# Our Community Newsletter





Tuesday, March 8, 2022 Belmont High School 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Town of Belmont Voter's Guide

Dear Belmont Residents:

This year marks the Town of Belmont's 14<sup>th</sup> experience with the Official Ballot Voting process that is commonly known as "SB2". The first session of the annual Town Meeting was held on Saturday, February 5th. At the Deliberative Session, the voters in attendance were presented with the articles on the warrant as proposed by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee. Each of the articles was discussed and several articles were amended by those present. All other articles will remain in their original format and will be placed on the official ballot. You may cast your ballot on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 from 7 am to 7 pm in the Belmont High School Gym, 265 Seavey Road. All registered voters are eligible to participate in the process. A picture ID is required to vote. Unregistered voters may register at the polls with proof of residency and picture ID.

We realize that sometimes lengthy legal language required by law to write various warrant articles can be confusing to voters who have not been actively involved in the debate that created the article. To help voters, we have prepared the ensuing Voter's Guide for your use. This guide will be available at Town Hall and online via the Town's website (<u>www.belmontnh.org</u>) Should you have any questions, regarding the information contained in the guide, please do not hesitate to contact the Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin (267-8300, ext. 124) or Assistant Town Administrator Alicia Jipson (267-8300, ext. 118) for further information.

Tax impact information listed in the guide will not be listed on the ballot. We have provided this information here to give voters an idea of what the individual items will cost if voters approve the item. The tax impact information listed in the voter's guide is simply an estimate based on a current snapshot in time using information and revenue projections that are available today. The actual tax rate will be set by the NH Department of Revenue Administration (NHDRA) in September or October, using actual information that is available including any new value attributed to new construction and in 2022 we are anticipating the completion of a statistical update to property values.

In closing, we would like to "Thank you" for the opportunity to represent you, and we appreciate your consideration as we work together to maintain Belmont as a great community in which to live.

Sincerely, Belmont Board of Selectmen Ruth P. Mooney, Chairman Jon Pike, Vice Chairman Claude B. Patten, Jr.

Ballot #1. Selectman three-year term (vote for one): **Justin David Borden** Jon Pike Town Moderator 2-year term (vote for one): Alvin E. Nix Jr. Town Clerk/Tax Collector 3-year term (vote for one): Cynthia DeRoy Town Treasurer 3-year term (vote for one): Alicia Segalini Budget Committee three-year term (vote for four): Mark Ekberg **Tracey LeClair Ronald Mitchell** Fred Wells Albert Akerstrom Trustee of Trust Funds three-year term (vote for one): **Thomas Goulette** Library Trustee 3-year term (vote for one): Jessica Ellis-Hopkins **Andrea Lubiens** Library Trustee 2-year term (vote for one): **Hilliary Ciampi-Horn** Library Trustee 1-year term (vote for one): **Sheila Cunningham** Sam Ducharme Cemetery Trustee three-year term (vote for one): **Kyle Dodge Andrea Lubiens** Planning Board three-year term (vote for two): Michael LeClair Ward Peterson Zoning Board three-year term (vote for one): Mark Mastenbrook

**Ballot #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 1,250 sf 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 UnitSubordinate 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.

**Ballot #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.



**Ballot #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.)

**Ballot #5.** T o 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 projectand to comply will 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.)

#### 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.

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.

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.

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.



Construction of the facility, engineering, legal, land, admin, misc., and contingency are costs included in the proposal. Land acquisition is not anticipated but is listed.

- 50x40 foot (~2,000 sf) masonry building likely vinyl sided
- Two (2) 7' diameter and 6' high pressure vessels, 200 gpm Pressure Filter System
- 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

**Ballot #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 othervote relative thereto. Recommendations required (3/5 ballot vote required). (The Budget Committee recommends \$1,000,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)

In 2013 the Town completed a Sewer Pumpstation Upgrade project which included 5 pumpstations; available funding for the project totaled \$1,675,000. The Coons Point Pumpstation was not included in this project as

it did not go online until 2002 when the Silver Lake Sewer Project was completed. This year's proposal is to include improvements to our existing pumpstations consistent with the Wastewater Collection System Asset Management Plan Project currently underway. The project also includes pump, flow monitoring, and electrical improvements at the Coon's Point Pumpstation and the generator is to be replaced at the Shaker Road Station.

