



Town Administrator's Monthly Report

Police Station Project

On Tuesday, October 27th, Governor Chris Sununu joined the Board of Selectmen and several others for the Groundbreaking Ceremony at the site of the new Police Station.



The Governor had the following comment on the project; *"Congratulations it's an awesome project, I have the ability and the honor of traveling the State and seeing things like this all the time, but through the pandemic projects like this have slowed down so it is an incredible testament to this community to move forward to make sure it got on the ballot to do it right to make sure folks had the information because of how important it is to make sure law enforcement knows you have their back."*

We'd like to thank the Governor for taking time from his busy schedule to join us for the event.

2020 Tax Rate

The 2020 tax rate has been set at \$25.34 which breaks down as follows:

Town	\$8.34
Local School	\$13.70
State School	\$ 2.02
County	\$ 1.28

Overall, the rate increased by .33 cents this year.

Update on COVID-19 Activity

COVID-19 continues to headline the daily news across the country, in New Hampshire we have seen an uptick in the number of positive cases being attributed to community spread, so please we urge you to remain diligent when in the grocery store, eating at a restaurant or attending family gatherings; social distancing and wearing a mask continue to be your best defense.



Election Day

The Town Hall will be closed on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 for the Election Day and will reopen on Wednesday, November 4th at 7:30 a.m. The Town Clerk's office will open at 9:00 a.m. on November 4th. Voting will take place at the Belmont High School from 7 am to 7 pm; please take the opportunity to thank your election officials for their hard work, this has been a very busy election season in addition to a year complicated by the ongoing pandemic.

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

We realize there are a lot more people walking about these days so as a reminder if you are walking your dog, please scoop the poop!!



IT is the LAW! (RSA 466:31 II (c))

Our message to all Dog Owners is to remind you of the importance of picking up your dog's waste from property not your own. The town installed at three different locations, dog waste stations where you can obtain a plastic bag to pick up the waste and deposit it in the numerous garbage cans located in the Village.



Bulky Waste Disposal



Reminder that on the 1st Wednesday of each month Casella Waste will collect your bulky items curbside. Please note this is for Town of Belmont Residential Customers ONLY; service is not available to commercial property owners. Piles of debris, trash, yard waste or a single item too large for one person to collect WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. A request for pickup must be made in advance by calling Town Hall at 267-8300, Extension 118 or 124 only. You will be asked to list the items you want picked up, you will be advised what the cost is, and you will need to drop off a check made payable to the Town of Belmont prior to the collection day. Please visit the Town's website at www.belmontnh.org for the full details on the new program and a price list.

Upcoming Meetings

The Board of Selectmen will meet next on Monday, November 2nd at 10:00 a.m. in the Tioga Meeting Room in the Belmont Mill. Our meetings are also available for viewing on www.livestream.com/belmontnh and we are also using Zoom technology for those wishing to attend virtually. Our meeting agenda is posted on the Town's website at www.belmontnh.org.

The Budget Committee will hold its first meeting on Tuesday, November 17th beginning at 6:30 p.m. relative to the 2021 proposed budget. Due to the need for social distancing in our meetings, we will be using a Zoom format and our agenda with login information will be posted on the Town's website at www.belmontnh.org. There will be limited seating available for the public to attend in person.

What's Flushable or Not



We continue to stress the importance of the **"Not everything is flushable"**, please check out the **"Do Not Flush!"** list to protect your sewer and septic system. A "Flushable" label does not mean it is SAFE for your septic system or the Town's sewer. Please read the brochure we have included on the Town's website at www.belmontnh.org. We need your help to ensure our sewers keep flowing.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Town Administrator's Office at 267-8300 ext. 124.



Just a reminder that the Town of Belmont is an active member of Lakes Region Public Access Television which can be seen locally on Atlantic Broadband Channels 24, 25, and 26. If you are a camera buff and you have an interest in producing a show to be shown on LRPA, please contact the station at 528-3070 to discuss your idea. LRPA has made significant strides to improve programming this past year and its presence in the Lakes Region; we urge you to check out their website at <http://lrpa.org>.

