Belmont
deliberative session
Saturday, February 2, 2019, 10:00 a.m.
Belmont High School Cafeteria
First session
You are hereby notified to meet for the First (Deliberative) Session of the Annual Town Meeting, to be held at the Belmont High School, 255 Seavey Road, Belmont, New Hampshire on the 2nd day of February 2019, being a Saturday at 10 o’clock in the forenoon. The First (Deliberative) Session will consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of each of the following warrant articles, and will afford those voters who are present the opportunity to propose, debate and adopt amendments to each warrant article, except those articles whose wording is prescribed by State law.

Second session
You are also notified to meet for the Second Session of the Annual Town Meeting, to elect Town Officers by official ballot and to vote by official ballot on the warrant articles as they may have been amended at the First (Deliberative) Session, to be held at the Belmont High School, 255 Seavey Road, Belmont, New Hampshire on the 12th day of March, being a Tuesday, between the hours of 7:00 o’clock in the forenoon and 7:00 o’clock in the afternoon, to act upon the following:

Article #1. To choose necessary officers, including Selectman three-year term (1), Budget Committee three-year term (4), Trustee of Trust Funds three-year term (1), Library Trustee three-year term (1), Cemetery Trustee three-year term (1), Supervisor of the Checklist six-year term (1), Planning Board three-year term (2), Zoning Board of Adjustment three-year term (2), Town Clerk/Tax Collector three-year term (1) and Treasurer two-year term (1).

Article #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.)
Article #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.

Article #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

Article #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.)

Article #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 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

Article #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?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belknap County 4-H Fair Association</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Baseball Organization</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Early Learning Center</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 10972</td>
<td>$75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 12117</td>
<td>$275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 20431</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 21532</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Heritage Commission</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Region Girls Softball</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Cub Scouts Pack 65</td>
<td>$275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Boy Scouts Troop 65</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont High School PTO</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Historical Society</td>
<td>$290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Middle School Nature’s Classroom</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont Middle School PTO</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belmont 150th Celebration</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Article #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.)

**Article #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.)

**Article #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.)

**Article #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.)

**Article #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.)

**Article #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.)

**Article #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.)

**Article #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.)

**Article #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.)

**Article #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.)

**Article #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 Four 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.)

**Article #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.)

**Article #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.)

**Article #21.** To see if the Town vote to discontinue completely, with ownership reverting to the abutting land owner(s), a portion of Hicks Road, so-called. The portion to be discontinued, currently 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, M 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 being 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).
Greetings fellow residents of Belmont!! The season of the groundhog is upon us! What will he predict this year? Six more weeks of Winter or an early Spring? Personally I’m hoping for the early Spring!

It is the time of year when we are preparing for our Town Election which will take place on Tuesday, March 12, 2019.

The filing period for town offices opened on January 23rd and runs through Friday, February 1, 2019. Our office will remain open from 4-5 PM on Friday, February 1, 2019 for filing purposes only. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to give us a call.

The Town’s Deliberative session is being held on Saturday February 2, 2019, in the Belmont High School Cafeteria beginning at 10 AM. The deliberative session is the time for all of the warrant articles that are proposed for the official ballot for the Town election to be read and discussed. While no voting on Warrant articles will take place on this day, wording and dollar amounts of warrant articles can be discussed and possibly amended. It is a very big step in our Town’s election process.

Our office sent out delinquent notices at the end of January. These notices are meant to make residents aware of any unpaid balances that are left over from the previous year and to give you an opportunity to get accounts cleaned up before the tax lien is executed. If you receive a notice and have any questions, please contact our office.

It is the time of year when we can renew the licenses of our furry canine family members. The licenses are due to be renewed by April 30th. Residents have the option to swing in our office, pay by mail, or renew your dog’s license on our town website, www.belmontnh.org. If you renew your dog’s license by mail, please be sure to include a self-addressed stamped envelope for the return of the tags. Please keep in mind that if you renew on our town website, there is a convenience fee that is added to the transaction.

We hope the winter has not treated you too badly and look forward to spring!!
WHAT ACTUALLY CONSTITUTES DISTRACTED DRIVING?

_Belmont Police_

_Captain Richard Mann_

Have you ever been motoring along and all of a sudden you have to jam on the brakes or swerve quickly to avoid an animal or debris in the road, or someone making a last minute left turn in front of you?