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 will any and all our projects.

Ballot #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

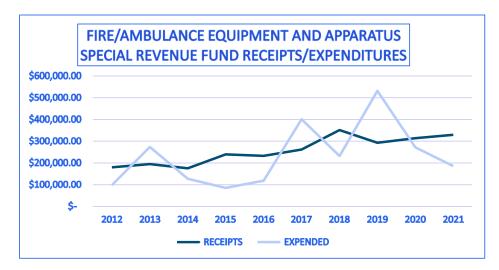
**Ballot #8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Six Dollars (\$60,776) for the sixth year's payment on the long term lease/purchase agreement entered into in 2016 for the purchase of a new pumper truck for the Fire Department, and to 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.)

**Ballot #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

In 2011 the Town began authorizing a portion of the revenues received from ambulance billing to offset the expenditures directly related to the Fire Department and operation of the Ambulance. Revenues accumulated from billings through December 31, 2021; \$618,778.46.



**Ballot #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- F o u r 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.)

In the spring of 2016, the Town of Belmont entered into an intermunicipal agreement with the City of Laconia for the shared services of a Fire Chief; at that time one of the command vehicles used by the department was decommissioned and transferred to the Highway Department. The department has since run with only

one command vehicle and the Deputy Chief has shared use of the department's pickup truck when needed. When presented with the request to purchase a second command vehicle, the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee supported the request. Funds for the purchase are to come from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund.

**Ballot #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.)

In 2021, the City of Laconia took out of service the shared boat that was being used on Lake Winnisquam as a result the Fire Chief proposed the purchase of a new boat for the Belmont Fire Department. Following discussion with the Selectmen, the Chief recommended a package which included two boats as described below:

Lake boat is a: INMAR Rescue Boat 18'1" RHI Red 90HP Suzuki Outboard Motor Hydraulic Console Steer Motorola Fire Radio Misc. Tow Rope and Dock Lines Small Pond and Rivers: Quick deploy to remote location and small body of water. INMAR Rescue Boat 14' 30HP Tohatsu Full Inflatable Both boats come with lettering, Trailers out of Heavy-Duty Aluminum, Fill Hose system and CGA Connection.

To help fund the project, the Town applied to the GOFERR Locality Equipment Matching Program and was awarded a grant in the amount of \$50,000; the balance of the purchase price will come from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund.

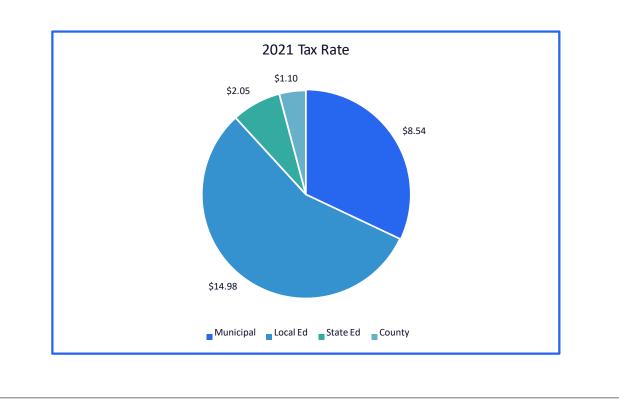
**Ballot #12.** To see if the Town will vote to amend, pursuant to RSA 72:81, the new construction property tax exemption for commercial and industrial uses (as defined in RSA 72:80) originally adopted in 2018 to incorporate legislative changes adopted in 2019. Specifically, the percentage and duration 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.

#### This article proposes to update changes in the enacting language approved by the legislature in 2019.

**Ballot #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 Nine Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Six Hundred Sixteen Dollars (\$8,965,616)? 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.)

Article #13, the Operating Budget article, was amended at the Town's Deliberative Session to add \$150,000 for the purposes of funding a fulltime Director's position for Parks and Recreation and the associated costs for programs. The amended operating budget amount proposed is \$8,965,616.