Town Administrator's News (Cont.)

Town Hall Closings

Town Hall will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, 2020 in honor of Veteran's Day. We will reopen on Thursday, November 12th at 7:30 a.m.



Town Hall will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 26th and 27th in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. We will reopen on Monday, November 30, 2020 at 7:30 a.m. We wish you and your family a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.





The Town of Belmont Budget Committee seeks Budget Committee member

The responsibility of the Budget Committee is to prepare a budget for submission at the Town Meeting of the voters of the Belmont. The process starts with the Departments Heads who prepare the budgets that are then reviewed and approved by the Selectmen. The Selectmen's budget is then transferred to the members of the Budget Committee for their review. Once the budget is finalized, it goes to the voters at the annual Town Meeting.

Members meet one day a week starting mid November through January, meetings start at 6:30 pm.

Please submit letters of interest to the Budget Committee, Town Hall Belmont, PO Box 310, Belmont, NH 03220, or by email at administration@belmontnh.org

Letters of intent shall be sent no later than November 9, 2020.



Town Clerk's Corner

The time has finally come... Election Day is November 3rd. We have received over 800 absentee ballots and the Secretary of State's Office is allowing us to pre-process the absentee ballots. The pre-processing allows us to announce the voter's name, open the outer, return envelope to make sure the affidavit is properly executed and make a highlighted notation in the Voter Check-In books that will be used on Election Day. The Pre-processing will take place on Monday November 2, 2020 beginning at 8:30 AM on the 4th floor of the Mill building. This process is open to the public however space is limited due to social distancing concerns.

Voting will take place at Belmont High School on November 3rd and the polls are open from 7AM-7PM. MASKS ARE REQUIRED to enter the polls and social distancing will be practiced. We did a great job at the State Primary in September and feel that we have good protocols in place to make the voting process as safe as possible for our residents.

If you need to register to vote on Election Day at the polls, be sure to bring proof of residency (car registration, utility bill, etc....) as well as your ID and see the Supervisors of the Checklist for the voter registration form. There will be greeters in the entryway of the school to answer any questions you have as well as provide direction for voting.

Absentee ballots **MUST** be returned by 5PM November 3rd. The Clerk's Office will remain open from 4-5PM for Absentee voting purposes ONLY on Monday November 2nd. If you have any questions about voting please give our office a call.

Also coming this month to a mailbox near you is the second issue tax bill! The second issue bill covers the period from October 1st - March 31st. As always, you can pay your bill in person, by mail or on our Town's website www.belmontnh.org. We accept cash, check and card. Please keep in mind that if you choose to pay with a card there is a 2.79% convenience fee that is added to the total whether you pay over the counter or on the website. We hope that everyone finds joy in the season and has reasons to give thanks and celebrate this year.

Police Department News

Belmont Police Department

Lieutenant Steve Akerstrom



Phone Scams

The fake IRS agents are hitting the phones hard, along with people posing as someone from Social Security. Some of the phone numbers that show up are out of state, while others are showing local numbers. In these instances, the scammer identifies they are with the "I.R.S" of "Social Security Administration", then they ask for gift cards or try to implicate you into a crime that has happened in another state.

Make sure your friends, family and neighbors are aware that no legitimate government entity will ask for a Target or iTunes gift cards to settle your outstanding tax obligations or to *"unsuspend your social security number."*

Different variations of this scam involve a caller asking if you have Dish TV or DirecTV and then they say, *"they need to send out a technician because your boxes are no longer compatible with the new high-speed digital signal and you will lose your TV access."* This discussion ultimately leads to solicitation of your private information.

The grandparent *"Help, I need bail money"* scam has also resurfaced. A caller who is hard to hear asks for help getting out of jail once you take the call. Then they say, *"they have been arrested, they need bail money and ask you not to tell their parents."* It is all the same attempt to separate you from your hard-earned money. As with any phone solicitor do not allow the call to go on, hang up then block the number.

