Elections will be Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at Belmont High School and polls will be open from 7 am to 7 pm. Masks and Photo ID will be required to enter the polls. The Warrant Articles are currently posted on the Belmont Town website at www.belmontnh.org . For reference, you may print out the articles and bring them to the polls to help you when voting.

Just a reminder that our furry friends will need to be renewed for the 2022 year by April 30th. You may renew them in person, mail or online at www.belmontnh.org , with your dog's current tag number from 2021. If you have a new pup, we will need a copy of the current rabies vaccination paperwork. This may be completed in person, mail or by drop box. Senior dog owners that are 65+, your home will be able to license one dog for \$2.00. All altered dogs will be \$6.50 and non-altered dogs are \$9.00. If your home has 5 or more dogs, you will be charged a group rate of \$20.00.

The Town Clerks office will be sending out delinquent notices soon. These notices are meant to make residents aware of any unpaid balances left over from the previous year and to give the property owner an opportunity to bring the account current before the tax lien is executed. If you have any questions, please contact our office as we are here to assist you.

Thank you to the residents of Belmont!

Town Clerk's Office – Cynthia, Jeanne and Jennifer

Police Department News

Captain Steve Akerstrom



Jessica's Law

As we continue through Winter, we want to remind people of Jessica's Law. Jessica's Law, in short, is a law that requires drivers to remove snow and ice from their vehicles prior to driving. Jessica's Law is covered under New Hampshire RSA 265:79-b, the Negligent Driving Statute. While it does take a couple of minutes to clear the snow and ice from your vehicle, the outcome is much better than having to deal with the potential that someone could get hurt by your negligence in not removing it.

Thefts

Over the course of the past couple of weeks, we have seen an uptick in thefts in the downtown area. One theft involved the taking of tools that were left in the bed of a pick-up truck, while another involved someone attempting to take a bicycle. Please don't leave valuables in your vehicles or outside unsecured. The reporting of suspicious people walking around assists us in being able to locate potential suspects and may prevent future thefts from taking place.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call 603-267-8351.

Winter Road Maintenance

It's safe to say, Winter is here! Your Public Works Department has been busy combating every type of Winter weather known. Snow, Sleet, and Freezing Rain have fallen on a regular basis and the team has responded in an appropriate manner to keep the traveling public safe. There are many factors taken into consideration regarding what type of response and what materials are applied to each winter weather event. Current weather conditions, temperature, time of day, traffic, and imminent forecast all are factored into making these decisions. Contrary to popular belief, it's not practical, cost effective, or environmentally friendly to melt the snow with salt. The preferred choice is repeated plowing while using just enough salt to keep a brine on the pavement preventing the snow from adhering to it. With colder temperatures you may see less salt use and the increased use of sand. This change in strategy is due to environmental factors such as air and pavement temps. Research results vary but most seem to agree that as temperatures drop below 20 degrees, rock salt begins to lose its effectiveness. Fortunately, those colder temperatures also prevent the snow from adhering to road surfaces allowing maintenance personnel to lean more on abrasives (sand) for road treatments during the event. If you need to travel during one of these events please drive for the road conditions. Slow down, increase following distance, and leave yourself a little extra time. Your team is here to make sure you can get there.



Town Residents Sand Bin

The Public Works Department constructed a sand bin a couple years ago. This bin was built outside the gate to the right of the entrance to the Public Works Facility located at 149 Hurricane Rd and encourages any town residents to take advantage of its 24-7 accessibility. We ask resident to limit themselves to 3 pails per visit to ensure there is enough sand for everyone who needs it.

Frost Heaves

They're back! Frost Heaves are starting to make their annual appearance. Members of your Public Works Team have noticed the formation of a few frost heaves and have begun marking them with the appropriate signage to warn travelers. They form rather quickly (seemingly overnight) and can sneak up on unexpected motorists, some have potential to cause damage so please use caution and watch for advanced warning signs.