<b>Operating Budget</b>			
	2022	2022	
Department	Proposed	Default	
Executive	337,486	325,671	
Town Clerk Functions	116,896	115,161	
Elections	11,400	11,400	
Financial Administration	243,188	245,270	
<b>Revaluation of Property</b>	70,881	74,043	
Legal	35,000	35,000	
Planning & Zoning	375,905	345,384	
General Gov. Buildings	425,640	380,122	
Cemetery	20,000	14,500	
Insurance	240,683	240,683	
Police	2,437,942	2,362,156	
Fire	1,785,038	1,721,135	
Building Inspection	113,406	107,699	
Emergency Management	5,000	5,000	
Public Works Admin.	75,898	72,410	
Highways & Streets	1,169,564	1,126,753	
Street Lights	13,000	11,000	
Solid Waste Admin	16,170	16,171	
Solid Waste Collection*	270,587	262,706	
Solid Waste Disposal	172,056	167,088	
Health Appropriations	69,391	68,891	
Gen. Asst. Administration	84,712	83,487	
Gen. Asst. Vendor Payments	104,400	110,600	
Recreation	162,838	7,850	
Library	196,548	189,318	
Patriotic Purposes Inc. Heritage Op.	16,403	16,403	
Conservation Commission	16,380	13,976	
Long Term Debt	267,658	267,658	
Long Term Interest	91,945	91,945	
TAN Interest	1	1	
Capital Improv Except Buildings			
(Environmental Contingency)	20,000	20,000	
Total	8,965,616	8,509,480	

Source of Revenue	Actual Revenues Unaudited 2021	Proposed Revenues 2022
Taxes	2021	2022
Timber Taxes	7,709	7,700
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	28,274	21,200
Other Taxes - Boat Taxes	20,174	20,000
Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	134,278	135,000
Excavation Tax (.02 cents per cu. Yd.)	10,306	10,000
Licenses, Permits & Fees		,
Business Licenses & Permits	48,309	47,000
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	1,739,714	1,700,000
Building Permits	47,832	45,000
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	67,848	58,000
From State		
Shared Revenues	0	0
Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	539,565	539,565
Highway Block Grant	190,931	190,509
Water Pollution Grant	6,316	6,240
Housing & Community Development (CDFA)		
State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	9	9
Other (Including Railroad Tax, and Grant Inc.)	116,300	1,884
From Other Governments*		
Charges for Services		
Income from Departments	264,512	250,000
Other Charges		
Miscellaneous Revenues		
Sale of Municipal Property	28,542	25,000
Interest on Investments	7,388	6,000
Other (Dividends/Reimbursements)	104,570	99,026
Interfund Operating Transfers In		
From Special Revenue Funds*	60,776	160,337
From Enterprise Funds		
Sewer - (offset)	526,800	542,220
Water - (offset)	368,775	381,975
From Trust and Fiduciary Funds		
From Capital Reserve Funds		
Other Financing Sources		
Proc. From Long-term Bonds & Notes		3,553,600
Amounts Voted from F/B (Surplus)	107,500	80,000
Fund Balance ("Surplus") to reduce taxes	250,000	
Total Estimated Revenue & Credits	4,676,428	8,568,665

**Ballot #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 balance in the Capital Reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$19,277.30.

**Ballot #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 balance in the Capital Reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$1,483,478.74. Work is proposed to include the reconstruction of Seavey Road from Wildlife Boulevard to Church Hill as well as final pavement for Plummer Hill and other shims and overlays.

**Ballot #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 balance in the Capital Reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$178,036.36.

**Ballot #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 balance in the Capital Reserve account as of 12/31/2021 is \$81,518.92.

**Ballot #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.)

**Ballot #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 balance in the Heritage Fund as of 12/31/2021 is \$41,828.63. We'd like to thank the Heritage Commission for their contribution to banner replacements on Main Street this past year.

**Ballot #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 balance in the Expendable Trust as of 12/31/2021 is \$7,985.88; the total accrued liability as of 1/1/2022 is in excess of \$306,000 due to anticipated long-term employee retirements over the next several years.

**Ballot #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.)

**Ballot #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 user 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.)

**Ballot #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 balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2021 is \$36,054.78. It is the intention of the Board of Selectmen to retain assessing services to conduct a statistical update the next two years, 2022 and 2023, to bring our assessments more in line with current Market Value. The 2021 Equalization Ratio established by the Department of Revenue using sales data submitted by the Town is 67.8%, which means that assessed values in the community are approximately 30% **BELOW** market value which is confirmed by the property transfers taking place.

**Ballot #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 balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2021 is \$164,777.60.

**Ballot #25.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty- F i v e 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 balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2021 is \$309,006.23.

