



2025
WARRANT

Belmont

The inhabitants of the Town of Belmont in the County of Belknap in the state of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session of Annual Meeting (Deliberative Session)

Date: Saturday, February 1, 2025
Time: 10:00 am
Location: Belmont High School , 255 Seavey Road Belmont NH
Details:

Second Session of Annual Meeting (Official Ballot Voting)

Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2025
Time: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm
Location: Belmont High School, 255 Seavey Road Belmont NH
Details:

GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

We certify and attest that on or before January 27, 2025, a true and attested copy of this document was posted at the place of meeting and at Belmont Post Office and that an original was delivered to Belmont Town Clerk.

Name	Position	Signature
Ruth P. Mooney	Chairman	<i>Ruth P. Mooney</i>
Travis O'Hara	Vice Chairman	<i>Travis O'Hara</i>
Jon Pike	Selectman	<i>Jon Pike</i>
Claude Patten, Jr.	Selectman	<i>Claude Patten</i>
Sharon Ciampi	Selectman	<i>Sharon Ciampi</i>



Article 01 Election of necessary officers

To choose necessary officers, including:

- Selectman 3- Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)
- Town Clerk Tax Collector 3- Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)
- Budget Committee 3- Year Term (Vote for up to 4)
- Budget Committee 2- Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)
- Budget Committee 1- Year Term (Vote for up to 2)
- Trustee of Trust Funds 3- Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)
- Library Trustee 3- Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)
- Cemetery Trustee 3- Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)
- Planning Board 3- Year Term (Vote for up to 2)
- Zoning Board of Adjustment 3- Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)
- Treasurer 3-Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)

Article 02 Zoning Amendment

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 to the Belmont Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Amend Article 5, Table 1, Table of Permitted Uses, to clarify that Agricultural Animals are permitted by right (P), rather than by special exception (E), on lots greater than 1 acre in the Residential Multi-Family, Residential Single Family, and Rural Zones?

Article 03 Zoning Amendment

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 to the Belmont Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: add a definition of motor vehicle?

Article 15: Definitions

Motor Vehicle:

Any self-propelled vehicle not operated exclusively on stationary tracks, including ski area vehicles. This includes all vehicles, engines, machines, or mechanical contrivances, except electric bicycles and electric personal assistive mobility devices (e.g. mobility scooter), which are propelled on the public highways by internal combustion engines, electric motors, steam engines, or other alternate sources of energy except human or animal power.

Article 04 Petition

To see if the Town of Belmont would vote to allow manufactured homes in the Town on their own land.

(The Planning Board does not support this Petitioned Warrant Article.)



2025
WARRANT

Article 05 Public Safety Employees Union - Police Unit A

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in an amendment to the existing 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, 2025 to March 31, 2026, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Year	Increase (Wages & Benefits)
2025	\$145,724

And further, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$145,724 for the current fiscal year (2025), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the amended agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels under the existing agreement.

Should this article fail to pass, the cost items approved by the 2023 Town Meeting for the Public Safety Employees Union-Police Unit A collective bargaining agreement for the term ending March 31, 2026 shall remain in place, unless the governing body calls a special meeting pursuant to Article #05 and the above cost items for the term April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 are subsequently approved at such special meeting. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Budget Committee recommends \$145,724 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Article 06 Special Meeting for Collective Bargaining Agreements

Shall the Town, if Warrant Article #5 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Warrant Article #5 cost items only? (Majority Vote Required.)

Article 07 Operating Budget

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, \$11,395,086. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$10,822,658 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. (Majority Vote Required.)

Note: This warrant article (Operating Budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant article.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$11,395,086 and the Board of Selectmen recommends \$11,404,085.)



Article 08 Sewer Department Operations

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$783,081 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 \$766,257, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$783,081 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Article 09 Water Distribution and Treatment System

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$343,438 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 \$273,729, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$343,438 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Article 10 FD Tanker Lease Purchase

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a long-term lease/purchase agreement with a non-appropriation clause in an amount up to \$550,000 payable over a term of 60 months for a new Tanker for the Fire Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250,000 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? No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$250,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)



Article 11 Amend Special Revenue

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 Special Revenue Fund to instead restrict all but the first \$149,500 of revenues from ambulance billings received during the 2025 budgetary year to be deposited in the Special Revenue fund known as the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Fund. The first \$149,500 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 2025 budgetary year. No amount to be raised by taxation. (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 \$33,000
Fuel \$8,000

(The Budget Committee recommends \$149,500 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Article 12 Long Term Lease Ambulance

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$105,000 for the second year's payment on the long term lease/purchase agreement entered into in 2023 for the purchase of a new Ambulance 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 7 at the 2023 Town Meeting, to make these yearly payments. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Budget Committee recommends \$105,000 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)



Article 13 Long Term Lease Pumper Truck

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,776 for the tenth 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. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Budget Committee recommends \$60,776 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Article 14 Add to Highway Reconstruction Capital Reserve

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$750,000 to be placed in the Highway Reconstruction and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006). (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Budget Committee recommends \$750,000 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Article 15 Municipal Facilities Capital Reserve

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500,000 to be placed in the Municipal Facilities Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006). (Majority Vote Required.)

