

Our Community Newsletter

BELMONT



Town Administrator's Monthly Report

Dear Belmont Residents:

This year marks the Town of Belmont's 13th 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, January 30th. 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 only one article was 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 9, 2021 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 (www.belmontnh.org). 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) 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.

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.

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Ballot #1.

Selectman three-year term (vote for one):

George Condodemetraky
Ruth P. Mooney

Budget Committee three-year term (vote for four):

Justin David Borden
Kenneth Ellis
Mark Roberts

Cemetery Trustee three-year term (vote for one):

Sharon Ciampi

Trustee of Trust Funds three-year term (vote for one):

David Caron

Library Trustee three-year term (vote for one):

Teresa Elliott

Planning Board three-year term (vote for two):

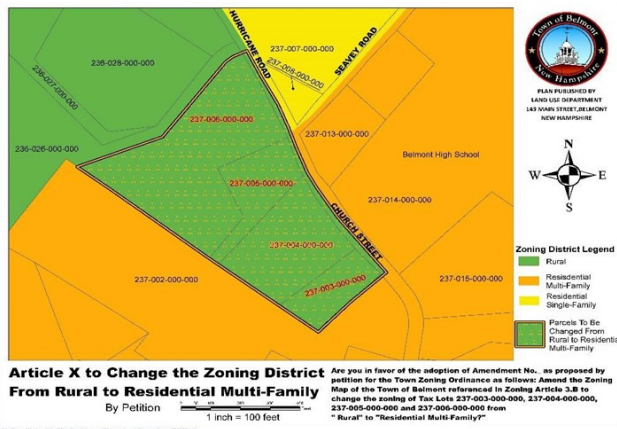
Gary J. Grant
Kevin Sturgeon

Supervisor of the Checklist six-year term (vote for one):

Nikki Wheeler

Zoning Board three-year term (vote for two):

Sharon Ciampi
David Dunham
John Froumy



Ballot #2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by Petition for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amend the Zoning Map of the Town of Belmont referenced in Zoning Ballot 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 Multi-Family"?

(This Ballot was submitted by Petition and is **not** recommended by the Planning Board and is **not** recommended by the Board of Selectmen.)

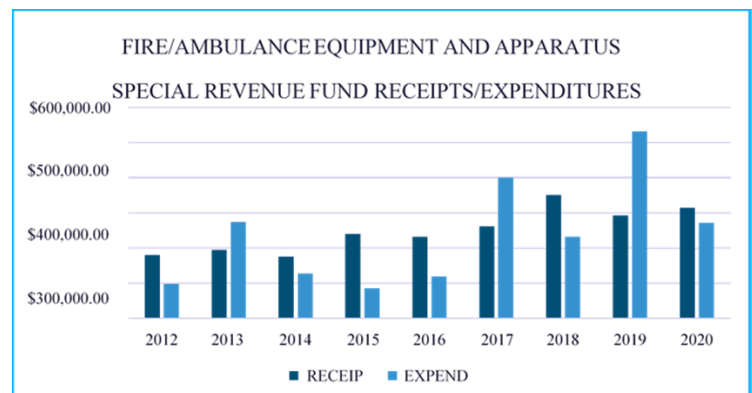
Ballot #3. To see if the Town is in favor of increasing the number of Library Trustees from 3 to 5; if this Ballot passes, 2 additional Library Trustees will be elected at the 2022 Town Meeting, one for a one-year term and one for a two-year term.

Ballot #4. To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken on Ballot 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 2021 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 2021 budgetary year. **(A 2/3 Ballot Vote Required).**

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, 2020; \$491,065.



Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Ballot #5. 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 Ballot 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 #6. 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?

First Baptist Church of Belmont Food Pantry	\$11,639.10
Saint Joseph Food Pantry	\$11,639.10
Total Funds to be distributed	\$23,278.20

According to statistics from the NH Food Bank:

- Since the spread of COVID-19 there are approximately 1 in 7 men, women and children in New Hampshire who are food insecure, meaning they do not know when or where their next meal will come from.
- A projected 55,000 additional people are food insecure and in total more than 181,090 across the state, a 69% increase
- In New Hampshire, an estimated 21-23% of children are living in food insecure environments due to COVID-19.

Because of these facts, the committee felt that during these times, the best use of the funds was to make sure the people in our community had access to food. Our two local food pantries are a direct resource.

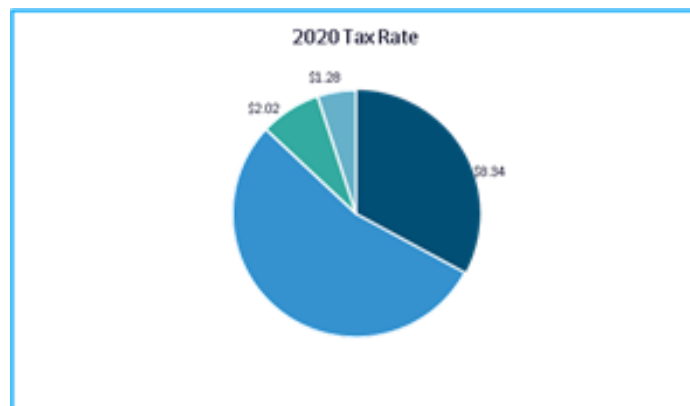
First Baptist Church Food Pantry
Hours— Tuesday 9:30–11:30 & 6:30–7:30
Friday & Saturday 10:00–1:00

St. Joseph Food Pantry
Hours— Friday 9:00–11:00

Ballot #7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant Ballots 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 Two Hundred Sixty-Four Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-One Dollars (\$8,264,371)? Should this Ballot be defeated, the default budget shall be Eight Million Four Hundred Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Nine Dollars (\$8,412,469) 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 Ballot (operating budget) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant Ballot.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$8,264,371 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)



Town Clerk Cynthia DeRoy, getting prepared for the 2020 Primary and General Elections. We would again like to thank the dedicated staff who worked the polls last year. As we look towards Town Meeting Day, we remind everyone that social distancing and masks are still the new normal.

