Town Administrator’s Monthly Report

Assessing Office

During the interim while we interview candidates to fill the vacancy in the Assessing Office, questions can be directed to me at townadministrator@belmontnh.org, or by calling 267-8300 Ext. 124. I’ve also attached a link to our Taxpayer Frequently Asked Question sheet which may be helpful to you. Please do not hesitate to contact my office. http://www.belmontnh.org/docs/Assessing/171107FAQAssessing.pdf

Additionally, KRT Appraisals will be conducting a measure and list project on behalf of the Town of Belmont and will be working town-wide. Their employees carry a letter of introduction from the Town and will have ID. We would appreciate your cooperation during this process by allowing their staff to enter the property to gather accurate information. As above, questions can be directed to the TA’s office at 267-8300 Ext. 124.

2018 Budget

The Budget Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 2nd to complete their review of the proposed 2018 budget and they will hold their first Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Corner Meeting House. Please check our website at www.belmontnh.org for meeting agendas. Also our meetings can be seen on https://livestream.com/belmontnh.

This year’s Deliberative Session will be held on Saturday, February 3, 2018, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Cafeteria at the Belmont High School. Information pertaining to the proposed budget and warrant articles will be available on our website at www.belmontnh.org by Monday, January 29th. This year’s Annual Town Meeting (voting day) will be held on Tuesday March 13th, 2018 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria at the Belmont High School. Town Reports will be ready by Monday, March 5th.

IT is the LAW! (RSA 466:31 II (c)

Our message to all Dog Owners is to remind you of the importance of picking up your dog’s waste from property not your own. The town installed at three different locations, dog waste stations where you can obtain a plastic bag to pick up the waste and deposit it in the numerous garbage cans located in the Village.

Just a reminder that the Town of Belmont is an active member of Lakes Region Public Access Television which can be seen locally on Metrocast Channels 24, 25, and 26. If you are a camera buff and you have an interest in producing a show to be shown on LRPA, please contact the station at 528-3070 to discuss your idea. LRPA has made significant strides to improve programming this past year and its presence in the Lakes Region; we urge you to check out their website at http://lrpa.org.

Selectmen’s Meeting Schedule

Our meeting agendas are posted on the Town’s website at www.belmontnh.org, and on Facebook. We encourage you to attend our meetings or watch us live on https://livestream.com/belmontnh. Our next regular meeting is on Monday, January 8, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Town Hall Closings

Town Hall will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2018, in observance of New Year’s Day and Monday, January 15, 2018 in observance of Martin Luther King Day. We wish all of you a very Happy and Safe New Year.

There are times during the winter months when it becomes necessary to close Town Hall due to inclement weather, we will do our best to post notice on the Front Door, on our Website, www.belmontnh.org and on the Selectmen’s Facebook page. We appreciate your understanding when these unexpected closures happen.
Happy New Year Residents of Belmont! We hope all your resolutions are set and successful!

The New Year brings about a few changes in the Town Clerk’s office. We would like to make residents aware that for the month of January, due to staffing issues, our office will be closed from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM, Monday through Friday for lunch. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes.

We can now renew the licenses for your furry friends. Dog licenses are due by April 30th every year. You can swing by our office, renew your dog’s license by mail (Be sure to include a self-addressed stamped envelope so we can mail your tags back to you), or go to our Town’s website, www.belmontnh.org, and we will mail the tags to you.

Fourth issue Water/sewer bills are due January 5th. The fourth issue covers the months of September, October and November. As with dog licenses, you can come into the office, send your payment in by mail or pay on the Town’s website.

January 24, 2018 marks the beginning of the filing period for town offices. The filing period runs through February 2, 2018. The Town Clerk’s office is open Monday-Friday 7:30 AM-4:00 PM and will remain open until 5 PM Friday February 2 for candidacy filing. Following is a list of vacancies and their term.

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<th>POSITION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Selectman</td>
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<td>Trustee of Trust Funds</td>
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<td>Planning Board</td>
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<td>Library Trustee</td>
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<td>Zoning Board</td>
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<td>Budget Committee</td>
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<td>Budget Committee</td>
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<td>Town Moderator</td>
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<td>2 years</td>
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Towards the end of the month we will be sending out our delinquent notices. These notices are intended to make residents aware of any unpaid balances left over from the previous year that need to get cleaned up before the lien is executed. If you receive a notice and have any questions, please call our office at (603) 267-8300 Ext 2. We are looking to 2018 being a wonderful Year!!!
The Belmont Conservation Commission is pleased to announce that they have received notice that a $57,227 New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) grant has been awarded to the Town in support of the Sanborn Trust conservation project.

