Tuesday, March 14, 2023,

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 15th 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 4th. 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. There was great discussion and input into all the articles presented. You may cast your ballot on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 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.gov) Should you have any questions, regarding the information contained in the guide, please do not hesitate to contact the Town Administrator Alicia Jipson (267- 8300, ext. 124).

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 are estimated to 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 October/November, using actual information that is available including any new value attributed to new construction and in 2023 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. Election of Officers

Selectman 3-Year Term (Vote for 1)
Brian Gardiner
Claude "Sonny" Patten
Selectman 2-Year Term (Vote for 1)
Travis O'Hara
Selectman 1- Year Term (Vote for 1)
Robert Veloski
Sharon Ciampi
Douglas Trottier
Budget Committee 3- Year Term (Vote for 4)
Robert Chapman
Roland Coffin Jr.
Lisa Crocker
Marsha Campbell
Budget Committee 2- Year Term (Vote for 1)
Fred Wells
Budget Committee 1- Year Term (Vote for 1)
Jonathan LeClair
Trustee of Trust Funds 3- Year Term (Vote for 1)
Thomas Garfield
Library Trustee 3- Year Term (Vote for 2)
Mary-Louise Charnley
Shela Cunningham
Cemetery Trustee 3- Year Term (Vote for 1)
Sweet Image
Hillary Horn
Planning Board 3- Year Term (Vote for 2)
Richard Pickwick
Peter Harris
Zoning Board 3- Year Term (Vote for 2)
Peter Harris
John Froumy

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?

Add housekeeping clause to Article 1 to allow the Planning Board to make non-substantive changes such as correcting typos and adding bullets without requiring a vote at Town meeting.

Currently, to correct a typographical error or missing symbol (dash, bullet, etc.) the correction must go through two public hearings at the Planning Board, placed on the warrant, and then be voted on at Town Meeting. This is a time consuming and costly process. This language would allow the Planning Board to make changes that have no impact on the substance of the ordinance.

Ballot #3 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as summarized below?

Add new definition of solar as any ground or roof mounted solar collection system, add solar as a permitted use in all Zones for agricultural and residential purposes, and add commercial solar as a permitted use in the Commercial and Industrial Zones and permitted by Special Exception in the Rural Zone.

The current Zoning Ordinance does not have a definition of solar and it is not listed in Article 5 Table 1, the Table of Permitted Uses. With the increase in popularity of solar systems, both residential and commercial, this clearly defines solar and clarifies that it is permitted for residential and agricultural use. Commercial solar (aka "solar farms") would be permitted in the Industrial and Commercial Zones and by Special Exception in the Rural Zone.

Ballot #4 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as summarized below?

Change definition of Storage Facilities in Article 15 to include shipping containers and add Shipping Containers to the Storage Vehicles and Trailers Use in Article 5 Table 1, Table of Permitted Uses.

In the existing Zoning Ordinance storage containers (e.g. "Conex boxes") are not an allowed use in the Rural, Residential Single and Residential Multifamily. The change would add storage containers to the definition of "storage facilities", permit storage containers in the Rural Zone, and allow them by Special Exception in the Residential Single and Residential Multifamily zones.

Ballot #5 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #6 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as summarized below?

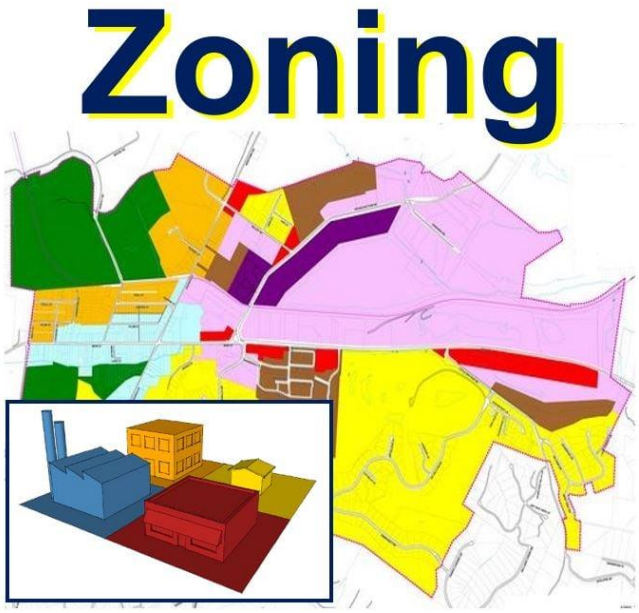
Expand the definition of Day Care Facilities in Article 15 to include all establishments offering care for any individual, rather than just facilities offering care for young children.