**Ballot #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 balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2021 is \$193,487.08. This fund is an important tool used to by the Town to cover unanticipated maintenance items in Town owned buildings and funds have been used to renovate the Belmont Mill in anticipation of Town Hall moving to the building in the future. As recently noted during the Town's Deliberative Session, the numerous Capital Reserve accounts previously established by the Town act as Savings Accounts and serve as an important management tool.

**Ballot #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 balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2021 is \$20,005.01.

**Ballot #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.)

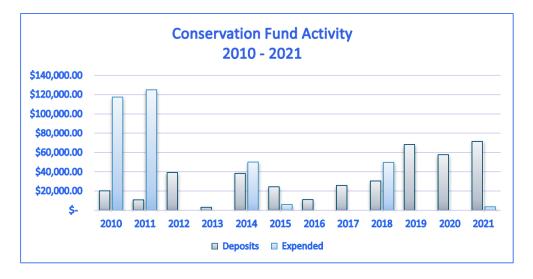
The balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2021 is \$500.88; funds were used in 2021 to repair portions of the road.

**Ballot #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 balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2021 is \$24,758.49. The Cemetery Trustees are named as agents to expend from this fund.

**Ballot #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.



#### The current balance in the Conservation Fund as of 12/31/2021 is \$327,030.86.

**Ballot #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.)

**Ballot #32.** To see if the Town of Belmont, New Hampshire, will vote to prohibit any local law, rule or policy imposing medical protections 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 bypetition.)

**Ballot #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. (This article submitted by petition.)

**Ballot #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.)

**Ballot #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 either by hand in full view of the public or with the assistance of ballot counting machines, whichever the Selectmen deem most appropriate. (This article submitted by petition.)

**Ballot #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. (This article submitted by petition.)

**Ballot #37.** Are you in favor of increasing the Board of Selectmen from 3 members to 5 members? (This article submitted by petition.)

**Ballot #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.)

Proposed Appropriations	\$15,675,896
Proposed Budget Amendment	\$ 150,000
Projected Revenue	\$ (8,568,665)
Reserved for Abatements (Overlay)	\$ 75,000
War Service Credits	\$ 249,900
Unexpended Fund Balance Applied	\$ (250,000)
Assessed Value Used to Calculate	740,987

\$7,332,131 / 737,545 = \$9.90 an increase of \$1.36 w/o Assessment Adjustments

\$7,332,131/926,233 = \$7.92 a decrease of .62 cents with Assessment Adjustments

NOTE: Both calculations include the proposed budget amendment of \$150,000 for Parks and Recreation.

Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility Bond Impact per \$1,000 of Assessed Value \$.18 cents.

Sewer Pumpstation Improvements Bond Impact per \$1,000 of Assessed Value \$.12 cents.

Bond repayment schedules would begin in 2023.

# TOWN OF BELMONT SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION AND BALLOT VOTING BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL GYM 265 Seavey Road

**MARCH 8, 2022** 

# POLLS OPEN AT 7:00 A.M. AND CLOSE AT 7:00 P.M.

## **Town Clerk's Corner**

No matter how long the winter, Spring is sure to follow which means Town Elections.

Town Elections will be held on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at Belmont High School, located at 255 Seavey Road, from 7 AM-7 PM. You will be able to cast your vote for both the town and school warrant articles. For our residents inquiring about absentee ballots, please send a written request for the town ballot to our office, the school ballot needs to be requested at the Sau office. Your request will need to have your voting address, mailing address, be signed and dated. We will then mail your ballot to the address you requested. Please



remember to keep in mind the mailing time. If you would prefer to obtain your request in person, you may stop by the Town Hall.

Residents that are new voters in town, we will not be able to accept new voter registrations in our office until after the elections. You will be able to register to vote at the polls, just remember to bring your valid government issued ID and proof of residency.

Don't forget to pick up your Town of Belmont Voter's Guide at Town Hall or online at <u>www.belmontnh.org</u>. This guide may be brought into the polls to assist you while voting.



March also means time for the first issue water/sewer bill to soon be on its way. The first issue water/sewer bill covers the months of December, January and February. They will be due toward the beginning of April, and within 30 days of being billed. As a reminder, you may pay

this in person, by mail, our front door drop box or online at <u>www.belmontnh.org</u>.