The Conservation Commission has been working closely with the Sanborn Family to acquire two parcels of land totaling 79ac off Depot Street at the Northfield Town Line for $125,000.

The Town of Belmont is grateful for LCHIP’s award. “This investment will assist us to protect land that the Conservation Commission has identified as ‘high ranking importance’ for the preservation of water quality, wildlife habitat and recreation for residents, now and for generations to come,” Said Denise Naiva, Chairman of the Conservation Commission.

The parcel is located on the Stratified Drift Aquifer which provides drinking water to both the Belmont Municipal Water System and Tilton/Northfield Aqueduct Co. It includes a significant amount of frontage on the Winnipesaukee and Tioga Rivers, frontage on Silver Lake, and abuts the Town-owned 188 ac Tioga River Wildlife and Conservation Area. These combined protected areas provide a significant benefit to wildlife and natural value conservation in this area.

In addition to the LCHIP grant, the Commission has received a $7,500 Conservation License Plate grant and a one-time Aquatic Resources Mitigation payment from Eversource Energy in the amount of $42,495.80 towards this acquisition. The balance of the transaction will be paid using the Conservation Fund which receives 100% of the Land Use Change Tax when land comes out of Current Use and has been used by the Conservation Commission to purchase and maintain conservation lands.

Photo: Perry Smith — Courtesy Rick Ball, Belmont Land Use Technician, LCHIP Executive Director Dijit Taylor, Board President Amanda Merrill and Denise Naiva, Chairman of the Belmont Conservation Commission attended the presentation of the LCHIP awards.
Next Step for Belmont's Town Building Strategy

The Town Building Strategy Committee met with the Selectmen in early December and requested support for conducting a feasibility study and office space analysis working with a contractor. The Select Board agreed to include a warrant article to use $60,000 from a capital reserve fund for a facility assessment and feasibility study. This figure is an estimate based on similar projects in other Towns.

The Committee has found that it cannot offer the information needed for the community to compare costs of facility alternatives without further analysis. For example, there are several options for increasing space for the Police Department with existing buildings, but a study is needed to identify how much space is needed and the feasibility of expanding within existing buildings. Filling in key information for four to five town buildings and an assessment of Town office space needs will bridge this gap.

After an initial review of available past studies and touring Town facilities and public comments, the Committee found that local residents generally value the historic character of the Belmont Village and want to have clear information to make choices about future use of Town buildings. Primary concerns identified with Town facilities were:

- Safety issues at the Police Station (need space for expanded dispatch, separate interview room, and improvements to internal circulation in building).
- Inadequate space for staff, files and records and evidence storage at the Police Station and Town Hall,
- Lack of space for expanding book collection, computer use, office and meeting room at the Library and accessibility issues.
- Need for a larger indoor space for Recreation Department programs and classes.
- Need for long term plan for use of the Belmont Mill and Bank Building.
- Other needs for the Fire Department, and Public Works will need to be addressed in the future but are adequate at present.
APPLICATIONS

Application Review Committee
James & Anne Marie Coviello: Review of proposed Boundary Line Adjustment to transfer 19.7ac from tax lot 212-067-008-000 to 212-067-007-000, Durrell Mountain Road.

OTHER

Zoning Ordinance Amendments Public Hearing - Details:
December 18, 2017:
- Boat Storage: Amend existing Ordinance. Create separate definitions and regulate separately Indoor and Outdoor Boat Storage.
- Dwelling unit allowed in conjunction with an on-site business: Amend existing Ordinance that allows a subordinate dwelling unit on a lot with a primary business use. Limit dwelling units to a maximum of one per lot under this section of the Ordinance and for occupancy by other than the business owner a Conditional Use Permit is required.
- Accessory Dwelling Units: Amend existing Ordinance. Prohibit as additions to manufactured homes & RVs. Prohibit where multiple single-family units already exist on one lot. Prohibit the condominium sale of the ADU separate from the principal unit.
- Aquifer: Amend existing Ordinance. Clarify that a “snow dump” regulates snow brought to a lot from off-site.