The current definition is specific for young children, this change would expand the definition to include adult daycare and other similar facilities.

Ballot #6 Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #7 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as summarized below?

Change definition of Frontage in Article 15 to clarify that Right-of-Ways do not provide frontage unless they meet the requirements of RSA 674:41.

This is a language clarification that a Right of Way does not meet the frontage requirement unless the Right of Way is also a Class V or better road, a Class VI Road (with waiver of liability) or a private road (with certain limitations).



Ballot #7 Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a long-term lease/purchase agreement in an amount up to Five Hundred and Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars ($575,000) payable over a term of sixty (60) months for a new ambulance for the Fire Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000) for the down payment for that purpose and further 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). (3/5 Majority Vote Required.)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends $50,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) **No funds to come from taxation. The current balance in the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund as of 12/31/2022 is $705,607.50. Funds to support Articles 7, 15, 16,17,18,19 are proposed to be withdrawn from the fund.**

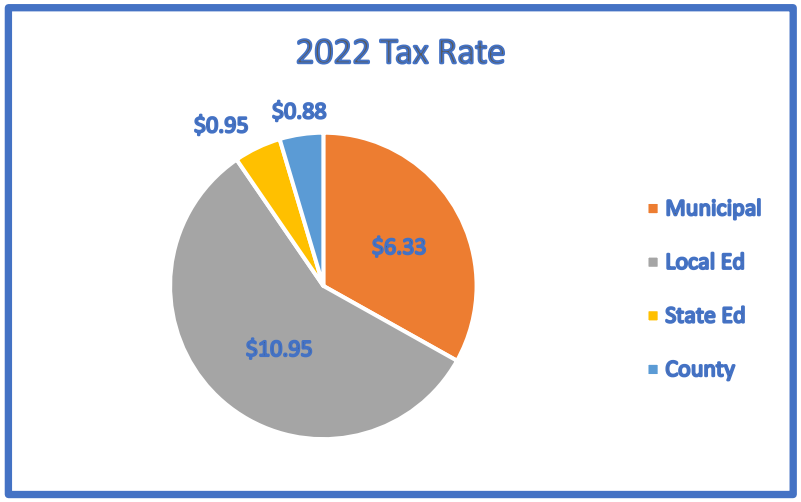
3 Ambulance 1 is a 2013 International Terra Star with a Horton body. This vehicle has been in service for 10 years and has 111,115 miles and 6,230 hours on it. Over the life of this ambulance, it has been on thousands of calls and transported thousands of patients. Up to this point, we have maintained the ambulance, but given the age, mileage, and engine hours on it now, we are starting to have mechanical problems that are becoming too expensive to maintain. This ambulance is becoming less reliable, which in turn is becoming an even bigger problem since we transport sick and injured people in it. This ambulance runs as the secondary ambulance and takes back-to-back calls (2nd or 3rd calls in a row), so reliability is priority. We do not want our ambulance breaking down beside the road when we have a very sick person on board. This would delay transport time and could result in someone's medical needs being compromised, resulting in more serious injury, or even death.