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Operating Budget

Department	2021 Proposed	2021 Default
Executive	315,408	325,726
Town Clerk Functions	109,969	111,009
Elections	5,880	5,880
Financial Administration	225,628	220,752
Revaluation of Property	73,645	61,012
Legal	35,000	35,000
Planning & Zoning	325,957	324,267
General Gov. Buildings	372,018	366,111
Cemetery	14,500	20,000
Insurance	215,643	215,643
Police	2,323,964	2,313,699
Fire	1,692,248	1,672,488
Building Inspection	103,080	104,785
Emergency Management	5,000	3,000
Public Works Admin.	70,905	70,360
Highways & Streets	1,060,692	1,147,732
Street Lights	11,000	10,750
Solid Waste Admin	16,171	13,130
Solid Waste Collection*	262,706	255,054
Solid Waste Disposal	167,088	155,457
Health Appropriations	68,891	68,891
Gen. Asst. Administration	82,162	81,021
Gen. Asst. Vendor Payments	110,600	112,650
Recreation	7,850	121,577
Library	175,822	174,818
Patriotic Purposes Inc. Heritage	16,403	25,056
Conservation Commission	13,742	24,203
Long Term Debt	255,991	255,991
Long Term Interest	106,407	106,407
TAN Interest	1	1
Capital Improv Except Buildings (Environmental Contingency)	20,000	10,000
Total	8,264,371	8,412,469

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Source of Revenue	Actual Revenues Unaudited 2020	Proposed Revenues 2021
Taxes		
Timber Taxes	13,971	13,500
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	21,283	21,200
Other Taxes - Boat Taxes	22,326	22,000
Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	128,863	150,000
Excavation Tax (.02 cents per cu. Yd.)	10,779	10,000
Licenses, Permits & Fees		
Business Licenses & Permits	1,495	1,500
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	1,574,421	1,500,000
Building Permits	43,790	40,000
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	105,895	105,000
From State		
Shared Revenues	147,756	0
Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	372,082	372,082
Highway Block Grant	195,420	191,686
Water Pollution Grant	6,240	6,240
Housing & Community Development (CDFA)		
State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	10	9
Other (Including Railroad Tax, and Grant Inc.)	1,884	1,884
From Other Governments*		
Charges for Services		
Income from Departments	236,039	250,000
Other Charges	1,555	
Miscellaneous Revenues		
Sale of Municipal Property	45,073	50,000
Interest on Investments	20,019	15,000
Other (Dividends/Reimbursements)	63,723	25,000
Interfund Operating Transfers		
In		
From Special Revenue Funds*	81,278	60,776
From Enterprise Funds		
Sewer - (offset)	514,833	526,800
Water - (offset)	349,937	368,775
From Trust and Fiduciary Funds		
From Capital Reserve Funds		
Other Financing Sources		
Proc. From Long-term Bonds & Notes	3,500,000	
Amounts Voted from F/B (Surplus)	30,000	107,500

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Fund Balance ("Surplus") to reduce taxes	350,000	350,000
Total Estimated Revenue & Credits	7,748,740	4,188,952

Ballot #8. 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 supports this recommendation.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: .08 cents Current Balance in the account: \$93,311.43

Ballot #9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be placed in the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund previously established (2007), and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$30,000 from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2020.

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$30,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: .04 cents Current Balance in the account: \$29,292.39

Ballot #10. 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.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: Less than a penny Current Balance in the account: \$17,77.73



Deliberative Session Practicing Social Distancing

Ballot #11. 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.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: 1.02 Current Balance in the account: \$1,017,966.75

In the late fall of 2020, the Town hired Underwood Engineering to undertake engineering and design of roadway improvements in Solar Village (Sunshine Drive & Silkwood Avenue) and for Plummer Hill Road. We anticipate the work to be complete in late Spring at which time the Board of Selectmen and Public Works Department will review the plans, preliminary cost estimates for the work and then put the projects out to bid. In addition to these projects, the Public Works Department routinely recommends other roadways for necessary shim and overlay work.

Ballot #12. 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 supports this recommendation.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: .03 cents Current Balance in the account: \$153,004.42

Ballot #13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Sixty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$268,775) 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 Ballot be defeated, the default budget shall be Two Hundred Sixty-Four Thousand Twenty-Four Dollars (\$264,024) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law.

(The Budget Committee recommends **\$268,775** and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Ballot #14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Forty Dollars (\$533,040) 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 Ballot be defeated, the default budget shall be Five Hundred Twenty-Eight Thousand Five Dollars (\$528,005) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or bylaw.

(The Budget Committee recommends **\$533,040** and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Ballot #15. 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 Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2005).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$25,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: .03 cents Current Balance in the account: \$12,482.26

Ballot #16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Ninety-One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars (\$191,686) 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 **\$191,686** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Ballot #17. 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.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: Less than a penny Current Balance in the account: \$39,992

Ballot #18. 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 recommends **\$100,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

This appropriation is funded through Water User fees; the current balance in the Capital Reserve is \$92,986.70. Over the next few years, the Town will be required to monitor closely PFAS and manganese levels in our water supply.

Ballot #19. 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 recommends **\$25,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: .03 cents Current Balance in the account: \$283,947.07

Ballot #20. 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 Municipal Facilities Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$100,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: .13 cents Current Balance in the account: \$176,992.27

During the Town's Deliberative Session on Saturday, January 30th, a community member inquired about the Selectmen's authority to expend from the fund; below is the article that was voted on at the Town's 2006 Annual Town Meeting.

2006 ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of a Municipal Facility and to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000) to be placed in this fund, and further, to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend money from this fund.