The scammers will also try to implicate someone in a crime where your blood, DNA, was found in a rental vehicle in Texas and that your Social Security Number was found on the rental paperwork.

Please do not give out any of your personal information, including verifying what the scammer is telling you, simply hang up on them.

If you receive a scam call please let us know the number it came from so we can call them back ourselves. If you or someone you know has been scammed you will need to act quickly and get us involved as soon as possible to help you limit the damages.

Suspicious People

Often, we get calls where someone has committed a crime and we have no leads to bring the person who is responsible for the crime to justice. A friendly reminder that if you see someone in your neighborhood that does not look familiar, you can call to have that person checked on. It may not see pertinent at the time however we do have occasions where someone did see a person walking or a vehicle in the area that may be involved with a crime, but we don't know about it until after the fact and we are unable to locate them.

By calling for us to check on someone may prevent a crime from happening or assist us in solving one in the future.



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



Police Department News (Cont.)



**Belmont Police Department
Groundbreaking Ceremony
October 27, 2020**



Highway Department News

November is upon us and with it comes the challenges of winter maintenance. Your DPW crew takes pride in maintaining our roadways to be as safe as possible. Please remember in order for to do their job, right of way should always be given as with any emergency vehicle. Its always wise to slow down, leave a little early and arrive to your destination safely. We thank you all for your cooperation!



Parking Ban

NO PARKING -The parking ban will be in affect starting **November 15th until April 15th**. Overnight 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. **Don't forget winter is right around the corner! Sorry!**



You might notice our crew out removing leaves from drainage ditches and along many of our roads with our rather large leaf collector. Many people ask why we do this. Leaves tend to form dams to divert the water and can cause the edges of roadway to be washed out during heavy rains. Cleaning the leaves and debris from these ditches and catch basins makes it easier for the water to flow without interruption. By removing these leaves, we are able to save roads from washing out therefore saving the taxpayers money. Unfortunately, this is not an invitation to pile your leaves on the side of the road and in the ditches for us to pick up. Property owners are responsible for disposal of the leaves from their property. We would also appreciate homeowners not putting leaves in the ditches for us to remove. This task is not the Towns responsibility.



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



Emergency Drought Assistance to Low-Income Residential Well Owners

Concord, NH - At the request of Governor Chris Sununu, the NH Drinking Water and Groundwater Advisory Commission and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) have created a new initiative to provide short-term relief and financial assistance for low-income New Hampshire homeowners served by residential wells that are experiencing insufficient water or no water due to drought conditions.

"I am pleased the Drinking Water Groundwater Trust Fund approved \$1.5 million in emergency funding to assist low-income homeowners remediate their wells if they are experiencing insufficient water due to drought. When citizens turn on their faucets, they should be able to trust that clean drinking water is available for them and their families," said Governor Chris Sununu.

Short-term Drought Relief Measures

The initiative will include temporary relief to ensure households have an adequate supply of drinking water in the near-term. Households on residential wells, whose income is at or below 80% of the area median household income and that have no water due to the ongoing drought, may be eligible for bottled water deliveries at no cost for drinking and cooking uses. The provision of bottled water is intended to be a temporary measure until the household receives assistance to permanently mitigate the well that has been impacted by drought.



Permanent Drought Relief Measures

Financial assistance for improving or replacing residential wells with insufficient water due to drought, or connection to an existing community water system financial assistance may be made available for qualifying low-income homeowners through a grant from the N.H. Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund.

Additionally, once the work is completed, all wells must be sampled and tested for the water quality parameters established by NHDES. The laboratory costs for testing are an eligible expense to be covered by the grant. However, the provision of drought assistance does not guarantee the quality or quantity of water associated with the work funded by this grant, and costs to add treatment are not eligible costs.