Delinquent notices are set to go out this month as well. These notices are intended to make residents aware of any unpaid balances on tax, water and/or sewer from 2021. This helps residents bring their accounts up to date as we approach the time of year when the Tax Collector executes the lien. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Just a reminder that dog renewals are due to be renewed for the 2022 year by April 30<sup>th</sup>. You may renew them in person, mail, or online at <u>www.belmontnh.org</u>, with your dog's current tag number from 2021. If you have a new puppy, we will need a copy of your current rabies vaccination paperwork. Senior dog owners that are 65+, your home will be able to license one dog for \$2.00. All al-

tered 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.

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.

#### <u>Thefts</u>

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.



# **BFD** Times

# CONGRATULATIONS FIREFIGHTER PHILLIPS:



Congratulations to Firefighter Nathan Phillips for completing his probation! Firefighter Phillips started with our department in August of 2021 and has passed his probationary requirements with flying colors. Congratulations Firefighter Phillips! Keep up the good work!

#### **Highway Department News**

#### **Road Postings**

In an effort to protect the integrity of town-maintained roads the Town of Belmont limits weight to 6 Tons on select roads that show a high level of structural impact during the time that frost is leaving the road base. A complete list of posted roads can be found on the Town website and will be printed in the local newspaper days prior to actual posting. Please respect the posted weight limits and give the roads time to thaw without the excess weight of heavy vehicles that could potentially cause damage. Feel free to check with the Public Works Department for up to date information regarding postings and exemptions.

#### Mud Season

Spring is just around the corner and with milder temps comes an unofficial fifth season, Mud Season. The Town of Belmont Maintains approximately 10 miles of dirt roads throughout town. When temperatures rise enough to melt the snow and ice on and near them it creates muddy road conditions. As you can imagine, this always seems to happen on every road in town at the same time. The Public Works Team monitors conditions on a daily basis and is prepared to respond in the event roads become difficult to pass. We ask that as conditions worsen, motorists who have the ability to seek an alternate route during this short period of time exercise good judgement and do so. It may add a few extra minutes to your commute but could help prevent damage to Town Roads or your vehicle, at the very least a short detour could save some time at the carwash.







Before you dig, remember to call DigSafe Not only is it safe, **IT'S THE LAW!** 



#### **Code Enforcement News**

As a PSA reminder, please make sure you remember the following guidelines:

- Please remember that all RVs must maintain registration and inspection while parked on your property and you are allowed only one. If you keep and maintain more than one RV, your property will fall into a contractor's yard category and you will to need to make sure this is allowed in your zone and apply for a change of use if necessary. I am seeing properties with upwards of five RV's on them now that the leaves are off the trees. If this is you, you will be seeing your friendly Code Enforcement Officer. In addition, vacant property can not house RVs indefinitely. You are only allowed 45 days on a vacant lot in a calendar year.
- Belmont homeowners. It is a violation to plow snow across town roads. Not only is significant snow/ slush/ice left in the roadway, but you remove the treatments the town has put down on the roads. You need to plow into your driveway, not out and across the road please.
- Belmont residents with an abundance of scrap metal on your property. There are numerous local companies who will be willing to come get your scrap metal, end of life cars, abandoned RVs, etc. Many times, if there is enough heavy metal, they will do it for little to no cost. If you have scrap metal to get rid of and need help finding someone to do it, please contact me and I can give you local companies to work with.

From your Friendly Code Enforcement Officer

Mark Ekberg



#### March 2022

Land Use

# In this issue >>>

ARC – 2/24/22 Planning Board – 2/28/22 Zoning Board – 2/23/22



A Monthly Insight into the happenings in Belmont Land Use

4 R (

# **February Meetings**

Your Land Use Staff

and,

Elaine Murphy Administrative Assistant Vacant Land Use Technician Colleen Akerman Building & Land Use Clerk Sarah Whearty Town Planner

For additional Land Use Information: Visit <u>www.belmontnh.org</u>

Contact landuse@belmontnh.org

Call 267-8300 x 119



#### **Application Review Committee (2/24/2022)**

**<u>46 Horne Road LLC:</u>** Request for Subdivision Review to subdivide one lot into nine residential lots. Property is located in the Rural Zone, at 46 Horne Road, Tax Lot 218-119-000 -000, #11-22R.