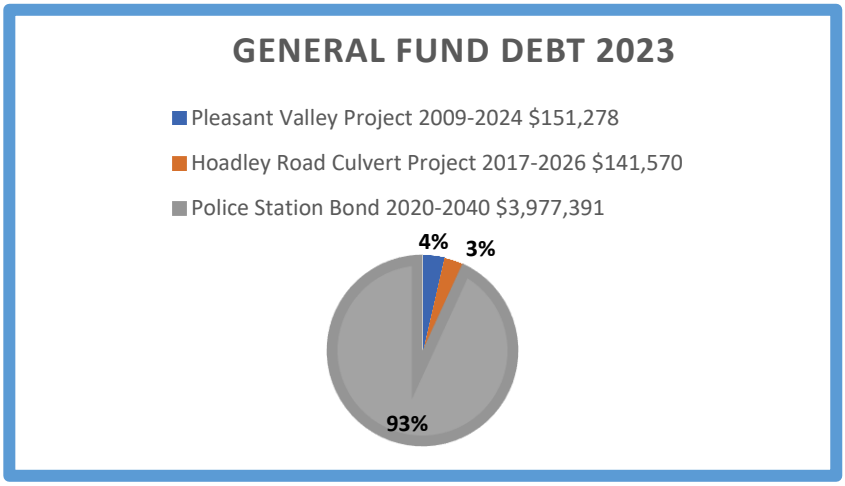
We are proposing the purchase of a new Ambulance 1 from the same company we got the 3 Ambulance 2 from. 3 Ambulance 2 is a 2019 Freightliner with a Braun body. The new ambulance would then take the place of 3 Ambulance 2 as the primary ambulance, and 3 Ambulance 2 would then become the back-up ambulance for 2nd and 3rd calls. Back-to-back calls, which make up 30% of our calls, are when the first ambulance is on a call and a 2nd call comes in. Currently, 3 Ambulance 1 handles those calls. If a 3rd call comes in at the same time, the hope is the first ambulance will get freed up to take that call or mutual aid is requested to handle the call for our town.

Ballot #8 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 Nine Million Seven Hundred Sixteen Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy- Eight Dollars ($9,716,878)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Nine Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Nine Dollars ($9,350,799) 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 Board of Selectmen recommends **$9,716,878** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)





Operating Budget		2023 Proposed		2023 Default
Executive	$	351,822	$	329,091.00
Town Clerk Functions	$	124,893	$	123,528.00
Elections	$	11,400	$	11,400.00
Financial Administration	$	313,988	$	250,602.00
Revaluation of Property	$	107,756	$	103,440.00
Legal	$	35,000	$	35,000.00
Planning & Zoning	$	393,035	$	375,653.00
General Gov. Buildings	$	472,349	$	457,899.00
Cemetery	$	21,000	$	20,000.00
Insurance	$	251,159	$	251,159.00
Police	$	2,516,490	$	2,434,744.00
Fire	$	2,005,656	$	1,892,195.00
Building Inspection	$	118,206	$	102,064.00
Emergency Management	$	5,000	$	5,000.00
Public Works Admin.	$	80,895	$	76,645.00
Highways & Streets	$	1,162,882	$	1,142,632.00
Street Lights	$	19,649	$	19,649.00
Solid Waste Admin	$	15,046	$	15,775.00
Solid Waste Collection*	$	485,136	$	485,136.00
Solid Waste Disposal	$	181,997	$	181,997.00
Health Appropriations	$	68,891	$	69,391.00
Gen. Asst. Administration	$	86,739	$	85,154.00
Gen. Asst. Vendor Payments	$	94,050	$	104,400.00
Recreation	$	162,005	$	162,838.00
Library	$	217,919	$	207,488.00
Patriotic Purposes Inc. Heritage	$	17,750	$	14,250.00
Conservation Commission	$	16,874	$	15,022.00
Long Term Debt	$	274,275	$	274,275.00
Long Term Interest	$	84,371	$	84,371.00
TAN Interest	$	1	$	1.00
Capital Improv Except Buildings (Environmental Contigency)	$	20,000	$	20,000.00
Total	**$**	**9,716,878**	**$**	**9,350,799.00**