Ballot #21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) to be placed in the Election Equipment Expendable Trust Fund previously established (2020).

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

2021 Tax Rate Impact: Less than a penny Current Balance in the account: \$5,000

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Ballot #22. To see if the Town will vote to establish a Public Health and Safety Expendable Trust Fund pursuant to RSA 31:19-a for the purposes of supporting the Town's response to public health, general welfare and public safety emergencies and to raise and appropriate Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) into said Fund, such amount to come from unassigned fund balance; and further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend the fund. (Majority vote required.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: -0-

The Town of Belmont worked closely with the State of NH this past year to receive funds from the GOEFFR program. Most of the funds were used directly to reimburse the Town for pandemic related expenses such as Personal Protective Equipment, sanitizing supplies, parking and visitor oversight at the Belmont Beach and staff costs directly related to providing emergency services. In light of these unexpected needs in 2020 and the uncertainty of 2021, the Selectmen proposed creating an Expendable Trust Fund for future expenses related to Public Health and Safety. The fund is to be funded through unassigned fund balance.

Ballot #23. To see if the Town will vote to establish a Durrell Mountain Road Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of maintaining Durrell Mountain Road and to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500) to be placed in this fund, such amount to come from unassigned fund balance; and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$7,500 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: -0-

The establishment of a Capital Reserve for the maintenance of Durrell Mountain Road was part of an agreement reached in 2019 with the owners of the gravel pit located in Gilford at the end of Durrell Mountain Road. Year one we receive \$2,500 and in subsequent years the pit owner will contribute \$5,000 to be placed in the account. This article represents years one and two and the establishment of the fund.

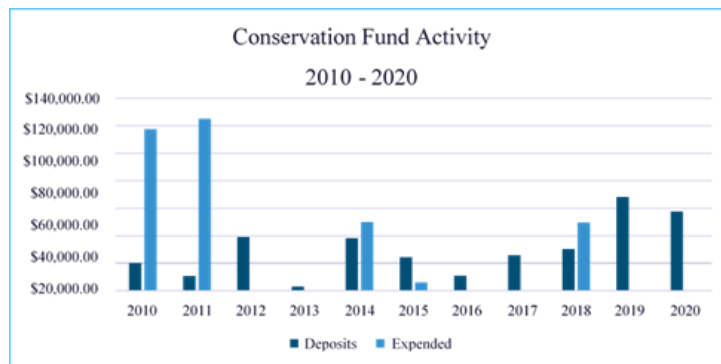
Ballot #24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be placed in the Information Technology Non-Capital reserve account previously established (2002), and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$20,000 from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2020.

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$20,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

2021 Tax Rate Impact: -0- Current Balance in the account: \$2.11

In 2018 there was a weather event which qualified for FEMA reimbursement; during that event the town lost internet services town-wide for a number of days and there was significant tree damage. When the funds were received from FEMA, the Board held a public hearing to accept the funds and set them aside to be used for a Fiber Optic project, unfortunately the Town did not receive a grant it had hoped for to assist in the project. At this time the Selectmen are recommending the funds lapse to fund balance and be reappropriated to the Information Technology Non-Capital Reserve Fund; this will allow them to be set aside indefinitely for any technology project.

Ballot #25. To see if the Town will vote to reduce the percentage of the Land Use Change Tax collected pursuant to RSA 79-A:25 that is deposited into the existing Conservation Fund from 100% to 50%. If adopted this Ballot shall take effect April 1st, and shall remain in effect until altered or rescinded by a future vote of the Town Meeting. (Majority vote required).



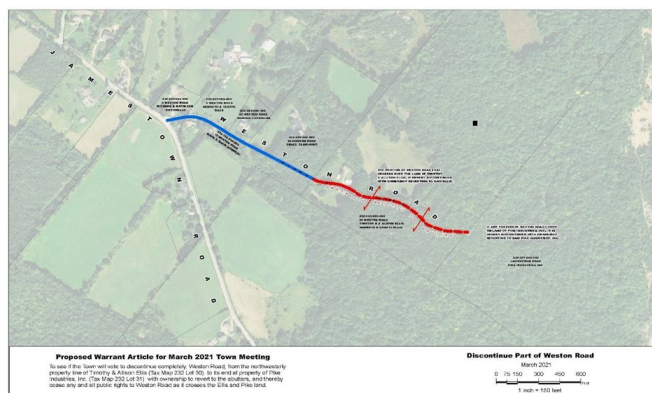
Current Balance in the account: \$259,241

Ballot #26. To see if the Town will vote to notify the New Hampshire General Court of its requirements for nonpartisan fair redistricting. The New Hampshire General Court is obligated to redraw the maps of political districts within the State following the federal census which was recently completed. Belmont NH voters require fair and effective representation of New Hampshire voters in the redistricting process without gerrymandering. Additionally, these voters ask the Town of Belmont, NH to have the NH General Court carry out the redistricting in a fair and transparent way through public meetings, not to favor a particular political party, to include communities of interest, and to minimize multi-seat districts.

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

The record of the vote approving this Ballot shall be transmitted by written notice from the Town Administrator to Belmont NH's state legislators, informing them of the demands from their constituents within 30 days of the vote. **(This Ballot submitted by Petition.)**

Ballot #27. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue completely, Weston Road, from the northwesterly property line of Timothy & Allison Ellis (Tax Map 232 Lot 30) to its end at property of Pike Industries, Inc. (Tax Map 232 Lot 31) with ownership to revert to the abutters, and thereby cease any an all-public right to Weston Road as it crosses the Ellis and Pike Land. Discontinuance is conditional upon Timothy & Allison Ellis providing an appropriate turn-around easement for road maintenance and emergency vehicles. **(This Ballot submitted by Petition.)**



This article was amended during the Deliberative Session on Saturday, January 30th; the change is highlighted in the article above.