Good thing at that moment you were paying attention and not looking in the mirror at your hair, or looking down to kick something rolling around at your feet, or looking in the back seat at the pride of your life fast asleep in the booster seat. These things are all taking you away from the fact you are supposed to be attentively driving.

Distracted driving is any activity that diverts attention from operating the vehicle, including talking or texting on your phone, eating and drinking, talking to people in your vehicle, fiddling with the stereo, entertainment or navigation system, turning to yell at the kids or the pets—anything that takes your attention away from the task of safe driving.

Think about this; texting is one of the most alarming distractions. Looking at your phone takes your eyes off the road for 5 seconds. At 55 mph, that is equivalent to driving the length of an entire football field with your eyes closed. That is an awful lot of pavement under the wheels you are not looking at.

You cannot drive safely unless the task of driving has your full attention. Any non-driving activity you engage in is a potential distraction and increases your risk of crashing.

We have seen a number of crashes (some serious) in Town that we contributed to distraction in one form or another. The most dangerous action most of us take daily is strapping ourselves and our children into three thousand pounds of metal, fuel and glass, then hurling ourselves down the roads at 50–55 mph.
Teens

Teens can be the best messengers with their peers, we encourage them to speak up when they see a friend driving while distracted, to have their friends sign a pledge to never drive distracted to become involved in their local Students Against Destructive Decisions chapter, and to share messages on social media that remind their friends, family, and neighbors not to make the deadly choice to drive distracted.

Parents

Parents first have to lead by example—by never driving distracted—as well as have a talk with their young driver about distraction and all of the responsibilities that come with driving. Have everyone in the family sign the pledge to commit to distraction-free driving. Remind your teen driver that in States with graduated driver licensing (GDL), a violation of distracted-driving laws could mean a delayed or suspended license.

Educators and Employers

Educators and employers can play a part, too. Spread the word at your school or workplace about the dangers of distracted driving. Ask your students to commit to distraction-free driving or set a company policy on distracted driving.

New Hampshire has a strict law covering this issue. (265:79-c Use of Mobile Electronic Devices While Driving; Prohibition).

The NH R.S.A. calls for a $124 fine for the first offense, $250 for the second offense and $500 for the third offense. The law says you may not use any hand held electronic device while operating a vehicle. This includes GPS entry while driving. If you are a youth operator and commit this offense the DMV will also take your license for a period of time.

The only exceptions to this law would be when you are prompted to use an electronic ignition interlock device (if you have been convicted of a prior DWI), using a two way radio, or dialing 911 to report an emergency. For those of us that may be electronically challenged, have a teenager set up the phone to car hands free connection for you. Activating the vehicle’s blue tooth connection will save you time, a possible fine, and possibly someone’s life.

If you have questions about this law or any motor vehicle laws in our state feel free to contact one of your Belmont police officers at 267-8350.
We have filled our open vacancy and are pleased to announce the new officer’s swear in was held Thursday, January 24th at 1:00 pm at the Corner Meeting House.

Mitchell Flournoy proudly took his oath from the Belmont Town Clerk in front of friends, family and his new coworkers.

He was selected from a number of highly qualified candidates. He will be filling the position created when we lost an officer to the Dallas, Texas PD.

Mitchell came from the Williamson County Sheriff’s Office in Franklin, Tennessee, where he started off as a detention deputy in the jail. He then transitioned to become a certified patrol deputy.

