

TOWN OF BELMONT

VOTER'S GUIDE

Guide to the Second Session of the Town Meeting in accordance with Senate Bill 2 Belmont High School Tuesday, March 11, 2014 Polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.

You may register to vote at the polls with proper ID.

This handout has been prepared to assist you in making informed voting decisions, prior to walking into the voting booth on March 11. PLEASE BRING THE HANDOUT WITH YOU ON ELECTION DAY. BALLOT QUESTIONS READ EXACTLY AS THE BALLOT QUESTIONS IN THE HANDOUT.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to call the Selectmen's Office at 267-8300, ext. 24.

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Ballot Question #1. Selectman three-year term vote for one: George Condodemetraky **Ronald J. Cormier** Donald P. McLelland Sr. Budget committee three-year term vote for four: Susan Harris Herman G. Martin Norma L. Patten Fred Wells Cemetery Trustee three-year term vote for one: Norma L. Patten Library Trustee three-year term vote for one: Mary-Louise Charnley **Simone Henderson** Planning Board three-year term vote for two: George Condodemetraky Peter Harris Doug Sanborn **Rick Segalini** Planning Board one-year term vote for one: **Doug Sanborn** Supervisor of the Checklist six-year term vote for one: Donna E. Shepherd Town Moderator two-year term vote for one: Alvin E. Nix Jr. Town Treasurer two-year term vote for one: Alicia M. Segalini Trustee of Trust Funds three-year term vote for one: Alvin E. Nix Jr. Zoning Board three-year term vote for two: Peter Harris Norma L. Patten

Ballot Question #2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by PETITION for the town Building Code as summarized below?

Adopt a Historic Demolition Review Ordinance, including all buildings fifty (50) years or older, before granting application or permit to demolish. Three members of the Heritage Commission will comprise the Historic Demolition Review Committee, and nothing in this article will prevent immediate demolition where the public safety is at stake.

The Planning Board DOES NOT support this Amendment. NO YES

Reference submitted by Petitioner Linda Frawley -New Hampshire's first Historic Demolition Review ordinance was adopted in 2001.

Ballot Question #3. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend the Purposes section of the Open Space Development Ordinance to include reducing impacts and strains on public and emergency services.

YES NO Ballot Question #4. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. #3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the town Zoning Ordinance & Zoning Map as summarized below?

Rezone three lots located on Corriveau Way (formerly Fred Friend Road) from Commercial to Rural.

YES

NO

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Ballot Question #5. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Seventy Five Thousand dollars (\$375,000) for the purpose of a Town-wide Water Meter Replacement Project including engineering costs, and all other costs reasonably associated with this project and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$375,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon (3/5 ballot vote required). Future bond payments are anticipated to be funded from Water User Fees. (The Budget Committee recommends \$375,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) This project will complete the replacement of all residential and commercial water meters town-wide. It will improve productivity of staff as the meters will no longer need to be manually read; they will be read remotely through a radio transmitter. Improvements to the Town's billing software are also included in the project. The current software module requires manual data entry of the readings which is also very time consuming for staff. Funding for the project is proposed to come from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund which is low interest and includes a provision for 15% principal forgiveness.

Ballot Question #6. Shall the Town vote to change the office of Town Treasurer from an elected position to an appointed position per RSA 41:26-e. Such appointment shall be made by the Board of Selectmen in writing and shall include the compensation to be paid. If approved, the elected Treasurer will continue to serve until the March, 2015

annual town meeting, at which time the Treasurer shall be appointed. [Majority Vote Required]. The Board of Selectmen recommends this article. It does not change the authorities granted the Treasurer's position by State Law, but would insure that the individual in the position has the qualifications and background for the position.

Ballot Question #7. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey to Winnisquam Boats, LLC, a 0.33 (+/-) acre parcel of land with buildings situated on it at 17 Sunset Drive and more particularly referenced at Tax Map 104, Lot 025; under such terms and conditions as the Selectmen may deem to be in the best interest of the Town, but in no event shall the sale price be less than two hundred and forty thousand dollars (\$240,000). In the fall of 2013, the Town issued an "Expression of Interest"; the notice was placed in the newspaper and circulated to local realtors as well as abutters. The Town received one letter of interest in the property from Winnisquam Marina who had done their due diligence including having an appraisal done of the property by an independent source. A copy of the appraisal was submitted to the Town and noted market value of \$235,000. Winnisquam Marina offered the Town \$240,000 for the land and building. Voters are being asked to approve the sale.

