

TOWN OF BELMONT VOTER'S GUIDE

Guide to the Second Session of the 2019 Town Meeting

Tuesday, March 12, 2019, 7 am to 7 pm, Belmont High School Gym



Dear Belmont Residents:

This year marks the Town of Belmont's 11th 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 2nd. At the Deliberative Session, the voters in attendance were presented with the articles on the warrant as proposed by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee. Each of the articles was discussed and only one article was amended by those present. All other articles will remain in their original format and will be placed on the official ballot. You may cast your ballot on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 from 7 am to 7 pm in the Belmont High School Gym, 265 Seavey Road. All registered voters are eligible to participate in the process. A picture ID is required to vote. Unregistered voters may register at the polls with proof of residency and picture ID.

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

Tax impact information listed in the guide will not be listed on the ballot. We have provided this information here to give voters an idea of what the individual items will cost if voters approve the item. The tax impact information listed in the voter's guide is simply an estimate based on a current snapshot in time using information and revenue projections that are available today including total assessed value prior to the completion of the Revaluation. However, the actual tax rate will not be set by the NH Department of Revenue Administration (NHDRA) until September or October, using actual information that is available then including new assessed values established in 2019.

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., Selectman



Ballot Question #1 – To choose necessary officers for Town Offices.

Selectman, three-year term (vote for one):

Jonathan Pike Douglas Trottier Robert A. Veloski

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

Albert Akerstrom Tracey LeClair Ronald Mitchell

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

Gregg MacPherson

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

Diana Johnson

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

Diane Marden

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

Brenda Paquette

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

Michael LeClair Ward Peterson Richard Pickwick

Zoning Board of Adjustment, three-year term, (vote for one):

Mark Mastenbrook

Town Clerk/Tax Collector, three-year term (vote for one):

Cynthia De Roy

Treasurer, three-year term (vote for one):

Alicia Segalini



Ballot Question #2:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,100,000) for the purpose of construction of an Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility including engineering costs, acquisition of land or interests in land and all other costs reasonably associated with this project. This appropriation is to be funded by a grant in the amount of One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,500,000) from the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund, and further to authorize the issuance of a bond or note in the amount of up to One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,600,000) from the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Future bond payments are anticipated to be funded through Water User Fees and Taxation by inclusion in the budget. (3/5 Ballot Vote Required) (The Budget Committee recommends \$3,100,000 and the Board of Selectmen support this recommendation.)

The proposed water treatment plant was recommended in an engineering study dated April 2018. Alternatives of new sources were considered as part of the study so the most cost-effective solution could be identified. New sources were anticipated to require Iron and Manganese treatment so it was more cost effective to treat the existing sources since the new sources would require significant infrastructure for transmission. In addition to the treatment facility, there will be improvements to Well #1, which is aged and in need of repair. New energy efficient motors and VFD's will be installed and the building will be improved for better insulating value.

As discussed at the Deliberative Session, there are options for the future repayment of the debt associated with this article. They include the 3 options in the chart below:

Water Users	Water Users & Tax Base	Tax Base
\$4.77 per 1,000 gallons	\$4.07 per 1,000 gallons	\$.18 cents per \$1,000
Plus \$62.48 per quarter	Plus \$63.24 per quarter	Of assessed value or
Average bill \$441 Per. yr.	Average bill \$376 Per. Yr.	\$36 annually on a
	+	\$200,000 home
	.09 Cents per \$1,000	
	Of assessed value or	
	\$18 annually on a	
	\$200,000 home	



The article must pass by a 3/5 vote, if it fails, the town will lose the grant funding and low interest loan for this coming year, and we would have to reapply for funding; there are no guarantees that future funding will be as generous to the Town.

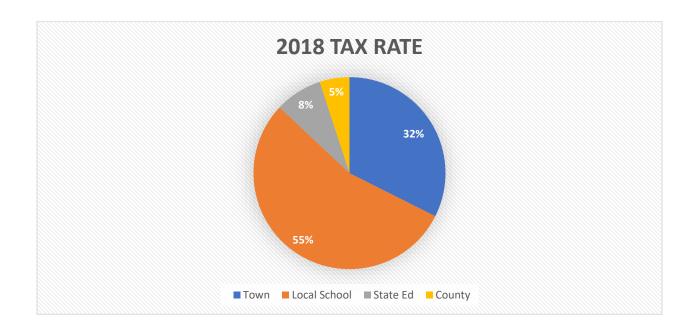
2019 Tax and/or Water Fee Impact: \$0.00

Ballot Question #3:

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the following bond authorizations approved but not issued, March 11, 2014 Town-wide Water Meter Replacement Project, \$76,145.46. A 3/5 majority vote is required. (The Budget Committee and Board of Selectmen recommend this article.)