**Lakeview at Belmont LLC:** Request for ten, 2-bedroom detached condominium units in an Open Space Subdivision with 20'-wide driveway with a Town hammerhead turnaround. Four single-family, residential lots, common area, and convertible area while maintaining the golf course. Property is located at 89 Ladd Hill Road, Tax Lots 201-066-000-000 & 201-067-000-000 in the Rural Zone. #09-22R

Grenier Family Revocable Trust: Request for Site Plan Review for a commercial building and associated site improvements for a trailer sales/repair facility. Property is located in the Industrial Zone within the Aquifer Protection District, on Deport Street, Tax Lot 235 -032-000-000, #10-22R.

>>> Next Meeting: March 24, 2022, 8:00AM

#### Planning Board (2/28/2022)

**Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Ward Peterson:** Request for Site Plan approval for a Contractor's Yard. Property is located at 661 Province Road, Tax Lot 226-074-000-000 in the "R" Zone. #02-22P.

<u>Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Aranosian Oil Company:</u> Request for a one-year extension (2/22/23) of a previously approved Site Plan 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. #04-22P.

**Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Matthew & Heather Gault:** Request for Site Plan approval for Contractor's Yard, storage of equipment trailers, aluminum frames, and pressure treated lumber. Property is located at 682 Laconia Road, Tax Lot 230 -043-000-000 in the "C" Zone. #08-22P



Land Use (Cont.)

#### Planning Board (2/28/2022)

<u>Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Route 106 Realty Trust:</u> Request to amend a previously approved Site Plan to include a Conditional Use Permit for a subordinate dwelling unit. Property is located at 26&36 Laconia Road, Tax Lots 205-050-000-000, 205-052-000-000 & 205-054-000-000 in the "C" Zone. #03-22P.

<u>Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Route 106 Realty Trust:</u> Request for Site Plan approval for a Contractor's Yard (limo service) and a Conditional Use Permit for a subordinate dwelling unit. Property is located on Laconia Road, Tax Lot 217-108-000-000 in the "C" Zone. #05-22P.

**Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Route 106 Realty Trust:** Request for Site Plan approval for Contractor's Yard, commercial building (motor vehicle & trailer service, professional offices, light manufacturing, retail stores and service business), and a Conditional Use Permit for a subordinate <u>dwelling unit</u>. Property is located on Laconia Road & 28 Corriveau Way, Tax Lot 217-114-000-000 in the "C" Zone. #06-22P.

Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Vault Motor Storage: Request for Site Plan approval for a 2-story, self-storage facility with an accessory structure. Property is located at 1213 Laconia Road, Tax Lot 241-006-000-000 in the "I" Zone. PB #0922P.

**Design Review** - Lakeview at Belmont, LLC: Discussion only of a request for ten, 2- bedroom detached condominium units in an Open Space Subdivision with 20'-wide driveway with a Town hammerhead turnaround. Four single-family, residential lots, common area, and convertible area while maintaining the golf course. Property is located at 89 Ladd Hill Road, Tax Lots 201-066-000-000 & 201-067-000-000 in the "R" Zone. #07-22P.

#### >>> Next Meeting: March 28, 2022, 6:00PM

#### Zoning Board of Adjustment (2/23/2022)

Abutters' Hearing –Ward & Cynthia Peterson: Request for a Special Exception of Article 5 Table 1 of the Zoning Ordinance to allow a Contractor's Yard in the "R" zone. Property is located at 661 Province Road, Tax Lot 226-074-000-000, ZBA # 0322Z.

Abutters' Hearing - David & LeeAnn Fay Ellis: Request for three Variances of Article 5 Table 2 of the Zoning Ordinance.

- a. To replace a manufactured unit closer (23') to Perkins Road than allowed (50'). #04-22Z.
- b. To replace a manufactured unit closer (26') to Welcome Road than allowed (50') but not closer than the former unit (10'+), but the square footage increase in the setback exceeds 40%. #05-22Z
- c. For a deck closer (18') to Welcome Road than allowed (50'). #06-22Z.

Property is located at 3 Welcome Road in an "RM" Zone, Tax Lot 121-026-000-000.

<u>Abutters' Hearing – Route 106 Realty Trust:</u> Request for a Variance of Article 5 Table 1 of the Zoning Ordinance to construct a single-family residence in the "C" zone. Property is located at 54 Peggy Drive, Tax Lot 210-017-000-000, #07-22Z.