Source of Revenue	Actual Revenues Unaudited 2022	Proposed Revenues 2023
Taxes		
Timber Taxes	$8,794.00	$ 8,500.00
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	$24,058.00	$ 24,500.00
Other Taxes - Boat Taxes	$18,629.00	$ 20,000.00
Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	$169,176.00	$ 169,000.00
Excavation Tax ($.02 cents per cu. Yd.)	$10,791.00	$ 10,000.00
Licenses, Permits & Fees		
Business Licenses & Permits	$49,068.00	$ 50,000.00
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	$1,655,776.00	$ 1,500,000.00
Building Permits	$79,746.00	$ 55,000.00
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	$50,149.00	$ 75,000.00
From State		
Shared Revenues	$0.00	$ -
Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	$646,603.00	$ 540,000.00
Highway Block Grant	$193,628.00	$ 196,965.00
Water Pollution Grant	$6,240.00	$ 13,179.00
Housing & Community Development (CDFA)		
State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	$9.00	$ 9.00
Other (Including Railroad Tax, and Grant Inc.)	$1,918.00	$ 45,000.00
From Other Governments*		
Charges for Services		
Income from Departments	$366,165.00	$ 360,000.00
Other Charges	$0.00	$ -
Miscellaneous Revenues		
Sale of Municipal Property	$2,741.00	$ 25,000.00
Interest on Investments	$10,356.00	$ 10,500.00
Other (Dividends/Reimbursements)	$7,155.00	$ 7,000.00
Interfund Operating Transfers In		
From Special Revenue Funds*	$60,776.00	$ 438,957.00
From Enterprise Funds		
Sewer - (offset)	$463,391.00	$ 627,321.00
Water - (offset)	$336,438.00	$ 355,141.00
From Trust and Fiduciary Funds		
From Capital Reserve Funds		
Other Financing Sources		
Proc. From Longterm Bonds & Notes	$0.00	$ 48,646.00
Amounts Voted from F/B (Surplus)	$80,000.00	$ 230,888.00
Fund Balance ("Surplus") to reduce taxes		
Total Estimated Revenue & Credits	$ 4,180,831	$ 4,810,606

Ballot #9 To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Belmont and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Council 93, Local 3657 (Public Safety Employees Union-Fire Unit B) for the term April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2026, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Year Increase (Wages)	Increase/(Decrease) Benefits
2023 $40,984	$5,531
Year Estimated Increase (Wages)	Estimated Increase/(Decrease) Benefits
2024 $22,160	$(1,248)
2025 $22,567	$7,241

And further to raise and appropriate $46,515 for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$46,515** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Estimated Tax Impact $0.04.

Ballot #10 Shall the Town, if Warrant Article #9 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Warrant Article #9 cost items only? (Majority vote required.)

Ballot #11 To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Belmont and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Council 93, Local 3657 (Public Safety Employees Union-Police Unit A) for the term April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Year Increase (Wages)	Increase/(Decrease) Benefits
2023 $65,735	$20,960
Year Estimated Increase (Wages)	Estimated Increase/(Decrease) Benefits
2024 $31,156	$2,363
2025 $31,537	$9,892

And further to raise and appropriate $86,695 for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$86,695** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Estimated Tax Impact $0.08.

Ballot #12 Shall the Town, if Warrant Article #11 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Warrant Article #11 cost items only? (Majority Vote Required.)

Ballot #13 To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Belmont and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Council 93, Local 534 (Public Works Employees Union) for the term April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2026, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Year Increase (Wages)	Increase/(Decrease) Benefits
2023 $20,003	$4,402
Year Estimated Increase (Wages)	Estimated Increase/(Decrease) Benefits
2024 $16,118	$2,404
2025 $16,763	$3,602

And further to raise and appropriate $24,405 for the current fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$24,405** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Estimated Tax Impact $0.02

Ballot #14 Shall the Town, if Warrant Article #13 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Warrant Article #13 cost items only? (Majority Vote Required.)

Ballot #15 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 eighth 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 Board of Selectmen recommends **$60,776** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) No funds to come from taxation. The current balance in the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund as of 12/31/2022 is $705,607.50. Funds to support Articles 7, 15, 16,17,18,19 are proposed to be withdrawn from the fund.

Ballot #16 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 2023 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 2023 budgetary year (2/3 Majority 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

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$124,500** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) No funds to come from taxation. The current balance in the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund as of 12/31/2022 is $705,607.50. Funds to support Articles 7, 15, 16,17,18,19 are proposed to be withdrawn from the fund.

Ballot #17 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000) for the cost of hose replacements 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. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$25,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) No funds to come from taxation. The current balance in the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund as of 12/31/2022 is $705,607.50. Funds to support Articles 7, 15, 16,17,18,19 are proposed to be withdrawn from the fund.