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

Before you dig, remember to call DigSafe

Not only is it safe, **IT'S THE LAW!**



In this issue >>>

ARC – 1/27/22

Planning Board – 1/24/22

Zoning Board – 1/26/22



February
2022

A Monthly Insight into the happenings in Belmont Land Use

Land

Use

- ARC
- Planning
- Zoning

January Meetings >>>

Your Land Use Staff

Elaine Murphy

Administrative Assistant

Richard Ball

Land Use Technician

Colleen Akerman

Building & Land Use Clerk

Sarah Whearty

Town Planner

For additional Land Use
Information: Visit www.belmontnh.org

Contact landuse@belmontnh.org

Call 267-8300 x 119



Application Review Committee (1/27/2022)

Aranosian Oil Company: Request for 1 year extension of site plan approval for a gas station, convenience store and food drive thru window/lane. Property is located at 93 Daniel Webster Highway, Tax Lot 201-093-000-00 in the “C” Zone. PB # 01-22P.

Craig Roeder: Request for Subdivision Review to subdivide one lot into two residential lots. Property is located in the Residential Single-Family Zone, at 60 Bean Hill Road, Tax Lot 218-004-001-000, PB #19-21R.

Ward Peterson: Request for Site Plan Review to run a Contractor’s Yard. Property is located in the Rural Zone partially within the Aquifer Protection District, at 661 Province Road, Tax Lot 226-074-000-000, PB #03-22R.

Lakes Landscape Materials, LLC: Request for Site Plan Review to run a retail landscape materials yard. Property is located in the Commercial Zone within the Aquifer Protection District, at 963 Laconia Road, Tax Lot 122-076-000-000, PB #04-22R.

Gilmanton Sand and Gravel: Request for Earth Excavation Review to add a new quarry area near the existing quarry. Property is located in the Industrial Zone within the Aquifer Protection District, at 28 Stone Road, Tax Lot 245-001-000-000 & 245-002-000-000, PB #05-22R.

106 Realty Trust: Request for Site Plan Review to add a manager’s quarters use. Property is located in the Commercial Zone, at 26 & 36 Laconia Road, Tax Lot 205-050-000-000 & 205-052-000-000, PB #06-22R.

Alfred E. Mitchell: Request for Site Plan Review to construct a new commercial building along with associated drainage, grading, parking, landscaping and lighting. Property is located in the Commercial Zone, at 28 Corriveau Way, Tax Lot 217-114-000-000, PB #07-22R.

106 Realty Trust: Request for Site Plan Review to construct a new commercial building along with associated drainage, grading, parking, landscaping and lighting. Property is located in the Commercial Zone, on Laconia Road, Tax Lot 217-108-000-000, PB #08-22R.

continued...

Land Use (Cont.)

Planning Board (1/24/2022)

Public Hearing – Amend Subdivision and Site Plan Regulations:

- Section 9.E.9 of the Subdivision Regulations: Create Private Road Standards.
- Section 4.A of the Subdivision and Site Plan Regulations: Waive ARC submission requirement in specific situations.
- Section 4.A of the Subdivision and Site Plan Regulations: Amend noticing requirements.

Public Hearing – Paul Zugzo for Raed Hertel Family Trust: Continuation of a request for subdivision approval to subdivide one lot into five. Property is located on Jamestown Road, Tax Lot 118-016-000-000 in the “RS” Zone. PB #2221P. (Withdrawn)

Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Paul Zugzo for Raed Hertel Family Trust: Request for new revised subdivision plan approval to subdivide one lot into four. Property is located on Jamestown Road, Tax Lot 118-016-000-000 in the “RS” Zone. PB #0122P.

Public Hearing – Tap Public House Inc.: Continuation of a request for site plan approval to allow outdoor seating, expand the existing use to include the downstairs and add parking spaces. Property is located at 930 Laconia Road, Tax Lot 122-057-000-000 in the “C” Zone. PB # 0320P.

Next Meeting: February 28, 2022, 6:00PM

Zoning Board of Adjustment (1/26/2022)

Abutters' Hearing – Matthew Gault: Continuation of a request for a Special Exception of Article 5 Table 1 of the Zoning Ordinance for a contractor's yard, storage of equipment trailers, aluminum frames and pressure treated lumber, in the commercial zone. Property is located at 682 Laconia Road, Tax Lot 230-043-000-000, ZBA #4121Z.

Next Meeting: February 23, 2022, 6:00PM





Building Department News

from the

Building Inspector

In our June newsletter, we reviewed some of the types of projects that require permits, such as:

- Stick-built, modular and manufactured homes
- Decks/Open Porches
- Garages/Sheds/Lean Tos
- Membrane Structures/Carports
- Storage Containers
- Pools
- Interior Renovations
- Exterior Renovations that include structural modifications
- Windows and doors if the headers are modified, or if new
- Electrical, Plumbing, Mechanical and Generator work



If any of the work above is completed without a permit, an after-the-fact permit will be required, which will cost double the standard permit fees. If you are selling or purchasing a home, you should ensure that all necessary permits have been obtained for completed work, or the new owner becomes responsible for the unpermitted work.