#### >>> Next Meeting: March 23, 2022, 6:00PM

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RPC REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS AS.S

The Lakes Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) project is launching a community survey, that encourages residents to share what impact the housing situation has had on them; what has worked, and what changes might be beneficial to communities and residents.

The link to the Lakes Region's Housing Needs Survey is available at:

https://arcg.is/1a8Xji

#### March 2022

### **Library News**

# SPARK JOY® A KONMARI® METHOD WORKSHOP



Lead a life that Sparks Joy®! Shannon Honeycutt, founder of Spark Joy® Charlotte and certified Silver level KonMari® Consultant trained by tidying expert Marie Kondo will be bringing the life-changing magic of tidying to you through her SparkJoy® program. You will learn the KonMari® philosophy and guiding principles needed to tidy once and for all. There will be a special giveaway at the end of the presentation, as well as an opportunity for you to ask Shannon questions. She is also requesting you bring a standard t-shirt and a pair of pants for the KonMari® Vertical folding activity. AND please print out and bring with you the Spark Joy® Charlotte tidying checklist that Shannon is sharing with you!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30TH 7:00-8:30PM This is a virtual program & registration is required



# Register at rebrand.ly/sparkjoy Zoom link & tidying checklist p Brought to you by: **Belmont Public Library** Hall Memorial Library Meredith Public Library Minot-Sleeper Public Library Sanbornton Public Library **Spark Joy** KonMari Gold **Charlotte** Consultant **Easily listen to Belmont** Public hoopin in the car! Library Apple CarPlay androidauto

146 Main Street / Belmontpubliclibrary.org / 267-8331 / <u>circulation@belmontpubliclibrary.org</u> Monday Friday 10-5 Tuesday Wednesday Thursday 10-6 Saturday 9-1 Check the library website for updated information on all events.

Winter Reading Wrap Party Saturday March 5th 9-1pm

Children's Programs Break March 14-March 26 Book Groups *Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law* by Mary Roach March 10th @ 1pm *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman March 18th @ 10:30am

Friends meeting March 9th @ 2pm

#### **Current attraction passes**

- McAuliffe-Shepard
  Discovery Center
- Strawbery Banke (BEST PTO)
- NH State Parks (Friends)
- Seacoast Science Center (BEST PTO)

#### **Cemetery Trustees**

#### **Cemetery of the Month**

If you are out for a brisk walk about town, check out the cemetery at the top of Church Hill next to the First Baptist Church. In all her beauty with a warn and cracked white fence, she is bold and if you walk around inside you can read what she has to say.

Highland Cemetery first known as Upper Gilmanton Union Cemetery is said to be created in 1811 and is now largely filled, with no remaining lots for sale.

The earliest burial is John Swett who died June 11, 1794 in the 32 year of his age. His death was caused by the fall of a tree. The dates suggest that he and his stone were moved here after the cemetery creation.

The last person Buried at this cemetery is Wallace Rhodes who wrote and edited "Reminiscences of a New Hampshire Town" published as part of a year-long 1969 Belmont Centennial celebration. This is a book we reference for information about our cemeteries. He was buried in July of 2017.

There are 11 Veterans buried there the received wreaths as part of the Wreaths Across America Project this past December including Philip Oakleigh Swain. He was Killed in Action on March 25,1945 in at the age of 18 in Wesel Germany.

There are roughly 320 people buried here and is the second largest cemetery in Belmont.

Spring is right around the corner we are very excited for a new season!

Sharon Cíampí Norma Patten Díane Marden



(Photo credit Wallace Rhodes)



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

<u>administration@belmontnh.org</u> to get on our distribution list. We also will occasionally send out other important information via email when necessary.





# **ZERO-SORT**<sup>®</sup> 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 Bottles, Jugs, Tubs, & Lids (Empty kitchen, laundry, & bath containers)



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



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

# **NOT ACCEPTED**

Plastic bags, bagged recyclables, clothing/textiles, food waste/liquids, tanglers such as rope or hoses, scrap metal, batteries of any kind, electronics, wood, medical waste, hazardous materials, explosives, toys, hangers, shoes, waxy 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, stirers, coffee pods, ceramics, or baking glass



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