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



Article 16 Highway Block Grant

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$197,367 for the reconstruction of highways, anticipated to be offset by Highway Block Grant funds provided by the State of New Hampshire. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Budget Committee recommends \$197,367 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Article 17 Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$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 Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

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

Article 18 Water System Repair & Maintenance

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$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. (Majority Vote Required.)

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

Article 19 Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$110,000 to be placed in the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2002), and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$110,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Budget Committee recommends \$110,000 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)



Article 20 Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 to be placed in the Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2005), and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$80,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Budget Committee recommends \$80,000 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Article 21 Information Technology

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$37,500 to be placed in the Information Technology Expendable Trust Fund previously established (2002), and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$37,500 from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

(The Budget Committee recommends \$37,500 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Article 22 Sewer Repair & Maintenance

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 to be placed in the Sewer System Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2011) with said sum to be offset by user fees. (Majority Vote Required.)

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

Article 23 Cemetery Capital Reserve

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the already established General Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust 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). (Majority Vote Required.)

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



Article 24 Drainage Projects Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Drainage Projects Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2003), and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$25,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

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

Article 25 Library Building Improvements

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Library Building Improvements Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2000). (Majority Vote Required.)

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

Article 26 Bridge Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Town Bridge Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2003), and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$25,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

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

Article 27 Durrell Mountain Road Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Durrell Mountain Road Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2021). This sum to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

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

Article 28 Heritage Fund



Article 28 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,500 to be placed in the Heritage Fund previously established (2004). (Majority Vote Required.)

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

Article 29 **Appropriation for Expendable Trust Election Equipm**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be placed in the Election Equipment Expendable Trust Fund previously established (2020) and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$2,500 from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required.)

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

Article 30 **Establish Contingency Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Contingency Fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further raise and appropriate \$20,000 to go into the fund. This sum to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance and no amount is to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at year end will lapse to the General Fund. Use of these funds will be pursuant to RSA 31:98-a. and further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend. (Majority Vote Required.)

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



Article 31 Sargent Fund Income

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 amount to be raised by taxation.

- Belknap Country Fair Association \$2,500
- Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 12117 \$385
- Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 60200 \$770
- Belmont Girl Scout Community \$300
- Belmont Heritage Commission \$250
- Belmont High School PTO \$700
- Belmont Historical Society \$550
- Belmont Middle School - Fifth Grade Camp Cody \$3,750
- Belmont Middle School PTO \$700
- Belmont Public Library \$900
- First Baptist Church of Belmont \$3,200
- Got Lunch! Belmont & Friends \$5,879.71
- Lakes Region Girls Softball \$500
- Lakes Region VNA \$1,500
- Saint Joseph Food Party \$3,200
- Visiting Nurse Association of Franklin, dba Franklin VNA & Hospice \$1,500

Article 32 Hire 2 Firefighters

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$193,391 for salary and benefits to hire two (2) full-time firefighters.

Fiscal Year	Salary	Benefits	Total
2025-26	\$109,675	\$83,716	\$193,391

(The Budget Committee does not recommend \$193,391 (11-0) and the Board of Selectmen do not recommend \$193,391 (3-2).)

Article 33 Modify Disabled Exemption

Shall the Town modify the provisions of RSA 72:37-b, Exemption for the Disabled from property tax, based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to increase the exemption from \$50,000 to \$80,000 and to increase the permitted net income of the property owner from \$25,000 to \$35,000 or if married, a combined net income of not more than \$50,000 instead of \$35,000; and to increase the permitted net assets of the owner(s) to be not in excess of \$200,000 instead of \$100,000, excluding the value of the person's residence? (Majority Vote Required.)

(This article recommended by the Board of Selectmen.)

Article 34 Modify Elderly Exemption



Article 34 Shall the Town modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for Elderly Exemption from property tax in the Town of Belmont, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows: for a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, increase the exemption from \$65,000 to \$80,000; for a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, increase the exemption from \$80,000 to \$100,000; for a person 80 years of age or older increase the exemption from \$125,000 to \$150,000. In addition, to increase the permitted net income of the owner from not more than \$25,000 to \$35,000 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$50,000 instead of \$35,000; and to increase the permitted net assets of the owner(s) to be not in excess of \$200,000 instead of \$150,000, excluding the value of the person's residence? (Majority Vote Required.)

(This article recommended by the Board of Selectmen.)

Article 35 **Increase Cemetery Trustees**
Are you in favor of increasing the number of Cemetery Trustees from 3 to 5?

(This article submitted by Petition.)

Article 36 **BOS Meeting Hours**
Shall the Town vote to make the Selectmen's meetings be after 4:00 pm, unless there is an emergency that requires a daytime meeting?

(This article submitted by Petition.)