Many lenders are doing more due diligence with research on homes for sale, and sellers and buyers are finding out that there are missing permits. In these types of situations, it is often difficult for the building official to properly inspect work that has been completed and covered up with sheetrock or flooring, etc. In some situations, it may be necessary to remove sheetrock, flooring, etc. to perform a proper inspection of insulation, electrical, plumbing, or gas lines.

If you have any questions about necessary permits, please contact us at 267-8300 xt. 111!

Thank you, Russ Wheeler, Building Inspector

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Effective 03/01/2022 any building permits issued for NEW single-family homes will require BLOWER DOOR TESTING to be completed during rough-in or post completion. The Town does not perform this testing. A licensed contractor such as your insulation company must complete the testing and provide a certificate to the Town for your building permit. Certificates of Occupancy will NOT be issued without an acceptable blower door test and documentation.

143 Main Street, P.O. Box 310, Belmont, NH 03220

buildingofficial@belmontnh.org

(603)267-8300x111(V)

(603)267-8307(F)

www.belmontnh.org

Conservation Commission

Whose Scat is That?

My daughter has just reached the age at which poop becomes tremendously funny, and while I certainly get a chuckle out of her scatological humor, when it comes to wildlife, there's much more to poop than silly jokes. It's a sign left behind by every species of wildlife, and different wildlife have different poop, or scat. Learning how to identify wildlife by their scat is a great way to learn more about wildlife behavior – where they travel, how they communicate, what habitats they use, what they are eating, and likely much more.

Here are some of the key features to look at when trying to identify a scat:

SIZE and SHAPE. How big is the scat? Measure both length and width. Is it the size of a grain of rice, or more comparable to your dog's scat? Is it tubular, round, long and skinny? Twisted, straight, or J-shaped?

LOCATION. Where was the scat deposited? Is it under a bush, or in the middle of the trail? Is it on top of a rock, or collected in a large pile at the entrance to a small rock pile?

CONTENTS. Can you tell what is in the scat? Is there hair or bone? Is it dense or loose? Does it look like plant material? Is it filled with cherry pits? **PLEASE NOTE:** poke poop at your own risk! Raccoon poop can contain a roundworm that can be dangerous to people.



Porcupine spend much of their time in dens, which can be in rock outcroppings, tree cavities, or downed logs. Scat often collects in large piles at the entrance to their dens. Their scat and urine have a very distinct piney and musky smell. The scats irregular tubes and pellets and are $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter and $\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch in length.

Deer pellets can be highly variable, but the most common form are pellets. There is often a dimple at one end and a point at the other. They are $\frac{3}{16}$ – $\frac{5}{8}$ inches in diameter and $\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches long. Deer tend to scat wherever they are, so you will often find piles deer pellets scattered across the landscape.



Coyote scat will vary tremendously based on diet. The typical scat will have tapered, pointy ends. They tend to deposit their scat in obvious places, often elevated (on a rock, for example), in the middle of a trail or road, often at a trail junction. You can often see obvious hair and bones in the scat. Their scat is $\frac{3}{8}$ – $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches in diameter and 5-13 inches long. Generally, scats greater than $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter will rule out fox scat, which can look very similar in form, placement, and contents.

Turkey scat is interesting because you can sometimes tell whether it is a male or female turkey based on the

shape of the scat. Males and females have differences in their intestinal systems, which in turn causes different shaped scats. Male scat (left) tends to be straighter or j-shaped tubes, while female scat (right) tends to be tight, twisted clumps. Like most bird scat, turkey scat usually shows some white, which is uric acid (birds don't pee, so they excrete nitrogenous waste in the form of uric acid).



You can learn more about wildlife and their scat by watching the recent NH Woods and Wildlife Live [“Whose Scat is That?”](#). This [handy card from NH Fish and Game](#) is a great pocket resource when in the field. If you want to dive even deeper, wildlife track and sign field guides are a great resource for learning even more.