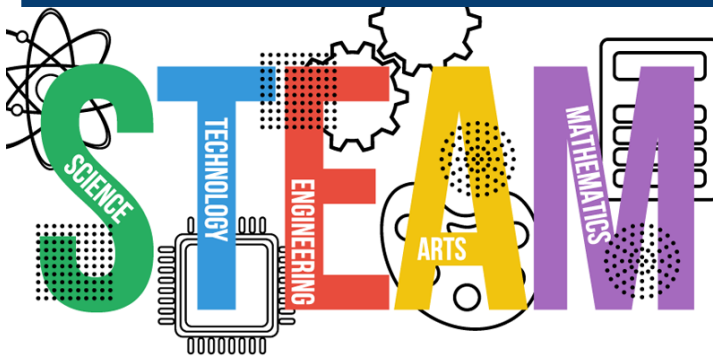
"Due to the drought, many Granite Staters have no other option than to upgrade their wells to ensure a steady supply of clean drinking water for their homes. These upgrades are expensive and are often completely unaffordable for some of our friends and neighbors. This program will be a lifeline to those who otherwise could not afford these essential upgrades. I applaud my fellow Commission members for coming together so quickly to unanimously approve this program and the staff of the Department of Environmental Services for developing it in record time."

"Given the severity of the drought, recent precipitation has done relatively little to alter drought conditions impacting residential wells in New Hampshire. Residents still need to take every action to conserve water now and for the foreseeable future. This well assistance initiative will provide some much-needed help to some low-income residents that are without water as a result of the drought," said Bob Scott, NHDES Commissioner.

Information about income eligibility requirements and the amount of financial assistance for permanent drought relief measures are available on the [NHDES Drought Management Webpage](#). Emergency drought assistance is available to eligible households retroactive to costs incurred since June 23, 2020. Homeowners interested in assistance are asked to complete the following survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/wellwaterhelp>

Homeowner that have questions about the survey or eligibility, please email: droughtwellinfo@des.nh.gov or call Paige Relf, NHDES, at (603) 271-1355.

Planning and Zoning Committee News



Planning and Zoning News

[STEM/STEAM Day](#)

November 8

LAND USE BOARD MEETINGS ARE NOW HELD ON THE 4th FLOOR OF THE BELMONT MILL, 14 MILL STREET

[Application Review Committee \(10/22/2020\)](#)

- **Marden Family Trust:** Review of subdivision to divide one lot into three lots. Property is located in the Residential Single-Family District, Seavey Road, Tax Lot 237-007-000-000.
- **NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 19, 2020, 8:00 AM**

[Planning Board \(10/26/2020\)](#)

- **Plan Submission Meeting and Public Hearing – Fantasy Factory LLC:** Request for site plan approval for a single-family subordinate dwelling unit. Property is located in the Industrial District, 48 Dearborn Street, Tax Lot 123-028-000-000. Case withdrawn by applicant
- **NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 23, 2020, 6:00 PM**

[Zoning Board of Adjustment \(10/28/2020\)](#)

- **Abutters' Hearing – Carmona Family Revocable Trust:** Request for a Variance of Article 5, Table 2 of the Zoning Ordinance to construct a single-family residence closer (10.4') to the side property line than allowed (12.5'). Property is located in the Residential Single-Family District, 92 Sunset Drive, Tax Lot 107-146-000-000. Approved
- **NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 18, 2020, 6:00 PM**

THE LAND USE OFFICE WELCOMES BUILDING OFFICIAL RUSSELL WHEELER

The Land Use Office is pleased to welcome its newest partner, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Russell Wheeler. Having spent decades in the building industry, including 25 years as a Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer, Russell brings with him a wealth of experience and knowledge. Along with Russell's many

attributes, his team-oriented approach and positive attitude have been on display from day one and we are very happy that he has decided to join the Belmont community. Next time you're in Town Hall, be sure to take a moment to pop into the Land Use office to welcome Russ.



For additional Land Use Information:

Visit www.belmontnh.org

Contact landuse@belmontnh.org

Call 267-8300 x 119

Heritage Commission News



The Heritage Commission is now holding its monthly meetings on the 4th floor of the Mill. Following Covid-19 protocol we wear masks, and are social distancing.

