



Dover to sell pedestrian bridge to Belmont for \$1



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DOVER — The City Council Wednesday night voted unanimously to approve the sale of the covered pedestrian bridge to Belmont for a nominal fee.

Last month, Belmont offered to purchase the bridge for \$1 and take on all costs of removing the bridge.

Local fundraising efforts to maintain the bridge or relocate it fell short and it has become the target of vandalism. While some councilors acknowledged the bridge's aesthetic potential, most believed that it was time to allow another town to put it to use.

"I'm thrilled that Belmont has come forward with this," Councilor Bill Garrison said. "It is very comforting to know that this is not going to be hanging over the taxpayers' heads moving forward."

Both Garrison and Deputy Mayor Robert Carrier thanked those in the community who helped raise funds in an effort to salvage the bridge, specifically praising the work of resident Earle Goodwin, who worked on a proposal to use the bridge as the centerpiece of a park.

Ultimately, however, Councilor Dot Hooper believes that the bridge has become too costly of a problem for the city.

"This is not a bridge that has any historic value whatsoever," she said. "We need to stop paying for its storage. Let's get rid of it."



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