He will undergo an extensive Field Training Program with members of our BPD field training officer team members before he attends a law package certification course at the NH Police Academy in Concord.
With the new year came another big change for BFD. Lt. Greg Bavis retired from the Belmont Fire Department. Lt. Bavis started with our department in 2004 and was promoted to Lieutenant in 2007. Throughout the years, Lt. Bavis has worked and managed our in-house apparatus maintenance and has written many grants for the Belmont Fire Department, aiding our department in receiving over $400,000.00 in funds to buy some of the equipment and apparatus that we use on a regular basis. Although this is a big loss for the Belmont Fire Department and we are saddened to see Lt. Bavis go, we are very excited to see what is next for him. We wish him nothing but the best in this next chapter!
In December, both Firefighter Bryan Fenn and Firefighter Pete Latucky completed their one year probationary period. These two put in a lot of time, obtaining their AEMT, learning the many roads of Belmont, as well as learning all of the trucks and equipment within the department. We are very excited for these two. Congratulations! All of the hard work paid off!
With the new year comes good news for the Town of Belmont. In December, our office was contacted by FEMA to inform us that our second and final project for the October 29, 2017 storm had been closed out. With all of the hard work from the Fire Department, Police Department, Highway Department and Water and Sewer Department, the Town of Belmont was able to recover $39,376.01 from the FEMA Public Assistance Reimbursement Program to help offset some of the cost of the storm.
Recently, our crew had a couple close calls while in route to emergency calls and while on scene all due to distracted drivers. We would like to take a minute and remind drivers that if you hear sirens and see lights behind you, pull to the right and allow emergency personnel to pass you. If you are approaching an area that has emergency vehicles present with the lights flashing, slow down. Cutting off emergency vehicles, racing to get ahead of them, or paying more attention to your phone than the road ahead not only puts your life at risk, but also anyone on the road, including emergency personnel.

Please do us all a favor... SLOW DOWN and pay attention while you are driving. We want everyone to make it home to see their families.
Friendly February Reminders

Winter Parking Ban:

A winter parking ban is in effect until April 2019. Please do not park overnight on any town road. Overnight parking presents a problem for our crews during our plowing operations. Vehicles that are parked interrupting snow removal are subject to a ticket and a tow.

The Park and Ride has a 72-hour parking limit. We ask if you must park there during a storm that you park at the rear of the lot and try to consolidate your vehicle next to others. This makes it much easier for our crews when conducting snow removal operations.

Snow Obstruction and Removal:

Throwing, snowplowing, shoveling snow onto or plowing snow across Town or State roads or leaving snow on the roadway is prohibited. If your plow driver plows across the Town road he must then take necessary steps to clean and make sure there are no snow humps or obstructions in the road. The Town ordinance regarding these actions can be reviewed on the Town website. Fines are listed for violations of the ordinances.

Putting snow back on the surface that the Town has cleaned poses an unnecessary hazard for others and runs up the cost to the Town when we must revisit and possibly retreat the area already cleaned.

If you hire a private snow removal contractor to clean your property, please make sure that they are aware of the ordinance.

Driveway Culvert Maintenance:

Driveway culvert maintenance is the responsibility of the homeowner. Not only should you keep your culvert free from debris, it is recommended that snow not be piled up to obstruct the flow of water. This can contribute to flooding and water washing out your driveway along with entering the road which can cause a hazard to motorists.

Winter Sand:

For your convenience winter sand will be available at the highway garage located at 149 Hurricane Rd. during our normal hours of operation. Please try to plan ahead as our facility will be closed otherwise.

Monday through Thursday 6:30 am – 4:00 pm
Friday 6:30 am -10:30 am
We have a 3- five-gallon pail limit and appreciate your cooperation. Our public sand pile is located near the entrance to avoid interference with our day-to-day operation. If you have a large driveway and are in need a large quantity of sand, many local vendors can accommodate you. Thank you for your understanding!

**Mailbox Location and Homeowner Responsibility:**

It is the property owner’s responsibility to maintain and properly locate their mailbox. The front of the mailbox should be located no closer than 2’ from the edge of the pavement and should be a minimum 42” high from the bottom of the supporting post. We recommend a height of 46” as this will accommodate the wing of our plows to go under and not come in contact with the mailbox or the supporting post. We also recommend a metal mailbox, plastic will not hold up in the cold weather. If for some reason your mailbox is damaged, the postmaster for the Town of Belmont should be contacted to verify that proper installation was performed before contacting the DPW. See attached photo for a recommended installation:

- Metal USPS approved mailbox
- Front edge 2’ from the edge of road
- 42” to 46” in height
- Main post 3’ back from edge of road
Planning and Zoning Committee News

February 2019

National Organ Donor Day
February 14, 2019

Planning Board

Jason Drouin Custom Homes LLC: Tabled continuation of request for Site Plan approval to construct a second story on part of existing structure (40’ x 80’) permitted as Contractor’s Yard (building contractor with cabinet shop) on property located at 15 Durrell Mountain Road.