Proposed Appropriations	\$10,519,148
Projected Revenue	\$ (3,838,952)
Reserved for Abatements (Overlay)	\$ 50,000
War Service Credits	\$ 253,700
Unexpended Fund Balance Applied	\$ (350,000)
Assessed Value Used to Calculate	737,545
$\$6,633,896 / 737,545 = \8.99 an increase of .65 cents	
.30 cents	Impact of PD Bond Debt
.35 cents	Impact of budget exclusive of the bond

TOWN OF BELMONT SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

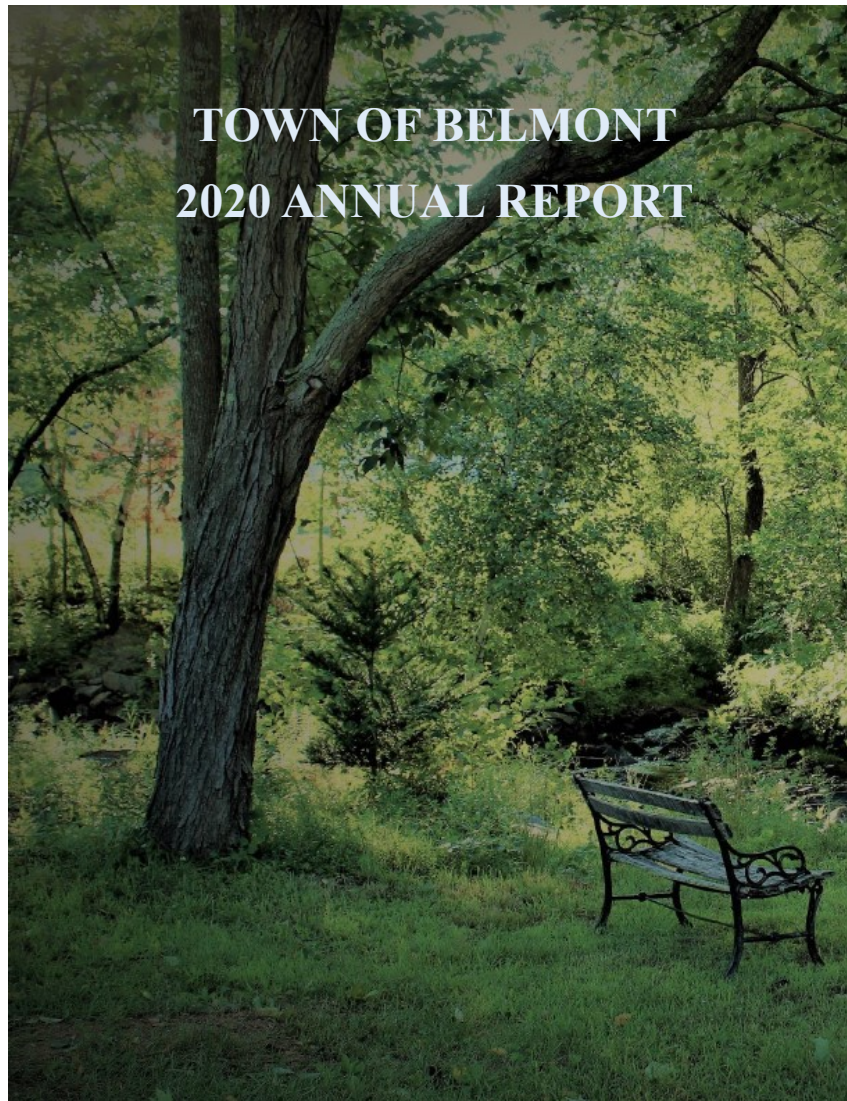
ELECTION AND BALLOT VOTING BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL GYM

265 Seavey Road

MARCH 9, 2021

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

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)



Town Hall might be closed to the public for a bit longer but, our digital copy of the Annual Town Report is now available. [Click here](#) to open.

A shout out to Lisa Fontaine-Storez for our beautiful cover photo.

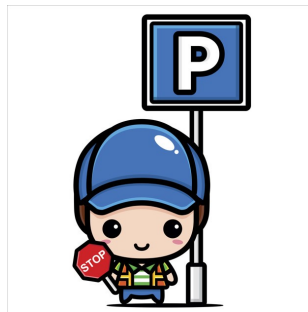
Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

We are Hiring!



Old Home Day Coordinator

The Town of Belmont is planning to hold its Old Home Day in August, 2021, and we are looking to hire someone who is full of energy and creativity to develop a theme for the event, develop a marketing plan, organize vendors, and to run the event on the day of. A stipend of \$2,000 has been budgeted for this position with additional funds for the event and fireworks display.



Beach Parking and Grounds Attendant

The Town of Belmont is seeking applicants for the position of Beach Parking and Grounds Attendant; this is a part time position, 24-hours per week/\$15 per hour, beginning in early June and running through Labor Day Weekend. Duties will include enforcement of the Town's resident/taxpayer only regulations regarding use of the beach, general custodial services, and some ground maintenance.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, must be able to follow written and oral instructions, and must be dependable. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. The Town of Belmont is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applications are available online at www.belmontnh.org, and can be submitted to administration@belmontnh.org, or by mailing to Town of Belmont, PO Box 310, Belmont, NH 03220.

Town Clerk's Corner

As we roll into March we have spring on the horizon! Equally as exciting for spring, we have the Town Election! On Tuesday, March 9th 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 the school warrant articles. For our residents that are looking for absentee ballots, please send a written request for the town ballot to our office, the school ballot needs to be requested through the school at the SAU office. Your request will need to have your voting address, mailing address, be signed, and dated. We will then mail you the ballot. Residents that are new voters in town, we will not be able to accept new voter registrations in our office until after the election. You will be able to register to vote at the polls, just have your valid government issued ID and proof of residency.