The purpose of this article is to clear unissued bond authorization from the Town's Balance Sheet. The amount borrowed was less than estimated due to lower project costs.

2019 Tax Impact: \$0.00





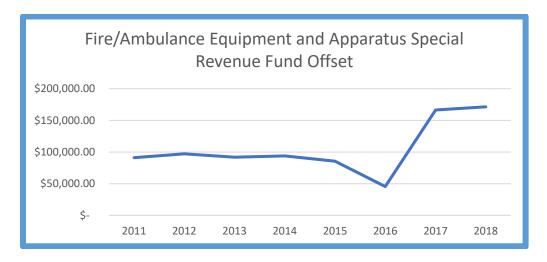
Ballot Question #4:

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 \$131,000 of revenues from ambulance billings received during the 2019 budgetary year to be deposited in the Special Revenue fund known as the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Fund. The first \$131,000 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 2019 budgetary year (A 2/3 Ballot Vote Required).

Training Expenses	\$3,000
Medical & Supply Expenses	\$28,000
Ambulance Billing Fees	\$25,000
Overtime	\$40,000
Telephone	\$2,000
Conferences & Dues	\$1,000
Office Expense	\$12,000
Vehicle Repair & Parts	\$8,000
Fuel	\$12,000

In 2011 the Town began authorizing a portion of the revenues received from ambulance billing to offset the expenditures directly related to the Fire Department and operation of the Ambulance. Revenues accumulated from billings through December 31, 2018; \$671,103.78.

2019 Tax Impact: \$0.00





Ballot Question #5:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) for the cost of an Ambulance for the Fire Department and further to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of Four Hundred Thousand dollars (\$400,000) from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund previously established in accordance with RSA 31:95, c. (Majority ballot vote required.) (The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$400,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

The Belmont Fire Department would like to replace a 2008 GMC 4500 with a Horton (Box) Patient compartment area with a new ambulance. With the increased call volume, and more patients being transported to Concord Hospital for treatment, our current ambulance has had a lot of use. The reliability of our ambulance is becoming a problem, as more maintenance is required more frequently, in efforts to resolve problems that keep arising with it. A new ambulance, with a warranty, would be more reliable and provide a better service for the patients we serve in the Town of Belmont, and the surrounding towns. In replacing the ambulance, Belmont Fire would also be updating the equipment on the ambulance to keep up with the standard of care and technology. Some of the updated equipment would consist of a Zoll X Series cardiac monitor/defibrillator, a Stryker Power Cot with Self Loading, a Lucas Autopulse chest compression device, and auto extrication tools such as a cutter and spreader/cutter.

2019 Tax Impact: \$0.00

Ballot Question #6:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty-Two Thousand One Hundred Seventeen Dollars (\$62,117) for the fourth year's payment on the long term lease/purchase agreement entered into in 2016 for the purchase of a new pumper truck for the Fire Department, and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of said amount from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund previously established in accordance with RSA 31:95, c (Created 1994/Amended 1999). The Town is obligated by the terms of the lease/purchase agreement, as well as the super majority ratifying that agreement in Article 4 at the 2016 Town Meeting, to make these yearly payments. (The Budget Committee recommends \$62,117 the Board Selectmen and of recommendation.)

2019 Tax Impact: \$0.00



Ballot Question #7:

To see if the Town will vote to expend the income from the John M. Sargent Trust Fund for the purposes recommended by the Sargent Fund Committee?

Belknap County 4-H Fair Association	\$1,000
Belmont Baseball Organization	\$1,200
Belmont Early Learning Center	\$500
Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 10972	\$75
Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 12117	\$275
Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 20431	\$125
Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 21532	\$150
Belmont Heritage Commission	\$200
Lake Region Girls Softball	\$500
Belmont Cub Scouts Pack 65	\$275
Belmont Boy Scouts Troop 65	\$400
Belmont High School PTO	\$400
Belmont Historical Society	\$290
Belmont Middle School Nature's Classroom	\$3,000
Belmont Middle School PTO	\$400
Belmont 150 th Celebration	\$5,000
Belmont Parks & Recreation Scholarship	\$1,500
Belmont Public Library	\$869
Charles Kilborn American Legion Post 58	\$200
First Baptist Church of Belmont Mission	\$2,000
St. Joseph's Food Pantry	\$3,000.88
Friends of Belmont Football	\$500



Save Our Gale School

\$200

Total Funds to be distributed

\$22,059.88



John M. Sargent dressed in the uniform of a Colonel of the Governor's staff. Money left in trust at the time of his death in 1947 has since provided funds for many civic projects including the 1969 centennial celebration.