November brings thoughts about remembering all that we are thankful for. We are especially thankful for Belmont's Health Care Workers, Educators, and the Police and Fire Departments who continue to work diligently during a very difficult time. The Heritage Commission is also thankful for what the town's history has given us. They say it takes a village.... and Belmont Village has certainly transformed into a wonderful historical place for its residents.

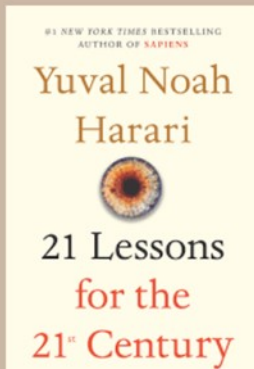
One of our major projects last year was documenting Belmont's history through the stories of community members. It all started with a special video of Wallace Rhodes speaking to a classroom of 4th graders. We have collected video footage of over a dozen participants telling us what it was like growing up in Belmont and stories about their parents and grandparents as well. Since we can no longer do in person interviews we are moving forward by sending out interview questionnaires, which we will then incorporate into video format. If you are interested in receiving one please contact Vicki Donovan at: events@belmontnh.org

As we look forward to December, the Heritage Commission has glass sun-catchers commemorating Belmont's 150th celebration and another depicting the Bandstand. They are etched out on beautiful blue glass and are available for Christmas gifts. They can be purchased at the Belmont Library or by contacting the Heritage Commission at : events@belmontnh.org

***Happy Thanksgiving Belmont
The Heritage Commission***



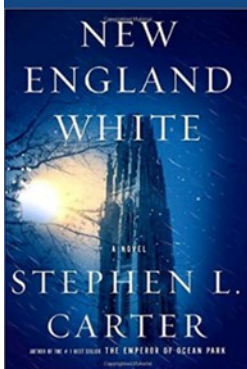
Belmont Public Library



Online Discussion November 12, 2020 1pm

Ebook and e-audio via Overdrive.
Some physical copies available.

Email the library for the meeting link
circulation@belmontpubliclibrary.org



ONLINE FICTION BOOK GROUP

NOVEMBER 20 10:30AM

Email the library for the meeting link
circulation@belmontpubliclibrary.org

Ebook and e-audio copies
available through
nh.overdrive.com.
Contact the library for
physical copies.

Reserve your own FREE kit.
Two new options each month.

Fall Take n'Make

Tweens, Teens, and Adults



Library Closed

Wednesday November 11

Veterans' Day

Early Closing

Wednesday November 25 3pm

Library Closed

Thursday November 26

Friday November 27

Thanksgiving

hoopla allows you to borrow movies, music, audiobooks, eBooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, or phone – and even your TV!

Borrow and read eBooks and audiobooks from your local public library with

Libby by Overdrive

Ask the Librarian

Looking for something to
read- watch - listen?

Answer three questions and get a personalized list of 3-5 suggestions.

Book Bundles

Gotten used to curbside service? Get a grab bag of 2-5 themed library materials (or 10 picture books).

Senior Center News

NOTICE

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.



Thanksgiving Safety Tips



TRAVEL SAFETY

90% of those traveling for the Thanksgiving holiday do so by automobile.



Be extra vigilant and a "defensive" driver this holiday.

EMS SAFETY FACT:

The day before Thanksgiving is the most traveled day of the year.

Traveling?

Remember to pack your medications

Top 5 Thanksgiving Spoilers

1. Heartburn

Foods rich in fat and overeating lead to burning chest pains. Sometimes mistaken for a heart attack.

2. Weight Gain

Did you know the typical American gains 2lbs. on Thanksgiving? Weight gain is associated with higher risk for stroke, heart disease and type 2 diabetes.

3. Choking

Eating too quickly and not completely chewing food can lead to choking episodes. Slowing down can prevent choking as well as letting food settle so you don't over-eat.

4. Excessive Drinking

If you drink on Thanksgiving, don't over do it. Other than the typical risks associated with alcohol, social and physical risks may arise too. But most importantly, never get behind the wheel if you have been drinking.