March also means it is time for the first issue water and sewer bills to hit the mailboxes. The first issue utility bills cover the months of December, January, and February. They will be due at towards the beginning of April, and within 30 days of being billed. As a reminder, you may make your payment online on the Belmont website, the front door drop box, or by mail. If you owe a balance from a previous bill, please give our office a call for the updated interest amount.

Delinquent notices have also gone out to anyone that owes a balance on taxes, water, and/or sewer from 2020. When mailing a payment on the 2020 items, we suggest to give our office a call so we can help you get the correct payment amount due because of the interest. If these balances go unpaid, we will send out certified notices of an impending lien later this spring. The lien will then be executed 30 days after the certified notices are sent out.

Also a reminder with motor vehicle renewals, vital records requests, and dog license renewals you can complete those on the website. If you're a new resident in town, or if you have a new registration, or a transfer please give us a call to go over how we can complete this while the office is closed. Ultimately we will use the drop box or mail to complete the process for you. Please do not hesitate to give us a call or email us with your questions or concerns.

267-8300 ext. 2 is the office line for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Cynthia DeRoy, Town Clerk/Tax Collector tctc@belmontnh.org

Jennifer Cashman, Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector tctcdeputy@belmontnh.org

Michelle Stanyan, Assistant Town Clerk/Tax Collector tctcclerk2@belmontnh.org

When can I get a **COVID-19 VACCINE** in NH?



PHASE 1

PHASE 1A

- High-risk health workers
- First responders
- Older adults living in residential care settings

PHASE 1B

- People ≥ 75 years old
- Medically vulnerable at *significantly* higher risk with 2 or more conditions
 - Family caregivers of those medically vulnerable persons, ≤ 16 years old not eligible for vaccine
- Residents and staff of residential facilities for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Corrections officers and staff working in correctional facilities
- First responders and health workers not already vaccinated

DECEMBER - MARCH*



PHASE 2

PHASE 2A

- People 65 - 74 years old
- K-12 school and childcare staff

PHASE 2B

- People 50 - 64 years old

MARCH - MAY*



PHASE 3

PHASE 3A

- Medically vulnerable <50 years old at *moderately* higher risk with 1 or more conditions

PHASE 3B

- Everyone else not already vaccinated

MAY and BEYOND*

Additional details are coming soon.

Contact your healthcare provider for more information and visit [NH.gov/COVID19](https://www.nh.gov/COVID19) for updates.

ReadyNH.gov
TAKE ACTION. BE SAFE.



*Estimated time frame depends on vaccine doses allocated to New Hampshire from the federal government and vaccine uptake.

1.6.21



COVID-19 QUESTIONS?

CALL

2·1·1



Or visit **[nh.gov/covid19](https://www.nh.gov/covid19)**

COVID-19 specific call-takers are available Monday through Friday 8am-7pm and Saturdays 8am-5pm. 2-1-1 NH is available 24/7.



BFD Times

SPRING FORWARD!!!!



CHANGE YOUR CLOCK
CHANGE YOUR
BATTERY
SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES

Daylight savings time begins on Sunday, March 14, 2021. As we spring forward and reset our clocks, we remind our residents that changing out the batteries in your smoke detectors at the same time is a good habit to get into. 25% of smoke detector failures are a result dead batteries. Don't become a statistic. Working smoke alarms save lives.

Police Department News

Belmont Police Department

Lieutenant Steve Akerstrom



POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dog registration

It is getting to that time of year for those of you that have a dog to get them registered with the Town. Not only it is the law to have them registered with the Town, but it also assists us should your dog wonder away from home. By having a collar and tags on them, we can quickly find out who the owner is and them back to you as quickly as possible. If there are no tags on the dog and we cannot find the owner quickly, your friend will have to be brought to the New Hampshire Humane Society in Laconia.



Phone Scams

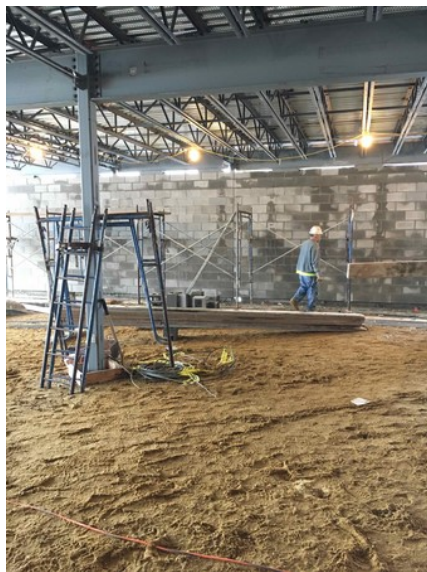
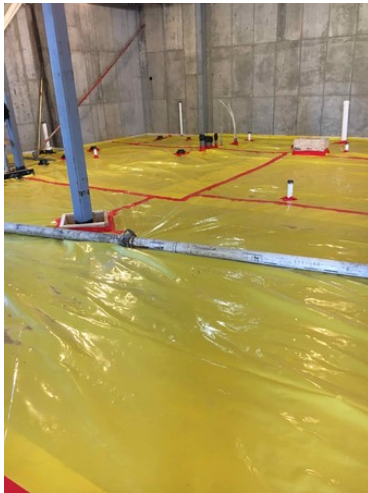
In the October 2020 newsletter we talked about the fake IRS agents calling folks. Recently, there has been an increase in phone scams, not just from fake IRS agents, but from others who try to get your credit card information, some are trying to get into your computer, and others are trying to get you to purchase gift cards and then have you read off the numbers on the cards to them. For most of the calls we have been receiving, folks are not falling for this type of trickery, however we still have some that are getting scammed. We want to remind you that should you be called to simply disconnect the call. These scammers are very good at what they do, sometimes being very believable.

The police departments phone number is 603-267-8350.