Ballot Question #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 Seven Million Six Hundred Ninety-Six Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars (\$7,696,456)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Seven Million Six Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars (\$7,622,678) 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 **\$7,696,456** and the Board of Selectmen recommend **\$7,694,456**.)

- ❖ Executive budget as proposed is down 9.17%.
- ❖ Election & Registration as proposed is down 61% based on a reduced number of elections in 2019.
- ❖ Property Taxation as proposed is down 19% as the one-time purchase of a software upgrade was completed in 2018.
- ❖ Police Department as proposed is up 3.74% which includes the third year of the Union Contract wage adjustments approved in 2017.
- ❖ Fire Department as proposed is up 3.10% which includes the third year of the Union Contract wage adjustments approved in 2017.
- ❖ Health Insurance rates increased by 11% for 2019.

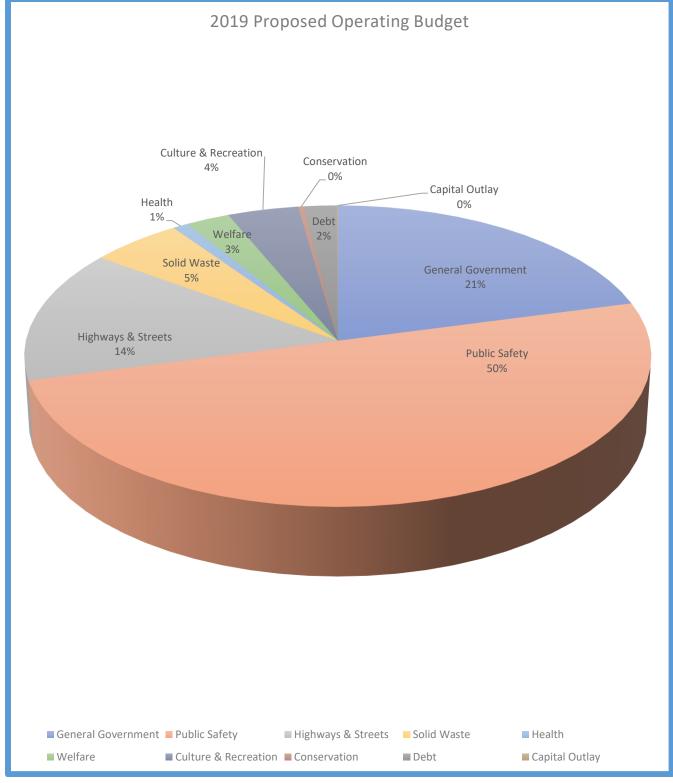
2019 Tax Impact - \$7.58 As proposed

2019 Tax Impact - \$7.46 Default



		2019		2019
Department	-	Proposed		Default
Executive	\$	301,217	\$	326,902.61
Town Clerk Functions	\$	105,552	\$	103,940.89
Elections	\$	3,199	\$	8,275.00
Financial Administration	\$	214,940	\$	211,700.59
Revaluation of Property	\$	56,107	\$	52,235.90
Legal	\$	30,000	\$	20,000.00
Planning & Zoning	\$	333,521	\$	325,927.29
General Gov. Buildings	\$	352,998	\$	344,474.42
Cemetery	\$	20,000	\$	18,800.00
Insurance	\$	188,091	\$	195,355.00
Police	\$	2,136,966	\$2	2,111,466.10
Fire	\$	1,577,575	\$1	,563,016.00
Building Inspection	\$	126,677	\$	129,327.48
Emergency Management	\$	3,000	\$	3,000.00
Public Works Admin.	\$	68,020	\$	67,217.04
Highways & Streets	\$	1,016,483	\$	996,818.99
Street Lights	\$	10,500	\$	10,500.00
Solid Waste Admin	\$	12,071	\$	10,926.00
Solid Waste Collection*	\$	247,625	\$	240,400.00
Solid Waste Disposal	\$	146,533	\$	142,255.00
Health Appropriations	\$	68,336	\$	65,836.00
Gen. Asst. Administration	\$	78,161	\$	76,818.76
Gen. Asst. Vendor Payments	\$	115,600	\$	115,600.00
Recreation	\$	122,838	\$	129,218.59
Library	\$	160,011	\$	149,435.00
Patriotic Purposes Inc. Heritage	\$	27,268	\$	25,268.00
Conservation Commission	\$	26,658	\$	26,454.28
Long Term Debt	\$	117,770	\$	117,770.00
Long Term Interest	\$	23,738	\$	23,738.00
TAN Interest	\$	1	\$	1.00
Capital Improv Except Buildings (Environmental	ф	۲ ۵۵۵	ф	10 000 00
Contingency)	\$	5,000	\$	10,000.00
Total	\$	7,696,456	\$	7,622,678