A second Public Hearing will be held on January 17, 2018 – Full notice to be posted
- Dwelling unit allowed in conjunction with an on-site business: Amend existing Ordinance that currently allows a subordinate dwelling unit on a lot with a primary business use. Limit such dwelling units to a maximum of one per lot and for occupancy by other than the business owner a Conditional Use Permit is required.
- Accessory Dwelling Units: Amend existing Ordinance. Prohibit as additions to manufactured homes & RVs. Prohibit where attached single-family units already exist on one lot. Prohibit the condominium sale of the ADU separate from the principal unit.
- Signs: Amend existing Ordinance. Allow internally illuminated signs.

Winnisquam Marine: A Certificate of Occupancy has been issued for Building #2. Final groundwork to be completed in the spring.

Vault Motor Storage: Construction continues on this 160,000sf storage facility.

Visit www.belmontnh.org
Contact LandUse@BelmontNH.org
Call 267-8300 x 119 for assistance!
Public Works Department News

The Public Works Department would like to remind everyone that sand for your driveway is available at the Highway Department yard. This is untreated sand and we ask you that you limit the amount you take to three - five gallon pails. Our facility is located at 149 Hurricane Rd.

Please try to remember that your Highway Department is out trying to make the roads as safe as possible for you. Remember to slow down and give us the right of way like any other emergency vehicle. We thank you for your cooperation.

Winter parking ban is now in affect and will continue until April 30th. No overnight parking will be allowed on any streets.

Make sure your mailbox and post is in good condition for the winter months. The town is not responsible for damage done to property placed in the town right of way.

Special Events News

Thank you to all who visited the village on a snowy afternoon, December 9. The plow trucks were out, but the snowflakes didn’t hinder the toasting of marshmallows at the fire pit!
St. Patrick’s Day is less than three months away! Get out and walk or run this winter to prepare for our 6th Annual Lakes Region Leprechaun Leap.

Goodbye 2017, Hello 2018

Entertainment is already being booked for next summer’s Belmont Old Home Day celebration. Plans are underway to host a Craft/Hobby Day at the end of June. Maybe next year will be the year you discover a new interest. Please contact Gretta Olson-Wilder at 603-998-3525 with any feedback/comments. Happy New Year!
**Three Basic Rules**

1. Trust your instincts — something looks wrong or dangerous, change your course of action.
2. Use common sense—Let someone know where you are going and when you will return
   - Never carry a lot of cash, keep your wallet or purse close to you
   - Don’t resist if someone wants your belongings, especially if that person has a weapon
   - Avoid dark streets or lightly traveled areas
3. Work with the Police
   - Get to know the police
   - Ask police about unfamiliar neighborhoods before traveling there
   - Report suspicious activity
   - Ask for assistance if you expect trouble or suspect danger

**Personal Safety**

- Personal Appearance
  - Wear clothes that will allow you to move easily
  - Carry only what you need: less is better
  - Keep your wallet or money separate from your purse
  - Hold your handbag in front of you and not around your neck

**Walking**

- Remember there is safety in numbers
- Walk with confidence, be direct and alert
- Use areas that are well traveled and well lighted at night
- Avoid short cuts, vary your route

**In a car**

- Don’t ride with strangers or pick them up
- In traffic, keep doors locked and windows up
- Park and lock your car and remove the keys
- Park in areas that are well lighted
- When you return to your car, check in and around it, and have your keys in your hand and ready to use
- If you are followed, don’t go home, go to a public place or police station
- Keep valuables in trunk or hidden in the car and do not keep registration papers or valuables in the glove box
- BE COURTEOUS! Confrontations often occur when drivers become frustrated about how others drive

**If you have car trouble**

- Raise the hood, use emergency flashers, tie something white around your antenna or mirror.
- Carry a "HELP" sign and keep a can of tire inflator in trunk.
- Stay inside the car, lock the doors and if help is offered, ask for the police
- Remember to regularly check your car’s oil, gas, water and tires. Service your car regularly.
IMPROVE YOUR SAFETY

Public Transportation
- Wait in a well lighted area, near other people
- If someone bothers you, make noise to attract attention
- Sit in the aisle seat, near the driver
- If taking a taxi, ask the driver to wait until you enter your residence

Elevators
- Enter with groups and stand away from the door while waiting
- Avoid entering an elevator with a stranger
- If you feel uncomfortable, get off as soon as possible
- Stand near the control panel

If you are followed
- Act suspicious; turn and look at the person
- Let the follower know you won’t be surprised
- Change direction; cross the street
- Go into a public place, such as a store or gas station
- Carry a whistle or personal alarm and know how to use it
- If attacked, act quickly - you can yell at the attacker, scream for help, run or fight back by giving a quick blow to vital areas such as the throat, nose, eyes, knees or groin
- You could also vomit or urinate and yell that you have a disease to scare off the attacker
- The most important goal is to simply SURVIVE any attack!