Police Department News

Construction progress on the new Police Department Building



Building Department News

Building Department News

from the **Code Enforcement Office**

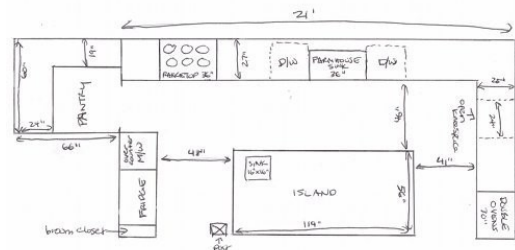


During these cold months, you may be thinking of projects to do around your home, such as finishing off the basement. Start off by knowing what to look for and what to ask. If you are planning to hire a contractor, it may be wise to get a few prices for comparison. You may also consider obtaining referrals for any contractor. Please note that building contractors in the State of New Hampshire are not required to be licensed.

Once the planning stage is set with your design, please go to our website at

<http://www.belmontnh.org> for your required building permit application.

Click the **Info Center** button at the top of the home page, then choose **Building and Demo Application** in the right-hand column under Building & Code Enforcement.



Some of the information the Building Department will be looking for during our review:

- What will the area be used for? Recreation room, bathroom, office, bedroom, etc.
- A legible set of drawings, including room dimensions/sizes such as 18' x 24'.
- What are the ceiling height/s and beam height/s?
- Describe the walls, insulation, etc. What type of construction materials will you be using?
- What type of ventilation will you have, windows or mechanical ventilation?
- Smoke detectors



If you need any guidance on your building project, we are here to help you get through the process. Please give us a call at 603- 267-8300 ext. 111 or email us at buildingofficial@belmontnh.org. Building applications may be emailed to permits@belmontnh.org

Thank you,
Russ Wheeler, Building Official

Coming next month: Window and Roof Replacements



143 Main Street, P.O. Box 310, Belmont, NH 03220 buildingofficial@belmontnh.org

(603)267-8300x111(V) (603)267-8307(F)

www.belmontnh.org

Highway Department News



Parking Ban

NO PARKING -The parking ban will be in affect starting **November 15th until April 15th**. Over-night on street parking will not be allowed during this time. Objects in the RIGHT OF WAY such as basketball hoops and such should also be removed.

Public Winter Sand



A new winter sand stockpile for the residents of Belmont has been completed outside of the Hurricane Rd. facility. This will allow for residents to obtain sand while we maintain a secure and safe facility. A friendly reminder, if you need winter sand for your driveway, we have a three 5-gallon pail limit.



NOTICE OF LOAD RESTRICTIONS

The Town of Belmont will be posting its roads to a maximum weight limit of 6 Tons, starting Monday, March 8th, 2021, during the spring thaw, per RSA 231:190-191 and continuing until roads once again become solid.

Contractors, construction companies, parcel service, fuel services and solid waste haulers are asked to observe the posting by staying off soft road shoulders and reduce load weights. Special permission may be given depending upon weather conditions and time of day.

For questions call Public Works Director Craig Clairmont at 603-528-2677.



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



Planning & Zoning



Planning And Zoning News

[Vietnam Veterans Day](#)

March 29

LAND USE BOARD MEETINGS ARE CURRENTLY BEING HELD REMOTELY (see agendas for login/call in information)

Application Review Committee (2/18/2021)

- **106 Realty Trust:** Review for construction and operation of a self-storage facility. 40 Old State Road, Tax Lot 201-003-000-000
- **Phong N Tran:** Review for installation of two dwelling units, for a total of four. 88 Ladd Hill Road, Tax Lot 201-068-000-000
- **NEXT MEETING: MARCH 25, 2021, 8:00 AM**

Planning Board (2/22/2021)

- **Aranosion Oil Company:** Request for site plan approval for a gas station, convenience store and food drive thru window/lane. 93 Daniel Webster Highway, Tax Lot 201-093-000-000 **GRANTED**
- **NEXT MEETING: MARCH 22, 2021, 6:00 PM**

Zoning Board of Adjustment (2/24/2021)

- **Stacy Clark** Request for a variance of Article 5 Table 2 of the Zoning Ordinance to construct a garage closer (29.5') to the front property line than allowed (50'). 39 Breck Shore Road, Tax Lot 114-019-000-000 **GRANTED**
- **NEXT MEETING: MARCH 24, 2021, 6:00 PM**

A WORD FROM NH FISH & GAME ABOUT BEARS & BIRD FEEDERS

It's getting to be that time of year when bears begin to emerge from hibernation. NH Fish & Game provides the following advice to help keep bird feeders from becoming bear feeders:

"Finish your bird feeding activities by April 1 each year. Don't begin feeding the birds again prior to December 1 or the onset of prolonged winter weather (the birds will do just fine). Bears are clever. This, coupled with their strength and agility, make it very difficult to establish bear-proof bird feeders. Purposeful feeding can result in bears getting accustomed to humans. This "habituation" of bears may cause a variety of conflicts with humans. The end result may be the removal (most often with lethal consequences) of the offending bear. Encourage your bird-feeding friends and neighbors to adhere to these guidelines. Be reminded that many people have an irrational fear of bears. A black bear's presence in a residential area may create fear among neighbors and lead to negative consequences for the bear. Regardless of the dates specified above, if a bear is active in your community, you should cease and desist all bird feeding activity. Bears that have access to winter feeders will sometimes remain active, visiting the feeder late into December, and periodically, beyond. "

For additional Land Use Information:

Visit www.belmontnh.org

Contact landuse@belmontnh.org

Call 267-8300 x 119



Conservation Commission

Overview of Town-Owned Conservation Properties

Tioga Headwaters Conservation Area

The Andrew Sanborn Farm and Pop's Woods conservation properties are a combined 214 acres straddling Class VI Rogers Road. There are trails, a wide-open field, brooks, and ponds. There is parking on Durrell Mountain Road (two places), Middle Route, and on the northerly end of Rogers Road. Trials on the Andrew Sanborn Farm are used by mountain bikes and horses. Hunting is allowed on all Conservation Commission managed properties.

