



Community Meeting on Belmont Town Buildings on January 10th

Join us for a Community Meeting on Belmont Town Buildings January 10th from 6:30-8pm at Belmont High School. Light snacks will be provided.

This meeting will focus on options to meet Belmont's future Town building needs. Belmont residents and landowners are being asked to help select the best option for future use of Town buildings considering space needs over the next 20 years. The meeting will include a Town Building Study update followed by a listening session and discussion to receive feedback on several options to meet future needs of the Police Department and Town Hall programs. Input from the community will help guide the next steps in the study and work to complete a strategy for all Town buildings later in 2019. A post card was sent to Belmont residents to invite the community to participate in this meeting. A snow date of January 24th has been identified to ensure that this key meeting has good participation.

This January 10th Community Meeting is an essential step to develop a long-term strategy for Belmont Town buildings. Last March, Belmont voters approved funding to conduct a Town Space and Feasibility Study. This study fills in information gaps by focusing on the Police Department and Town Hall functions (Administration, Clerk's Office, Land Use, Parks & Recreation and General Assistance Department). Lavallee/Brensinger Architects (LBA) was selected to conduct this study. The Belmont Facility Strategy Committee, a citizen group authorized by the Town Selectmen in 2017 requested the study to fill in key information to complete a strategy for all Town buildings. The Committee needed space projections for the Police Department and Town Hall functions for 10-20 years and an assessment of Police Station and Bank Building condition to be able to develop options for the community to make informed decisions for the future. LBA has significant experience working with Town building issues like ours. Past studies and projects provide good information about the Belmont Mill and other Town buildings.

Lavallee/Brensinger Architects developed space projections for Belmont's Town Hall and Police programs with input from Town staff and Facility Committee review. LBA and its sub-contractors conducted a structural, electrical and building systems of the Police Station and Bank Building. This information along with existing available studies for the Belmont Mill, Town Hall, Corner Meeting House and other Town buildings will be used in developing options for meeting future Town building needs. This information is now available on the Town of Belmont website cover page <http://www.belmontnh.org/>. During the meeting, there will be a presentation on a series of options to consider for use of Town buildings based on space needs and potential cost estimates for these options. The Facility Strategy Committee is seeking feedback on which option for the Police Department and Town Hall functions to study further as it works to complete a strategy for all Town buildings.

For those who have not had an opportunity to tour the Belmont Town Hall and Police Station, Lakes Region Public Access Television prepared a video from a 2017 public tour to provide a “virtual tour” of these buildings. The link to this video is <https://livestream.com/belmontnh/live/videos/184122032>

A series of updates are planned to inform the community about the Belmont Space and Feasibility Study and the options being considered for meeting future needs of Town programs. Committee members are available to answer questions about the study and next steps. When recommended options are refined with projected costs, the Community meeting will be used to draw input from the public on options to meet future Town facility needs that merit more in-depth study.

For more information on Belmont's Facility Study and the Community Meeting go to the Belmont Town website under Projects/Facility Strategy. Belmont Facility Committee members include: Tom Garfield, Donna Hepp, Carmen Lorentz, and Pret Tuthill.