603 Storage: Approval of Site Plan and Conditional Use Permit to construct 20,000sf self-storage buildings (warehousing/self-storage interior) on property located adjacent to 15 Gilmanton Road.

Land Use Notes

It’s Winter – Remember to stay safe!

Watch out for snow removal equipment

Beware of Ice Dams

Remove snow (and other heavy items) from roof

Remove snow safely!

Are You Planning a Spring Project?

Often the cold winter gets us thinking about projects around the home that we want to start as soon as spring arrives. Maybe:

1. Putting a roof over that deck, something you can screen in to avoid the bugs;
2. Replacing that leaky roof;
3. Paving that icy/muddy driveway;
4. Putting in a pool - wouldn't that be great for the summertime?

Your wintertime planning should include a call to the Land Use office. Many projects do require a permit and that's something you can get now, before the busy spring arrives. You know how it is - you'll wake up some warm spring Saturday morning, head to the building supplies store and want to get started today! Don't put off getting that permit! Once you have a permit, you have 6 months to start active and substantial work on the project; so it's really not too early to give us a call!

For additional Land Use Information:

Visit www.belmontnh.org

Contact LandUse@BelmontNH.org

Call 267-8300 x 119
Community Meeting Feedback and Next Steps for Study

The Facility Committee appreciates the community participation in the January 10th Meeting on Belmont Town Buildings. If you were not able to attend, you can watch a video of the meeting through a link on the Town website. The meeting provided an update on the Space and Feasibility Study being completed by our consultant, Lavalle/Brensinger Architects. A 20-year projection of space needs for the Police Department and Town Hall functions were shared along with options to meet Belmont's future Town building needs for the Police and Town Hall. Belmont residents and landowners provided feedback on the options they preferred considering space needs over the next 20 years.

Community feedback favored the option of moving Town Hall functions to the Belmont Mill and expanding the existing Police Station by adding a second story to the building. Other suggestions made regarding these preferred options included shifting which programs were on the first floor of the Mill and a suggestion to consider the entire Corner Meeting House and Police Department site for long-range use of the Police Department. After consideration of all the feedback, the Facility Strategy Committee is moving forward with the final phase of the Study with these recommendations:

- **Town Hall** - Refine Option C-Move Town Hall to the Belmont Mill with a shift of community programs (Recreation and community meeting rooms to the first floor).

- **Police Department**
  1. Add an Option which includes the Corner Meeting House and Police Department site with a new two-story building. This allows PD to remain in existing building until construction is completed and then the old PD building could be removed or converted into a garage and storage area.
  2. Retain Option A- Add second story to existing Police Station.

Both PD options would be conceptual with basic design for use of space and cost estimates to
allow comparison by the community and Committee. These designs will be less detailed than those for Town Hall.

The Space Study will be completed by late March. The Facility Committee will share the final Study report and work with the community and Selectmen to move forward. The Committee plans to continue to work closely with the community to complete a Facility Strategy for all town buildings by this Fall. One of the important considerations of this effort is to consider how to phase the recommended changes over time.

The Facility Committee welcomes participation in this effort and will be providing notice of key meetings and opportunities for community discussion and feedback. Approved funding to conduct a Town Space and Feasibility Study. Facility Committee: Tom Garfield, Donna Hepp, Carmen Lorentz, and Pret Tuthill
Conservation Commission

Citizens’ Science - NH Stonewall Mapping Project

When you think about New Hampshire’s landscape and its history, what is one of the first things that pops into your mind? Stonewalls, of course! We see them everywhere in the state. But, as you are probably aware, the many miles of stonewalls weren’t built in the woods; they were built in the late 1700’s to early 1800’s to remove stones from agricultural fields and delineate fields and pastures. Most were built during the Great Sheep Craze that began with the War of 1812. At one time it is estimated that there were more than 250,000 miles of stonewalls in New England and New York.¹ It seems hard to believe that NH, now over 80% forested, was at one time mostly cleared.