Bean Dam Conservation Area

The Bean Dam, Tioga Ridge, Riverside/Caulfield, and Stonington Conservation Properties. There is parking for the Bean Dam & Tioga Ridge properties on the Wild Acres Road – Grimstone Drive loop. Parking for Stonington is on Stonington Drive at the dry hydrant. There is a rough trail into the Bean Dam – a former mill dam, constructed in the 1930's and breached in 2010 with a fish ladder on small impoundment.

Village Conservation Area

The Jeff Marden Town Forest was the first Belmont-owned parcel of conservation land. Originally proposed to be a condominium site, it was taken by tax deed. There is parking at two places on Wildlife Blvd. Walk the universally accessible trails. Check out the wildlife in the pond and along the Tioga River. Watch Belmont High School cross-country races. Only bow hunting is allowed on the Town Forest due to its proximity to residences.

Winnisquam Conservation Area

The Mountain Lake and Daniel Ladd Farm Conservation Properties have no dedicated parking areas yet. The safest spots to park would be on David Drive for the Ladd Farm and on Provencal Drive in Laconia for the Mt. Lake property. There are no developed trails on these properties at this time, but people are allowed to check them out.

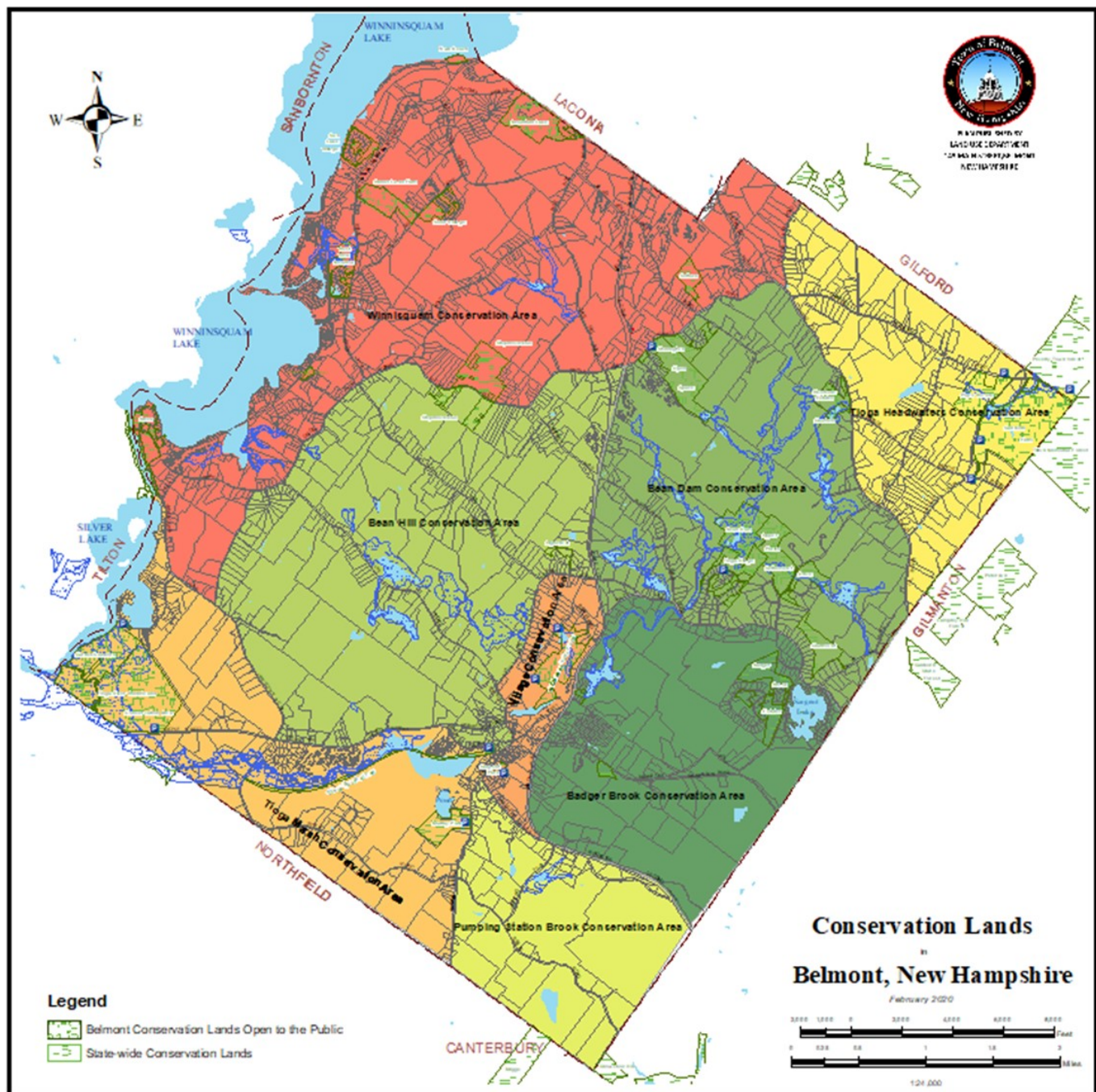
Tioga Marsh Conservation Area

The Tioga River Wildlife and Conservation Area, the Currier Sanborn Conservation Property, and the Village Spur Rail Trail. Parking for the Village Trail is on Depot Street by the bridge over the Tioga River. It is an out and back trail about two miles long. There is a parking area on Depot Street near the Northfield line for the TRW&CA. There are a few rough trails where one can view the wildlife in the unique flood-plain forest along the northerly side of the property. The Currier-Sanborn property is accessed on Gardners Grove. There is a woods road out to a number of wetlands complexes and one can walk along the half mile of Winnepesaukee River frontage protected by this purchase. There are historic duck blinds along the river.