-- [Winter 2022 Taking Action for Wildlife Newsletter](#) – New Hampshire Fish & Game

Library News

BUNDLE UP, READ BOOKS, WIN PRIZES!



Winter Reading

JANUARY 9- MARCH 12TH

Belmont Public Library's



Here's a chance to rack up the Winter Reading hours, and enjoy a cozy, fun event! We will have hot chocolate, snacks, blankets and pillows. Wear something cozy, bring your own blanket, snuggle in, and read, read, read!

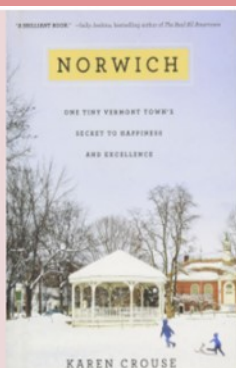
February 12th, 9am to 1pm

NF Book Group

Thursday February 10 1pm

Hybrid attendance option

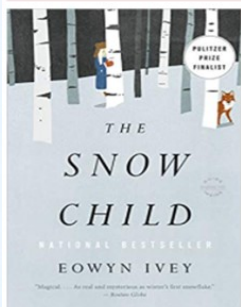
The extraordinary story of the small Vermont town that has likely produced more Olympians per capita than any other place in the country, Norwich gives "parents of young athletes a great gift—a glimpse at another way to raise accomplished and joyous competitors".



IT'S TIME FOR
**WINTER
CRAFTERNOON**

SECOND AND FOURTH
FRIDAYS OF THE MONTH
3-5 PM

OR TAKE IT TO GO!



Fiction Book Group

Friday February 18 10:30am

Hybrid attendance option

In this magical debut, a couple's lives are changed forever by the arrival of a little girl, wild and secretive, on their snowy doorstep.

Alaska, 1920: a brutal place to homestead, and especially tough for recent arrivals Jack and Mabel. Childless, they are drifting apart -- he breaking under the weight of the work of the farm; she crumbling from loneliness and despair. In a moment of levity during the season's first snowfall, they build a child out of snow. The next morning the snow child is gone -- but they glimpse a young, blonde-haired girl running through the trees.

Belmont Public
Library

146 Main Street / belmontpubliclibrary.org / 267-8331 / circulation@belmontpubliclibrary.org

Monday Friday 10-5 Tuesday Wednesday Thursday 10-6 Saturday 9-1

Newsletter

Do you know someone new to Town or know someone in Town who would love to see our Newsletter. Please have them email Alicia Jipson at administration@belmontnh.org to get on our distribution list. We also will occasionally send out other important information via email when necessary.



ZERO-SORT[®] RECYCLING

TOSS ALL CLEAN & EMPTY RECYCLABLES INTO THIS CONTAINER

CARDBOARD/PAPER



Corrugated Cardboard
(Wavy center layer)



Boxboard
(Dry-food boxes, egg cartons, & rolls)



Junk Mail, Periodicals, & Office Paper
(Paper bags, envelopes, & catalogs)

PLASTIC



Plastic Bottles, Jugs, Tubs, & Lids
(Empty kitchen, laundry, & bath containers)

METAL



Aluminum & Steel Cans
(Foil & empty food & beverage cans)

GLASS



Glass Bottles & Jars
(Empty food & beverage bottles & jars)

NOT ACCEPTED

Plastic bags, bagged recyclables, clothing/textiles, food waste/liquids, tangles such as rope or hoses, scrap metal, batteries of any kind, electronics, wood, medical waste, hazardous materials, explosives, toys, hangers, shoes, wax/cups or plates, food bags or wrappers, plastic wrap or film, shrink wrap, tarps, diapers, human/pet or yard waste, tires or rubber, Styrofoam™, napkins, paper towels, tissues, plastic utensils, register tape, condiment packets, straws, stirrers, coffee pods, ceramics, or baking glass



**ZERO-SORT[®]
RECYCLING**
a casella service

For recycling tips and resources, visit casella.com/recyclebetter • 800-CASELLA



KEEP THESE ITEMS OUT OF ZERO-SORT® RECYCLING

Place these items in the trash!



Gloves



Face Masks

For contamination purposes, if these items end up in recycling, it will all end up in the trash!



KEEP THESE ITEMS OUT OF ZERO-SORT® RECYCLING

NO Compostable Products



*Place these items in the **Food Waste bin!***

If these items end up in recycling, it will all end up in the trash!