The Department has not purchased hoses in a few years. We service and test hoses each year to make sure they are safe and will not fail under use. Our inventory of hoses has decreased due to having hoses fail from service testing and from use at fires. We are looking to replace our current hose. We use three sizes: 1 ¾" attach lines, 2 ½" attach lines, and 4" LDH supply lines. Replacing our current hoses with new ones will make it safe for firefighters and fire operations.

Ballot #18 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Eight Thousand One Hundred Eighty-One Dollars ($78,181) for the cost of a utility truck for the Fire Department and further to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of Seventy-Eight Thousand One Hundred Eighty-One Dollars ($78,181) from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund previously established in accordance with RSA 31:95-c. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$78,181** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) No funds to come from taxation. The current balance in the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund as of 12/31/2022 is $705,607.50. Funds to support Articles 7, 15, 16,17,18,19 are proposed to be withdrawn from the fund.

The 2011 Ford F-350, with an extended pickup with an 8' bed, and an 8' Fisher Minute Man 2 Plow, has over 89,000 miles. This vehicle serves dual roles. In the summer it is not only used as a pickup truck to carry hoses and equipment back from a building fire, but it is used to carry a "Skid Unit" which carries approximately 200 gallons of water out into the woods for brush fires. In the winter the pickup is used for equipment carrying from fires. With the ability of the plow, we not only clear hydrants throughout the town, but also keep our driveway cleared out when we are not responding to emergencies. This truck is also used by the call members who don't carry a CDL to drive the fire trucks to respond to calls. The chassis and frame rails are heavily rusted, and the front and rear wheel fenders are rusted, and pieces are falling off. This is to the point that it won't pass inspection. Right now, with the bed and rear frames being rusted, there are many soft spots on those areas which is giving us nothing to hold the skid unit down. If we put this skid unit back in this vehicle, it won't hold the weight and becomes dangerous to those driving the truck and those around us. Looking at the bed on the driver's side you can see that the bed is tilting to the side and where the bolts are attached, it is broken around it. We are looking to replace this vehicle with a comparable pickup truck with a crew cab for personnel to be able to be transport in it safely. A V-nose Fisher plow would allow us to continue assisting with our driveway and clearing out hydrants throughout the town.

Ballot #19 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($225,000) for the cost of an Engine 1 refurbish for the Fire Department and further to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of Two Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($225,000) from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund previously established in accordance with RSA 31:95- c. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$225,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) No funds to come from taxation. The current balance in the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund as of 12/31/2022 is $705,607.50. Funds to support Articles 7, 15, 16,17,18,19 are proposed to be withdrawn from the fund.

Engine 1 is a 2011 Emergency One Typhoon Class A Pumper truck. This engine has been in service for 12 years and has 35,687 miles and 2,579 engine hours on it. We are looking to have this engine refurbished. There are a lot of areas where paint and corrosion are starting to be an issue. By refurbishing this engine, it will prolong the life of the apparatus and save money by: a) eliminating constant repairs, and b) saving money that would be spend purchasing a brand-new vehicle. A new Class A Pumper would cost approximately $750,000.00. The refurb would cost approximately $225,000.00, bringing this piece of apparatus back up to near new condition, and able to be used for 10-15 years longer. The refurb would include paint and repairs to the body, service and repack to the pump, refit to all LED lighting, new battery rescue tools, up fit to the light tower, addition of a brow light, as well as repairs and updates all compartments.

Ballot #20 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand One Hundred Forty-One Dollars ($255,141) for the operation and maintenance of the Water Distribution and Treatment System for the ensuing year, said sum to be offset by user fees. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be of Two Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-Eight Dollars ($271,798) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law.

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$255,141** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) This budget is to be offset by user fees.

Ballot #21 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-One Dollars ($633,561) for the operation and maintenance of the Sewage Collection and Disposal System for the ensuing year, said sum to be offset by user fees. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Six Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Dollars ($636,350) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law.

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$633,561** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.) This budget is to be offset by user fees.

Ballot #22 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000) to be placed in the Highway Reconstruction and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$500,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Estimated Tax Impact is $0.44. The balance in the Capital Reserve account as of 12/31/2022 is $1,334,280.

Ballot #23 To see if the Town 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 supports this recommendation.)

Estimated Tax Impact is $0.27. The balance in the Capital Reserve account as of 12/31/2022 is $468,173.69.