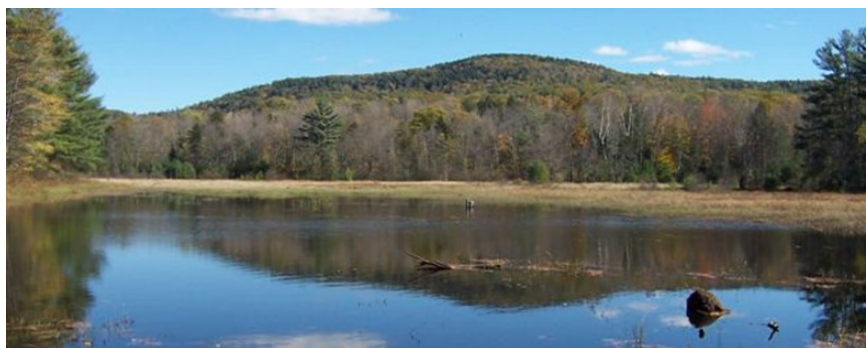
Check out all of these conserved places to see the array of wildlife habitats and passive recreation areas in Belmont.



Conservation Commission (cont.)



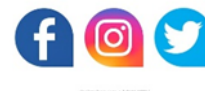
To see a full-size map, [click here](#)



Library News



March 2021

**Storytime-To-Go*****Spring/Green***

Pick up a kit and a few books. We'll post a short video Wednesdays at 10:30.

Join the Friends

Virtual Meeting Wednesday March 10 4:30pm

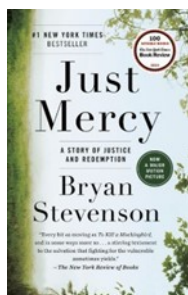
<https://meet.google.com/zab-yewp-qud>

Ask at the circulation desk or visit the Friends webpage <https://bit.ly/38Rr8MN>

Take n' Make

Fairy Lantern

Sock Bunny

**Online Book Groups**

Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson

March 11 1pm

Our Souls at Night by Kent Haruf

March 19 10:30am



Copies available at the library or through Libby/Overdrive. Email the library for the meeting link.

Senior Center News

The Belmont Senior Center is no longer operating under the Community Action Program.

If you are interested in any of the other programs, all Belmont residents are welcome to go to:

Tilton Senior Center-11 Grange Rd., Tilton (5.2 miles) (603) 527-8291

- **Laconia Senior Center-17 Church St., Laconia (6.8 miles) (603) 524-7689**
- **TRIP-Franklin Senior Center-12 Rowell Dr., Franklin (9.5 miles) (603) 934-4151**

You may also call Concord with any questions at (603) 225-3295

Additionally, you may still call for bus transportation at (603) 225-1989 as usual.

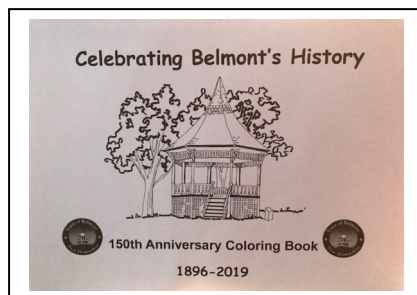
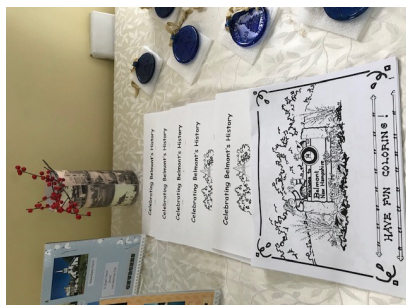
Heritage Commission



Last year March came in like a lion and left us with a pandemic that shut down our everyday lives. We can't help but look back

We cancelled our February and March meetings and then held meetings outside in the spring and summer. The Mill provided a nice open space in the cooler fall months, and we just kept making safe, but slow steps in continuing our projects to combine the old with the new in supporting the heritage of Belmont.

Our specially designed Coloring Book, which was created to teach 4th graders at Belmont Elementary School of what the Town of Belmont was like years and years ago. A special presentation was to be given to the students from a heritage member but the books were mailed out instead to the students who had to work remotely.



Community Heritage Awards were still presented, but from a distance. The awards were given to Gretta Olsen- Wilder, Polly Murphy and Raine Wilkins for bringing special aspects of their background to enhance the town's history.



Gretta Olsen-Wilder



Pauline Murphy



Raine Wilkins

Heritage Commission (Cont.)

A special Heritage project, years in the making, proved to be very endearing. The interviewing and videotaping of several elder members of Belmont gave us wonderful insight and stories from the past. The answers they gave to questions about how the town has changed, what it was like going to school and growing up in Belmont were interesting and sometimes very humorous. Then the videotaping of interviews had to stop in 2020. We are creating a questionnaire that will be mailed out to continue gathering information from residents who want to provide past knowledge of their families and their stories from long ago. This historical video project and data collection will be available to the schools and the town library when completed.



So here's to this March, which hopefully goes out like a lamb and brings us a community of healthy and safe months ahead.

Heritage Commission Members

Vicki Donovan (Chairman)
Jack Donovan

Claire Bickford (Vice -Chairman)
Jillian Rolfe

Priscilla Annis (Secretary)
Ben Rolfe

Sonny Patten, Jr. (Ex- Officio) **Victoria Riberio** (B.H.S. Student Rep.)

Our Furry Friends



Sorry our favorite furry friend's are playing camera shy this month. Please encourage your beloved furry friend's to play nice for the camera. We all love to see them.

We accept picture submittals all year long!!



Want to make your pet the Talk of the Town? Just send a photo with a brief introduction to them to administration@belmontnh.org .