5. Cuts & Burns

Be cautious while preparing food. After you're done using knives & other sharp objects, move them to a safe place out of the reach of children.

PET SAFETY

TURKEY TIME: If you decide to let your four-legged friend indulge in some turkey, be sure to give them a portion that does not have any bones.

HERBAL WARNING: Did you know that herbs contain essential oils and resins that can cause gastrointestinal problems and central nervous system depression in animals, especially cats?

A FEAST OF THEIR OWN: When you're enjoying your Thanksgiving feast with friends and family, make sure your pet(s) have something to do. Kong toys are a great option for dogs and can keep them out of trouble.

RESTRICTED AREA: Making your kitchen a restricted area to pets, children and adults can prevent spills, cuts and burns that otherwise could have been prevented.

FOOD SAFETY

EMS SAFETY TIP:

For optimal safety, cook stuffing in a casserole dish instead of inside your turkey.

Min. Oven Temp.



when cooking turkey

Prevent cross contamination by always washing your hands, utensils and surfaces after handling poultry

Always use a meat thermometer. The minimum internal temperature for turkey is 165°F

165°F

FIRE SAFETY

2,000



Residential Fires Annually on Thanksgiving

20% of homes that have a fire-related incident lack a smoke detector.



Causes of Thanksgiving Day Fires



Majority of Thanksgiving day Fires



Occur Between 12 P.M. - 4 P.M.

Large feasts require numerous appliances. Prevent electrical fires by not overloading your outlets.

WHAT WE'RE THANKFUL FOR...

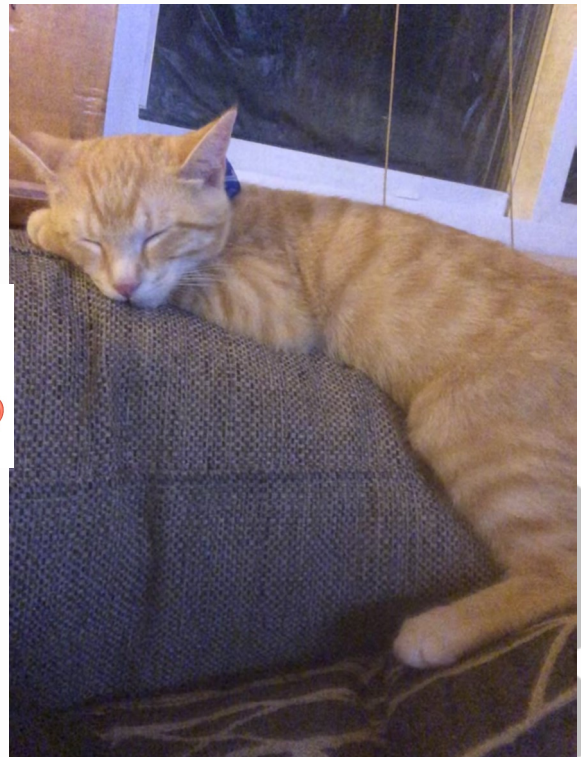


Happy Thanksgiving, from your friends at EMS Safety

Sources:

FEMA: Topical Fire Report Series: *Thanksgiving Day Fires in Residential Buildings*, ASPCA: www.aspc.org/pet-care/thanksgiving-safety-tips, USA Today: Thanksgiving Week One of Deadliest on the Highway, CDC: It's Turkey Time: Safety Prepare Your Holiday Meal

Our Furry Friends



We have Parker (dog) and Willie (cat) here. Both were rescued from Live and Let Live Farm! Parker is 3 years old and Willie is 5 months old. Willie is new to the family and is fitting in very well. Parker loves to lay on the top of the couches and has lost a few of his favorite spots to Willie, but he's okay with it!

When Parker isn't lounging he is outside chasing after squirrels, chipmunks, and birds. No animals have been harmed during those chases! Willie loves snuggling and chasing after Parker. We're so happy they're part of the family!

-The Page Family

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