Ballot Question #8. Should Article 7 pass, shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the amount of Two Hundred and Forty Thousand Dollars (\$240,000) to be placed in the Municipal Facilities Capital Reserve Fund, which amount represents the proceeds from the sale of the former Winnisquam Fire Department building. Any

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proceeds in excess of \$240,000 will be deposited into the General Fund. (The Budget Committee recommends \$240,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The 12/31/2013 balance in Capital Reserve is \$214,626.36.

Ballot Question #9. Shall the town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 36-A:4-a I (a) to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend funds to purchase interests in land outside the boundaries of our municipality, subject to the approval of the local governing body?

Ballot Question #10. Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 36-A: 4-a, I (b) to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend funds for contributions to qualified organizations for the purchase of property interests, or facilitating transactions related thereto, where the property interest is to be held by the qualified organization and the Town will retain no interest in the property?

Ballot Question #11. Shall the Town vote to amend the vote taken on Article 7 at the 1999 Annual Meeting to restrict all revenues from ambulance billings (Comstar) to be deposited in the Special Revenue fund known as the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Fund to instead restrict all but the first \$93,945 of revenues from ambulance billings (Comstar) received during the 2014 budgetary year to be deposited in the Special Revenue fund known as the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Fund. The first \$93,945 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 2014 budgetary year (Majority Ballot Vote).

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Overtime Coverage	\$40,000
Telephone Expense	\$ 1,000
Conferences & Dues (EMS related)	\$ 500
Training Expenses	\$ 1,200
Medical & Supply Expenses	\$26,745
Comstar Billing Fees	\$12,500
Office Supplies	\$ 1,000
Vehicle Repair & Parts	\$ 5,000
Fuel	\$ 6,000
The 12/31/2013 balance in th	ne Special

Revenue fund is \$370,556.92.

Ballot Question #12. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000) for the purpose of purchasing a new Fire Department Command Vehicle and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of said amount from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund (Comstar) previously established in accordance with RSA 31:95, c 1994/Amended (Created 1999). **(The** Budget Committee recommends \$35,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The 12/31/2013 balance in the Special Revenue fund is \$370,556.92.

Ballot Question #13. Shall the Town vote to expend the income from the John M. Sargent Trust Fund for the purposes recommended bv the Sargent Fund Committee? Belknap County 4-H Fair Association \$800 Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 10972 \$600 Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 21532 \$600 Belmont Baseball Organization/Lakes Region Girls \$1600 Belmont Boy Scouts Troop 65 \$1200 Belmont Cub Scouts Pack 65 \$1500 Belmont Heritage Commission \$500 Belmont Historical Society \$1500 Belmont NH Heritage Website Support \$157

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Belmont Old Home Day Committee Belmont Parks & Recreation Scholarship Belmont Police Explorers	\$1000 \$2000 \$800
Belmont Police Relief Assn. Santa's Helpers	
·	\$2000
Charles Kilborn Post 58 American Legion	\$500
First Baptist Church Food Pantry	\$1700
Friends of Belmont Football	\$1000
Shaker Regional School District – Shaker Sugar Shack	
	\$3000
St. Joseph's Food Pantry	\$3130

Ballot Question #14. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by articles and special warrant 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 Seven Million Two Hundred Twenty Six Thousand Fifty Four Dollars (\$7,226,054). Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Seven Million One Hundred Fifty Four Thousand Four Hundred and Eleven Dollars (\$7,154,411) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Note: This warrant article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant article.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$7,226,054 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) This year's operating budget reflects a step increase and 1% COLA for non-union staff, in addition health insurance co-pays for office calls and emergency room visits were increased as well as prescription co-pays. This year costs related to the Town's participation in the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Dispatch is included in the Fire Department budget in lieu of being included in your County tax. Our fee for this service for 2014 is \$54,354.