Beware of Suspicious Activity
- Person who behaves strangely or whose movements are unusual
- Vehicle that makes frequent passes around the block, drives at night with no lights on, or driving recklessly
- Person carrying, concealing or attempting to conceal weapons
- Person stopping others on the street or approaching kids
- Gangs or groups gathering to cause trouble
- People who sell things out of their cars

Self Defense
- Martial Arts are good for mental and physical fitness, but it takes time to become skilled. Some techniques take years of practice to master
- Defensive Tools: may be taken from you and used against you. Be sure the tool you use is in good working order
- Noise - whistles, alarms etc. Have them ready and working
**IMPROVE YOUR SAFETY**

**Self Defense (cont.)**
- Sprays- tear gas, mace and pepper spray. Be sure the spray is in your hand. Sprays may be illegal in some states.
- Fire Extinguisher can be sprayed into the attacker's face or used as a club.
- Stun Guns can be used if opponent is close, since it must be applied to skin.
- Lethal Weapons- knives, guns, razors etc. You must be properly trained and in some cases licensed.
- Household Items -- kitchen utensils, ashtray, flashlight, aerosol can spray
- Personal Items -- brush, comb, pen, pencil, nail file, keys

**Protecting Your Car**
- Always lock all doors and roll up the windows.
- Install tapered interior door lock buttons.
- Park in heavily traveled areas.
- Engrave an identifying number on a hidden place on the car and on any valuable components to help the police identify recovered property.
- Don't leave any valuables in sight or hide spare keys.
- Have alarms or fuel shut-off switches installed.

**Business Travel**
- While at the airport stay alert and watch your bags.
- Watch out for staged mishaps, like someone bumping into you or spilling a drink. Often such an 'accident' is a ploy to divert your attention.
- Keep a record of the contents of your luggage and anything valuable in your carry-on.
- Avoid displaying expensive cameras, jewelry, etc. that might draw attention.
- If driving, become familiar with your travel route before you start and make sure your rental car is in good operating condition.

**At a hotel**
- Never leave your luggage unattended, keep all hotel doors and windows locked.
- Learn the locations of fire exits, elevators and public phones in case of emergency.
- Ask hotel staff about the safety of the neighborhood and what areas to avoid.
- Always verify who is at your door. If an unexpected visitor claims to be hotel staff, call the front desk to make sure.
Library News

BELMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY 90TH ANNIVERSARY

January 2018

Library News

ANNIVERSARY INFORMATION
Join the Patron Rewards Program! To show our deep appreciation for our patrons, we’re giving you free stuff for things you do anyway.

EVENTS
LEGO Build
Saturday January 6 10am-noon
Drop in to create with other LEGO fans!

Friends of the Library
Wednesday January 10 5pm
Organizational meeting. All welcome.

Fiberarts Group
Friday January 12 10am
Bring your knitting, crocheting, or needlework for a cozy visit on a cold winter day.

Explore Creativity: Winter Watercolor
Wednesday January 17 5-6:30pm
A low stress creative outlet; one of our most popular craft options.

Morning Book Group
Friday January 19 10:30am
Booklovers meet to discuss an exciting variety of fiction and nonfiction. This month’s selection is *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles.

Simple STEM
Saturday January 20 10am-noon
Drop in to try a Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math challenge aimed at grades 1-4. Mini-catapults

Middle School Madness
Monday January 22 3:30pm-5pm
Grades 5-8 Marshmallow tower building

Fiberarts Group
Friday January 26 10am
Bring your knitting, crocheting, or needlework for a cozy visit on a cold winter day.

Senior Center Book Group
Tuesday January 30 12:30pm
Meet at the Senior Center to discuss books. This month’s selection is *True Grit* by Charles Portis.