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. The following information is pertinent to this reserve account created in 2006 to fund the purchase, repair, reconstruction of municipal facilities and the funds have been used for numerous projects, including siding on Town Hall, painting of the front of Town Hall and Library exterior, a new roof on the Mill, the purchase of the property at 154 Main Street, replacement Heat and HVAC systems at the Highway and Fire Departments, the overhang at the Highway Garage, lighting retrofits at the Highway Garage, repairs to the floor on the 4th floor of the Mill, access system at Town Hall including security cameras, renovations to the Mill allowing usage of the 4th floor for meetings and the 1st floor for relocation of General Assistance Office. The most recent use of the funds was to replace the oil tanks at the Mill and to enclose the dumpster and roof repair at the Fire Station.

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 Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund previously established (2007), and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of $100,000 from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2022. No amount to be raised from taxation.

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

The balance in the Expendable Trust as of 12/31/2022 is $25,170.57.

The total liability accrued to this account as of 1/25/2023 is $210,864. We have 13 employees that are at retirement status, with the average retirement payout of $16,220 per employee.

Ballot #25 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) with said sum to be offset by user fees.

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

The balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2022 is $227,339.37.

Ballot #26 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.)

Estimated Tax Impact is $0.05 The balance in the Capital Reserve account as of 12/31/2022 is $134,972.54.

Ballot #27 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Ninety-Six Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Five Dollars ($196,965) for the reconstruction of highways, it is anticipated to be offset by Highway Block Grant funds provided by the State of New Hampshire.
No funds to come from taxation.

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$196,965** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Ballot #28 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty-Eight Dollars ($125,888) to be placed in the Town Bridge Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2003), with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance (this represents the State of NH for repair, maintenance, and construction of municipal bridges from State Surplus that was received by the Town on December 28, 2022).
No funds to come from taxation.

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$125,888** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation).

The balance in the Capital Reserve account as of 12/31/2022 is $206,009.75.

The 2022 legislative session resulted in significant revenue sharing and state aid to local governments in a non-budget year. With the state reporting a record surplus of funds this fiscal year, **SB 401** and HB 1221 are intended to provide one-time property tax relief through direct payments to cities and towns. **SB 401** will provide immediate infrastructure resources to cities and towns. Using state general fund surplus generated in fiscal year 2022, this bill appropriates $36 million for the repair and maintenance of municipally owned bridges, $30 million in additional municipal highway block grants. The appropriation for bridges was based on a 50/50 formula, where $18 million was distributed based on a municipality's deck area proportional to the total deck area for municipally owned bridges, and $18 million was distribution based on a municipality's total share of the state population. **SB 401** provided funding with restricted uses, meaning that it may be used to supplement (not supplant) local budgets; The "supplement not supplant" provision requires that these funds must add to (supplement) and not replace (supplant) local budgeted funds when providing services that repair, maintain, and construct municipal bridges; repair and maintain class IV and V roads; or acquire the equipment necessary to maintain Class IV and V roads.

Ballot #29 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 supports this recommendation.)

Estimated Tax Impact is $0.07. The balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2022 is $77,015.16.

In 2022 the voters voted to conduct a statistical update for 2022 and 2023, to bring our assessments more in line with current Market Value. In 2024 our required 5-year full measure and list townwide assessment.

Ballot #30 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.)

Estimated Tax Impact is $0.02. The balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2022 is $339,162.48.

Ballot #31 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 Fund previously established (2002).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$10,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Estimated Tax Impact is $0.01. The balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2022 is $23,018.03.

Ballot #32 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 unassigned fund balance. (Majority Vote Required.) No amount to be raised from taxation.

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$5,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

The balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2022 is $5,591.88; funds were used in 2021 to repair portions of the road.)

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 received $2,500 and in subsequent years the pit owner will contribute $5,000 to be placed in the account.

Ballot #33 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 amount to be expendable at the discretion of the Cemetery Trustees (1997).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$5,000** and the Budget Committee supports that recommendation.)

Estimated Tax Impact is $0.00 (a fraction of one penny). The balance in the Cemetery Maintenance Fund as of 12/31/2022 is $30,172.35.