Ballot Question #15. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Forty-Two Thousand Fifty Dollars (\$142,050) for the purpose of the Lake Winnisquam Scenic Trail, said appropriation to be funded by a grant from the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation in the amount of \$64,050, by a grant from the NH Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant Program in the amount of \$25,000 and by \$53,000 to be raised by general taxation. Passage of Article 16 will eliminate the need to raise the \$53,000 by general taxation. (The Budget Committee recommends \$142,050 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) See following page.

Ballot Question #16. Shall the Town vote to change the name and purpose of the BRATT Recreational (Belmont Alternative Transportation Team) Phase II Capital *Reserve Fund* to the *BRATT Capital Reserve* Fund for the expanded purpose of funding any and all costs related to Belmont's Lake Winnisquam Scenic Trail including but not limited to engineering, construction and maintenance and further, to continue to designate the Selectmen as agents to expend money from this fund. (2/3 vote required). This account has a balance of \$62,573.00 in it. *See following page.*

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Ballot Question #17. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000) for the purpose of purchasing and implementing a new Town-wide Telephone System? (The Budget Committee recommends \$35,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)The Town solicited proposals for a town-wide VoIP phone system in mid-December in anticipation of placing a warrant article on the ballot for approval in March. New systems will be installed at Town Hall, the Police Department, Fire Department, Corner Meeting House and Public Works. The new system will provide modern technology for conference calling, voicemail and interconnectivity between departments; lessen existing maintenance costs and monthly charges.

Ballot Question #18. Shall the Town 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 Budget Committee recommends \$750,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The Town began updating the last engineering proposal for Ladd Hill Road which was completed in 2006 this past summer. The project is slated to be done in phases, with Phase I going out to bid this spring. This will encompass road reconstruction including drainage. The 12/31/2013 balance in the Capital Reserve fund was \$378,301.34, a portion of which will fund the balance of the Phase II work in the Village.

Ballot Question #19. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fourteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$14,500) for the purpose of purchasing Radio Repeaters for the Police Department? (The Budget Committee recommends \$14,500 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The in-car repeaters will enhance radio communications; currently we experience poor radio communication when utilizing our portable radios because of geographical and environmental conditions. The repeaters will improve the safety of our officers.

Ballot Question #20. Shall the Town 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 which includes Police and Fire Departments) for the term April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2017, which calls for the following increases and decreases in salaries and benefits:

Year 2014	Increase (Wages) \$28,889	Increase/(Decrease) Benefits 2014 (\$24,926)
Year	Estimated Increase	Estimated Increase
	(Wages)	(Benefits)
2015	\$24,360	2015 \$7,728
2016	\$23,971	2016 \$8,729

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty Three Dollars (\$3,963), which represents the additional costs attributable to the increase and decrease in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels in accordance with the most

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recent collective bargaining agreement. (The Budget Committee recommends \$3,963 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The Town reached an agreement with the Public Safety union which calls for an annual step increase (2%) with a (1%) COLA for 3-years. In addition, the bargaining unit agreed to modify existing health insurance coverage to reflect a larger office and emergency room co-pay and an increase in the cost share for prescriptions. Additionally those employees choosing a Point of Service plan will pay a larger contribution weekly for their coverage.

Ballot Question #21. Shall the Town of Belmont, if article #20 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article #20 cost items only?

Ballot Question #22. Shall the Town 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, 2014 to March 31, 2017, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

Year	Increase (Wages)	Increase/(Decrease) Benefits
2014	\$9,918	(\$7,430)
Year	Estimated Increase Estimated Increase	
	(Wages)	(Benefits)
2015	\$10,075	\$1,856
2016	\$10,380	\$1,912

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Four Hundred and Eighty Eight Dollars (\$2,488) for the current

fiscal year, which represents 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 in accordance with the most recent collective bargaining (The **Budget** Committee agreement. recommends \$2,488 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The Town reached an agreement with the Public Works union which calls for an annual step increase (2%) with a (1%) COLA for 3-years. In addition, the bargaining unit agreed to modify existing health insurance coverage to reflect a larger office and emergency room co-pay and an increase in the cost share for prescriptions. Additionally those employees choosing a Point of Service plan will pay a larger contribution weekly for their coverage.