Source of Revenue	Δ.	tual Revenues		Proposed	
Source of Revenue	Unaudited			Revenues	
	2018			2019	
Taxes		2010		2019	
Timber Taxes	\$	3,274	\$	4,000	
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	\$	22,219	\$	22,300	
Other Taxes - Boat Taxes	\$	30,340	\$	31,000	
Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	\$	202,000	\$	180,000	
Excavation Tax (\$.02 cents per cu. Yd.)	\$	8,702	\$	8,700	
Licenses, Permits & Fees	Ψ	0,702	~	0,100	
Business Licenses & Permits	\$	775	\$	775	
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	\$	1,486,654	\$	1,500,000	
Building Permits	\$	18,628	\$	18,000	
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	\$	101,266	\$	100,000	
From State	Ċ	- ,	•	,	
Shared Revenues	\$	-	\$	-	
Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution	\$	374,412	\$	374,412	
Highway Block Grant	\$	197,177	\$	198,248	
Water Pollution Grant	\$	6,240	\$	6,240	
Housing & Community Development (CDFA)	\$	· -	\$	-	
State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	\$	9	\$	9	
Other (Including Railroad Tax, and Grant Inc.)	\$	40,858	\$	1,600	
From Other Governments*	\$	-	\$	1,500,000	
Charges for Services					
Income from Departments	\$	156,451	\$	306,000	
Other Charges	\$	25,488	\$	8,000	
Miscellaneous Revenues					
Sale of Municipal Property	\$	34,758	\$	10,000	
Interest on Investments	\$	22,229	\$	22,000	
Other (Dividends/Reimbursements)	\$	9,888	\$	43,546	
Interfund Operating Transfers In					
From Special Revenue Funds*	\$	231,729	\$	462,117	
From Enterprise Funds					
Sewer - (offset)	\$	562,289	\$	498,345	
Water - (offset)	\$	271,210	\$	239,418	
From Trust and Fiduciary Funds	\$	-	\$	-	
From Capital Reserve Funds	\$	32,500			



Other Financing Sources		
Proc. From Longterm Bonds & Notes		\$ 1,600,000
Amounts Voted from F/B (Surplus)	\$ 30,000	\$ 32,081
Fund Balance ("Surplus") to reduce taxes	\$ 345,000	\$ 350,000
Total Estimated Revenue & Credits	\$ 4,214,095	\$ 7,516,791

Ballot Question #9:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) to be placed in the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2002). (The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$60,000** and the Budget Committee support this recommendation.)

Capital Reserve balance as of December 31, 2018, \$54,166.79.

2019 Tax Impact - \$.10

Ballot Question #10:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be placed in the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund previously established (2007), and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$30,000 from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2018. (The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$30,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Trust Fund balance as of December 31, 2018, \$73,942.75. The Town's 2019 estimated liability is \$328,222.

2019 Tax Impact - \$0.00



Ballot Question #11:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000) to be placed in the Highway Reconstruction and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006). (The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$750,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Capital Reserve balance as of December 31, 2018, \$1,089,425.99. In 2018 the Town entered into a contract with Busby Construction for road improvements to the entire length of Hurricane Road. The total contract amount is \$1,313,514. Funds previously encumbered from the Highway Block Grant program in 2017 and 2018 will be used to offset the total contract.

2019 Tax Impact - \$1.24

Ballot Question #12:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Town Bridge Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve fund previously established (2003). (The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$25,000** and the Budget Committee support this recommendation.)

Capital Reserve balance as of December 31, 2018, \$100,037.42.

2019 Tax Impact - \$.04

Ballot Question #13:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$85,000) to be placed in the Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2005). (The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$85,000** and the Budget Committee support this recommendation.)

The measure and listing of property is near completion and KRT Appraisals will begin work on the sales analysis this spring; new values will be reflected on your fall 2019 tax bill. Notices will be sent during the summer to advise you of the new value and hearings will be held to provide an opportunity for any questions you may have. Our 2018 Equalization ratio is 79.7%.

Capital Reserve balance as of December 31, 2018, \$47,444.60.