Ballot #34 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 (2004).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$4,500** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Estimated Tax Impact is $0.00 (a fraction of one penny). The balance in the Heritage Fund as of 12/31/2022 is $41,828.63.

Ballot #35 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 (2011).

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$2,500** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Estimated Tax Impact is $0.00 (a fraction of one penny). The balance in the Capital Reserve account as of 12/31/2022 is $22,099.22.

Ballot #36 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 Non-Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2020).

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

Estimated Tax Impact is $0.00 (a fraction of one penny). The balance in the Capital Reserve Account as of 12/31/2022 is $6,101.07.

This Capital Reserve Account was created to act as a savings account to be able to replace voting equipment as mandated by the State of NH. The State governs our elections and requires us to have 1 voting booth per 100 registered voters. In Belmont we have 4,400 registered voters. In the near future the State will be switching to a different ballot machine and the Towns will be responsible for that cost to buy them. That cost has yet to be determined. Adding funds to this account will aid us in purchasing when the time comes.

Ballot #37 Shall the Town vote to authorize the expenditure of the unused portion of the bond approved in 2020 for the Construction of a New Police Station for Mill Renovations instead, and to raise and appropriate $48,646 in unused bond proceeds for Mill Renovations per RSA 33:3-a, II. NO amount of money to be raised from taxation. (3/5 Majority Vote Required.)
No funds to come from taxation.

(The Board of Selectmen recommends **$48,646** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

These funds represent previously accounted for funds in a prior calendar year's budget. There was a cost savings on the Police Department building construction project. This cost savings represents $48,646. These funds can be legally reappropriated with zero tax impact, but only can be used towards a similar project. The Town of Belmont has begun a Mill renovation project which is similar in purpose and nature to the construction of the Police Department building. These funds were set aside originally for a bond payment for the purposes of constructing the new Police Department building. The total cost of that project ultimately came in at less then what was originally budgeted for. Ultimately, this amount was not included in the total project cost nor in the bond amortization schedule for payments due in the current and future calendar years for the new Police Department building constructed in 2022. The Town of Belmont is currently seeking funding sources for the Mill renovation project, and this would offset the cost of necessary funding with no tax impact in 2023.

Ballot # 38 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.)
No funds to come from taxation.

Belknap County 4-H Fair Assn. $2,000
Belknap House $2,000

Belmont Cemetery Trustees $200
Belmont Boy Scouts Troop 65 $540
Belmont Conservation Commission $100
Belmont Elementary Support Team $200
Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 12117 $540
Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 60200 $495
Belmont Community Girl Scouts $250
Belmont Heritage Commission $250
Belmont High School PTO $200
Belmont Historical Society $300
Belmont Middle School Fifth Grade Camp Cody $3,500
Belmont Middle School PTO $200
Belmont Old Home Day Committee $100
Belmont Park and Recreation $1,500
Belmont Public Library $1,165
First Baptist Church of Belmont Mission/Food Pantry$2,492
Saint Joseph Food Pantry $2,492.74
Save our Gale School $ 200
Winni Womenade $2,000

Ballot #39 Shall the Town, pursuant to RSA 33:8-f, vote to rescind the unused portion of the bonding authority granted in 2016 for the Hoadley Road Culvert Reconstruction? Of the $375,000 in bonding authority that was granted, $68,319 was not spent and is not necessary for this purpose. (3/5 Majority Vote Required.)

(The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this article.)

These funds were originally budgeted for in 2016. The funds have been encumbered forward from that time until 2022. The town has determined it is no longer necessary to encumber and carry forward these funds. There is no tax impact and no reason to carry this balance forward within the budget for 2023. This article will allow for these funds to lapse accordingly.

Ballot #40 Shall the Town vote in accordance with RSA 72:27-a(IV) to re-adopt the provisions of the Optional Veterans' Tax Credit (RSA 72:28(II)) in the amount of $500, to include not only Veterans who have been honorably discharged, but also those who have served at least four (4) years and are continuing in service in the armed forces. [NOTE: If this article does not pass, the

Optional Veterans' Tax Credit will no longer be in effect, and the Standard Veterans' Tax Credit of $50 would apply as of April 1, 2023.]

NOTE: This article is required because legislature expanded the eligibility criteria for this credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces.