The NH Stonewall Mapping project aims to locate the remaining stonewalls in NH using the most modern technology available, LIDAR. LIDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) is a remote sensing technology that uses light in the form of pulsed laser to examine the surface of the earth. Topographic LIDAR uses pulses of light emitted from a near-infrared laser mounted in a small aircraft to “scan” the land surface below. The LIDAR sensor detects the travel time of reflected energy from each laser pulse. The collected data, known as the “point cloud”, represent reflections from the ground, as well as any vegetation, buildings or other solid surfaces. The raw data points may be processed to create a “bare earth” model which reveals unprecedented topographic details as though all vegetation and buildings or other structures have been completely stripped away.²

Now, the NH Geological Survey, a bureau at NH Dept. of Environmental Services, with a grant from the NH Charitable Foundation, has created the NH Stone Wall Mapping Project. The NH Stone Wall Mapper, hosted by NH GRANIT (NH’s GIS repository) is an online map which depicts LIDAR that sees through our forested landscape and allows residents to crowdsource stonewall locations by adding existing stonewalls to it. Below are two images of the same area of Belmont between Province Road and Middle Route just north of Hoadley Road. Check out the link to the Mapper and become a Citizen Scientist!

---

¹ James L. Garvin, State Architectural Historian, New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources ★ Updated excerpt from the Fall 2001 Old Stone Wall newsletter

Have you tested your private well recently?
NH Dept. of Environmental Service Private Well Webpage
Mending Wall as read by Robert Frost

The most famous of NH stonewalls
Robert Frost, 1874 – 1963

Something there is that doesn’t love a wall,
That sends the frozen-ground-swell under it,
And spills the upper boulders in the sun;
And makes gaps even two can pass abreast.
The work of hunters is another thing:
I have come after them and made repair
Where they have left not one stone on a stone,
But they would have the rabbit out of hiding,
To please the yelping dogs. The gaps I mean,
No one has seen them made or heard them made,
But at spring mending-time we find them there.
I let my neighbor know beyond the hill;
And on a day we meet to walk the line
And set the wall between us once again.
We keep the wall between us as we go.
To each the boulders that have fallen to each.
And some are loaves and some so nearly balls
We have to use a spell to make them balance:
‘Stay where you are until our backs are turned!’
We wear our fingers rough with handling them.
Oh, just another kind of outdoor game,
One on a side. It comes to little more:
There where it is we do not need the wall:
He is all pine and I am apple orchard.
My apple trees will never get across
And eat the cones under his pines, I tell him.
He only says, ‘Good fences make good neighbors.’
Spring is the mischief in me, and I wonder
If I could put a notion in his head:
‘Why do they make good neighbors? Isn’t it
Where there are cows? But here there are no cows.
Before I built a wall I’d ask to know
What I was walling in or walling out,
And to whom I was like to give offense.
Something there is that doesn’t love a wall,
That wants it down.’ I could say ‘Elves’ to him,
But it’s not elves exactly, and I’d rather
He said it for himself. I see him there
Bringing a stone grasped firmly by the top
In each hand, like an old-stone savage armed.
He moves in darkness as it seems to me,
Not of woods only and the shade of trees.
He will not go behind his father’s saying,
And he likes having thought of it so well
He says again, ‘Good fences make good neighbors.’

Have you tested your private well recently?
NH Dept. of Environmental Service Private Well Webpage
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUES</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THURS</th>
<th>FRI</th>
<th>SAT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Family Storytime</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LEGO BUILD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td></td>
<td>10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Family Storytime</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Trustee meeting</td>
<td>Middle School Madness</td>
<td>Family Storytime</td>
<td>NonFiction BOOK GROUP</td>
<td>Fiction BOOK GROUP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>1pm</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Library Closed</td>
<td>SENIOR CENTER BOOK GROUP</td>
<td>Family Storytime</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Family Movie</td>
<td>Family Storytime</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LEGO BUILD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2pm</td>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td></td>
<td>10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FRIENDS RAFFLE:**

**DRAWING ON VALENTINE’S DAY**

❤️ 3/$1 ❤️
**Library News (Cont.)**

**LEGO Build**  
**Saturday February 2 from 10am-noon**  
Drop in to create with other LEGO fans!

**Middle School Madness**  
**Wednesday February 12 3:30pm**  
Celebrate friendship with chocolate snacks and friendship bracelets.

**Explore Creativity**  
**Wednesday February 13 5:30pm**  
Ellen Olson of Shadow Coloring for a much requested repeat visit

**NonFiction Book Group**  
**Thursday February 14 1pm**  
This new group will be trying an eclectic variety of non-fiction. This month’s selection is *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson. Copies at the library.