2019 Tax Impact - \$.14



Ballot Question #14:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars (\$198,248) for the reconstruction of highways, said appropriation to be offset by Highway Block Grant funds provided by the State of New Hampshire? (The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$198,248** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Encumbered Highway Block Grant balance as of December 31, 2018, \$349,531. (See Ballot question #11.)

2019 Tax Impact - \$0.00

Ballot Question #15:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Seven Thousand Eighty-One Dollars (\$27,081) 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), and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$2,081 from the unexpended fund balance as of December 31, 2018. (The Board of Selectmen recommends \$27,081 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Capital Reserve balance as of December 31, 2018, \$2,910.27.

2019 Tax Impact - \$.04

Ballot Question #16:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to be placed in the Dry Hydrant and Cistern Repairs and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2010). (The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$2,500** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Capital Reserve balance as of December 31, 2018, \$13,303.82.

2019 Tax Impact - \$0.00



Ballot Question #17:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thirty- Nine Thousand Four Hundred Eighteen Dollars (\$239,418) 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 Thirty-Five Thousand Ninety-One Dollars (\$235,091) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law. (The Budget Committee recommends **\$239,418** and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

2019 Tax Impact - \$0.00

Ballot Question #18:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Four Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-Five Dollars (\$504,585) for 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 Five Hundred Five Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Two Dollars (\$505,482) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law. (The Budget Committee recommends **\$504,585** and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

2019 Tax Impact - \$0.00

Ballot Question #19:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500) to be placed in the Heritage Fund previously established (2005). (The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$4,500** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Heritage Fund balance as of December 31, 2018, \$39,917.46.

2019 Tax Impact - \$0.00



Ballot Question #20:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the Village Rail Spur Trail Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2016). (The Board of Selectmen recommends **\$5,000** and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

Capital Reserve balance as of December 31, 2018, \$21,884.70.

2019 Tax Impact - \$0.00

2019 Proposed Tax Rate

Proposed Budget: \$13,189,905
Projected Revenue: \$(7,166,791)
Reserved for Abatements: \$25,000
War Service Credits: \$244,100
Unexpended Fund Balance to be applied: \$(350,000)

Assessed Value used to Calculate: 695,306,142/1000

Estimated Tax Rate Town Portion: \$8.55

(a reduction of .93 cents over 2018)

Assessed value was based on a conservative estimate of a 15% increase in overall assessed value. The Town's current Equalization Ratio is 79.7%.

Ballot Question #21:

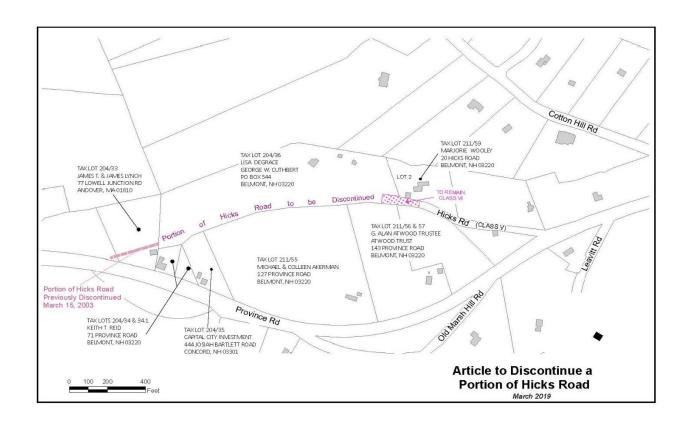
To see if the Town will vote to discontinue completely a portion of Hicks Road, so-called, formerly known as Old Province Road. The portion to be discontinued, currently a part of a Class VI public highway, is described as follows:

Beginning at a point at the centerline of Hicks Road, so-called, 90' northwesterly of an iron pipe at the northwesterly corner of Lot 2, now or formerly owned by Marjorie Wooley, as depicted on a Subdivision of Land owned by Robert P. & Shirley Coyne, Marsh Hill, Belmont, New Hampshire, by Ronald M. Mitchell Associates, dated March 11, 1977, and recorded at the Belknap County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 62 Plan 21, said point near the existing gate;

Thence running along the centerline of said Hicks Road in a generally northwesterly direction, 1230' ± to a point on the property line of land now or formerly of James T. Lynch and James Lynch at the end of said Hicks Road as it was discontinued by vote of Town Meeting, March 15, 2003 (Article 24).



This article was amended at the Deliberative Session and the amended language is included above. Below is a map of the proposed discontinuance.







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

MARCH 12, 2019

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