For Articles 40 and 41 - The NH legislature passed, and Governor Sununu signed into law HB 1667 (Chapter 121, laws of 2022) which amends eligibility criteria for certain veterans' property tax credits. This became effective on July 26, 2022, and affects both the Standard and Optional Veterans Tax Credit, as well as the All-Veterans Tax Credit. Simply what this means is that if your Town has adopted the Optional Veterans Tax Credit (you give more than the standard $50 tax credit) and/or the All Veterans Tax Credit, you MUST readopt the provisions of the Statute (Optional Vets Credit 72:28, II and/or All Veterans Tax Credit 72:28-b) by March 31, 2023, in order for your credits to remain in place for the 2023 Tax Year. It is our understanding that if you have the Optional or All Veterans Tax Credits and you do not readopt the credits, they will revert to the Standard Veterans Credit in the amount of $50 each.

Ballot #41 Shall the Town vote in accordance with RSA 72:27-a(IV) to re-adopt the provisions of the All-Veterans' Tax Credit (RSA 72:28-b) in the amount of $500, to include not only Veterans who have been honorably discharged, but also those who have served at least four (4) years and are continuing in service in the armed forces. [NOTE: If this article does not pass, the All-Veteran's Tax Credit will no longer be in effect, and the Standard Veteran's Tax Credit of $50 would apply as of April 1, 2023.]

NOTE: This article is required because legislature expanded the eligibility criteria for this credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces.

Ballot #42 Are you in favor of amending the Noise Ordinance adopted by the Town in 2010 to exempt from its provision's noises related to farming and agricultural related activities?

(This article recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

Ballot #43 Are you in favor of discontinuing the combined office of Town Clerk/Tax Collector? At the next annual meeting in which an election for Town Clerk/Tax Collector is to be held (2025), the voters shall choose one individual as Town Clerk and another as Tax Collector, each for a three-year term, unless article 43 passes, in which case the Tax collector will be appointed.

(This article recommended by the Board of Selectmen)

The Town of Belmont per RSA 41:45-a is a combined Town Clerk/Tax Collector position. This person oversees the Town Election and any person running for the three-year term **must be a Belmont resident.**

If the Town votes to discontinue the Town Clerk/Tax Collector position, then the Board of Selectmen would have the option to appoint a Tax Collector candidate and the Town Clerk would still be an elected position per RSA 41:45-a.

This would also allow for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector to appoint two separate positions for a Deputy Town Clerk and Deputy Tax Collector. This will allow us more flexibility in hiring and in promoting from within and retention.

Ballot #44 Are you in favor of rescinding the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2), as adopted by the Town of Belmont on March 11, 2008, so that the official ballot will no longer be used for voting on all questions, but only for the election of officers and certain other questions for which the official ballot is required by State law?? (3/5 Majority Vote Required.)

(This article submitted by Petition)

Ballot #45 Are you in favor of imposing a term limit of 3 consecutive terms that can be served by a member of the Board of Selectmen?

(This article submitted by Petition)

This article is considered non-binding. The legislature has created a comprehensive statutory scheme governing elections and has defined the scope of qualifications necessary to obtain elected office. Although the right to elected office is not absolute, see Paey v. Rodrigue, 119 N.H. 186, 189, 400 A.2d 51 (1979), this statutory scheme is designed to make elective office as accessible as possible to the citizens of New Hampshire by imposing a minimum number of qualifications, thereby furthering the objectives of our State Constitution. To allow a municipality to impose term limits would be repugnant to the implied intent of the statutory scheme. We hold, therefore, that the State has created a comprehensive statutory scheme governing the field of elections, including qualifications for office, and has neither expressly nor impliedly granted towns the authority to impose term limits. As a result, the town's term limits provision is preempted by statutory law and Part I, Article 11 of the State Constitution.

Ballot #46 Are you in favor of increasing the number of Cemetery Trustee Board members from 3 to 5?

(This article submitted by Petition)

TOWN OF BELMONT

SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

ELECTION AND BALLOT VOTING

BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL GYM

265 Seavey Road

MARCH 14, 2023

POLLS OPEN AT 7:00 A.M.

AND CLOSE AT 7:00 P.M.