**Fiction Book Group**  
**Friday February 15 10:30am**  
February’s selection is *Beartown* by Fredrik Backman. Copies at the library.

**Senior Center Book Group**  
**Tuesday February 19 10:30am**  
Meet at the Senior Center to discuss this month’s book *Spinning Silver* by Naomi Novik. Copies are available at the Belmont Senior Center and at the library.

**Family Movie**  
**Tuesday February 26 2pm**  
*Ralph breaks the Internet* (PG)

**Family Storytime**  
**Wednesdays 10:30 am February 6, 13, 20, 27**  
A program for children of all ages, featuring books, movement, music, science activities, and crafts to encourage early literacy skills.
We are proud to showcase the Police Department’s K-9 Officer, Vito.  
Vito is an active five year old male Shepherd/Belgian Malinois mix.  
He was bred specifically to be a military and or a police working dog as both his parents were. He understands English and Czech.  
The Police Department selected Vito from a number of potential candidates at a Working Dog School in Pennsylvania. Sergeant Evan Boulanger went through months of training with Vito. The Sergeant is his handler and primary caretaker. Vito resides with the Sergeant and his family.  
Vito attends “school” once a week with more than a dozen other police dogs in the State in order to keep up his police K-9 certifications.  
Vito is specially trained in narcotics detection. He is also tracking certified and has located a number of suspects who have fled from crime scenes. One of his tracks was capturing an armed felon.  
Vito is credited with a large cash seizure from a drug house. In just over four years he has been deployed three hundred times. He has located thousands of dollar’s worth of illegal drugs.
He has also helped to locate disorientated adults, lost/missing children and items that were lost or intentionally thrown from vehicles to avoid police discovery. His handler has trained Vito to take all commands by hand signal in case the need arises for them to make a silent and stealthy approach.

He is much loved during school visits where he loves to meet the students of our district. On the other hand, he is much despised when he accepts an invite to quietly make entry to one of the county jails when he gets invited in to conduct surprise contraband sweeps.

Vito is the recipient of two national awards based on his tracking abilities and detection accomplishments.

He is a fully “certified” member of the Police Department and is issued his own badge, specially outfitted cruiser and bullet proof vest.

We would like to extend our thanks to the local businesses that lend a big hand in keeping Vito in service.

Osborne’s Agway on Route 3 helps provide the best nutrition we can possibly get for him. Noreast Veterinary Associates on Route 106 provides top quality health care (and a treat) helping keep him stay ready to serve the Town.

You can see Vito perform twice a year. Once here in Town at National Night Out at the Mill and again at the Belknap County Safety Day held at Gunstock Mountain.

Would you like to see your pet here? Just send a picture to Kathy at townhall@belmontnh.org along with their name and yours, as well as a brief description of your pet and their favorite pastime. They will be posted in the order received.
The recording of oral histories is planned for the spring and summer months. We would love to hear stories about Belmont 30+ years ago. If you have stories that you would like to share, please contact Gretta Olson-Wilder at 998-3525.

Check out the fun pictures with the 150th Celebration Frame at [http://belmontnh.org/belmontanniversary.asp](http://belmontnh.org/belmontanniversary.asp)

**March 24 at 2 pm at the Corner Meeting House**

**12th NH Regiment Serenade Band**

Music, History, and Dessert!

**Saturday, June 1**

**Calling All Alumni of Belmont Schools**

Radio Roulette will be one of the bands featured during our alumni event down by the Belmont Mill. Dancing in the street with a great selection of music!

**Friday, July 5**

**Bandstand, Mill St.**

150th Anniversary with a cake to help us celebrate

If you would like to volunteer to help with any of the events for our 150th celebration, please contact Gretta Olson-Wilder, Town of Belmont Special Events Coordinator, at 603-998-3525.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BOS 5PM</td>
<td>CC 6PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>CMH</td>
<td>LRGS PM</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CMH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PB 6PM</td>
<td>CMH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BOS</td>
<td>Heritage</td>
<td></td>
<td>CMH</td>
<td>ARC 8AM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CMH</td>
<td>CMH</td>
<td></td>
<td>CMH</td>
<td>CMH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PB</td>
<td></td>
<td>PB 6PM</td>
<td>CMH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CMH</td>
<td></td>
<td>CMH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>