Ballot Question #23. Shall the Town of Belmont, if article #22 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address article #22 cost items only?

Ballot Question #24. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Sixty Six Thousand One Hundred Thirty Eight Dollars (\$166,138) for the reconstruction of highways, said appropriation to be offset by Highway Block Grant funds provided by the State of New Hampshire? (The Budget Committee recommends \$166,138 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)

Ballot Question #25. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Twenty Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Five Dollars (\$529,775) for

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the operation and maintenance of the Sewage Collection and Disposal System for the ensuing year, said sum is to be offset by user's fees. Should this article be defeated. the default budget shall be Four Hundred Ninety One Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty Eight Dollars (\$491,588) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or bv law. (The Budget Committee recommends \$529,775 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)

Ballot Question #26. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty Seven Thousand Five Hundred and Forty Eight Dollars (\$257,548) for the operation and maintenance of the Water Distribution and Treatment System for the ensuing year, said sum is to be offset by users' fees. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Two Hundred Seventy Four Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Seven Dollars (\$274,857) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law. (The Budget Committee recommends \$257,548 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)

Ballot Question #27. Shall the Town 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, 2013. (The Budget Committee recommends \$30,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)

The Town's accrued liability for employees eligible for retirement is approximately \$242,922.30; currently the Town has set aside \$92,693.55 through 12/31/2013 in Capital Reserve to fund this obligation.

Ballot Question #28. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000) to be placed in the Municipal Facilities Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006). This appropriation is in addition to Article 8. (The Budget Committee recommends \$125,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The 12/31/2013 balance in Capital Reserve is \$214,626.36.

Ballot Ouestion #29. Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) to be placed in the already established General Cemetery Maintenance Fund governed under the provisions of RSA 31:19-A for the purpose of cemetery maintenance, said amounts to be expendable at the discretion of the Cemetery Trustees (1997). (The Budget Committee recommends \$3,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The 12/31/2013 balance in Capital Reserve is \$9,102.86.

Ballot Question #30. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Water System Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006) said sum is to be offset by user's fees. (The Budget Committee recommends \$25,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this

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recommendation.) *The 12/31/2013 balance in Capital Reserve is \$72,772.23.*

Ballot Question #31. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2005). (The Budget Committee recommends \$10,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The 2014 Property Revaluation will be completed by late summer and new property values will be reflected on your 2014 Fall Tax bill which will be issued by mid-November. Notices will be sent to all property owners regarding their new values and you will be given the opportunity to review the value with an assessor should you choose to. The 12/31/2013 balance in Capital Reserve is \$122,000.56 which will fund the balance of the work on the current revaluation.

Ballot Question #32. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to be placed in the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2002). (The Budget Committee recommends \$30,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)

The 12/31/2013 balance in Capital Reserve is \$56,745.05.

Ballot Question #33. Shall the Town 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 already established (Created 2003). (The Budget Committee recommends \$25,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this

recommendation.) *The 12/31/2013 balance in Capital Reserve is \$6,207.44.*

Ballot Question #34. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000) for the purpose of purchasing a new Police dispatch center radio? (The Budget Committee recommends \$45,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The existing Police Dispatch radio was purchased second hand from Laconia PD; we can no longer get parts for many of the radio's components.

Ballot Question #35. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Drainage Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2003). (The Budget Committee recommends \$25,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The 12/31/2013 balance in Capital Reserve is \$132,462.47.

Ballot Question #36. Shall the Town 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 Budget Committee recommends \$2,500 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The 12/31/2013 balance in Capital Reserve is \$4,205.48.

Ballot Question #37. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Sewer Pump Station Upgrades, Replacement and Repairs Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2010), said

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sum to be offset by user's fees. (The Budget Committee recommends \$10,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.) The 12/31/2013 balance in the Capital Reserve accounts set up for the purpose of Sewer; \$127,221.36 and \$61,743.80.

Ballot Question #38. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500) to be placed in the Heritage Fund previously established (2005). (The Budget Committee recommends \$7,500 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)

\$25,000 of the current Heritage Fund balance is committed to Bandstand restoration project. The 12/31/2013 balance in the Heritage Fund is \$33,280.28.



Vote

Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Belmont High School

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