Craft Supplies Giveaway
Saturday February 3 10am-noon
The Library and Friends share miscellaneous craft supplies.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES
Card Games Meet-up
Tuesdays 1-3pm January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Join others to play or learn card games such as cribbage, bridge, and more.

Family Storytime
Wednesdays 10:30am January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
A program for children of all ages, featuring books, movement, music, science activities, and crafts to encourage early literacy skills

Papercrafts
Fridays 2-3pm January 5, 12, 19, 26
Bring your own project or use our supplies to create with paper.

The Belmont Public Library was established in 1893. The library moved into its current home on February 4, 1928. We will be celebrating this special anniversary through-

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3 1PM
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<td></td>
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<td>New Years LIBRARY CLOSED</td>
<td>Card Games Meet-up 1pm</td>
<td>Family Storytime 10:30am</td>
<td>Paper Crafts 2pm</td>
<td>LEGO BUILD 10am</td>
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<td>Trustees meeting 4:30pm</td>
<td>Card Games Meet-up 1pm</td>
<td>Family Storytime 10:30am</td>
<td>Friends Meeting 5pm</td>
<td>Fiberarts 10am</td>
<td>Paper Crafts 2pm</td>
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<td>MLK Day LIBRARY CLOSED</td>
<td>Card Games Meet-up 1pm</td>
<td>Family Storytime 10:30am</td>
<td>Explore Creativity: Watercolor 5pm</td>
<td>Morning BOOK GROUP 10:30am Paper Crafts 2pm</td>
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<td>Middle School Madness 3:30pm</td>
<td>Card Games Meet-up 1pm</td>
<td>Family Storytime 10:30am</td>
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<td>Fiberarts 10am Paper Crafts 2pm</td>
<td>KIDS MOVIE 10:30am</td>
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<td>SENIOR CTR BOOK GROUP 12:30pm</td>
<td>Card Games Meet-up 1pm</td>
<td>Family Storytime 10:30am</td>
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<td>Paper Crafts 2pm</td>
<td>Craft Giveaway 10am-noon LEGO BUILD 10am 90th Anniversary Rededication 1pm</td>
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146 Main Street Belmont NH  267-8331  Belmontpubliclibrary.org
In late November, the Belmont Fire Department had a Lieutenants position open up. We had many applicants, and 5 made the cut to continue on to the oral board process. The Belmont Fire Department, with the help of chiefs and police from multiple departments, set up 5 separate stations throughout town to test our applicants on their abilities on different scenarios that they may encounter as a Lieutenant. After a very long day for all of the applicants, it was determined that Firefighter Griffin had come out as the number one candidate for hiring and was offered the fulltime position as Lieutenant for the Belmont Fire Department. Lieutenant Griffin has been a member of our department for 3 1/2 years, and has obtained his AEMT, his Fire I and II certificates, his Fire Officer I certificate and is Fire Instructor I certificate, and is currently enrolled in a program to obtain his paramedic license. Congratulations on the promotion Lieutenant Griffin!

With Lieutenant Griffin’s promotion, we were left with a vacancy for a fulltime firefighter position on Shift 4. Firefighter Harry, who has been a daytime firefighter for our department for 1 1/2 years, has been moved from the daytime shift to Shift 4. We know he is very excited to get the opportunity to go on shift. Congratulations Firefighter Harry! Keep up the good work!

With Firefighter Harry moving from the day shift to Shift 4, we were left with a vacancy for the daytime firefighter position. After completing the oral board process for the daytime firefighter position, Bryan Fenn was hired. Firefighter Fenn comes to us from Dover, NH. This is his first fulltime position as a firefighter. I’m sure he is very eager to start his fulltime career, and we are very excited to have him. Congratulations Bryan Fenn, and welcome to the Belmont Fire Department!
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 HOLIDAY</td>
<td>2 Budget Committee 6:30P @ CMH</td>
<td>3 Conservation Commission 6P @ CMH</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>8 BOS Meeting 5:00P @ CMH</td>
<td>9 Budget Committee Public Hearing 6:30P @ CMH</td>
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<td>11 Voters Open Forum 6:30 @CMH</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15 HOLIDAY</td>
<td>16 Budget Committee Public Hearing 6:30P @ CMH if needed</td>
<td>17 Planning Board 6P @ CMH</td>
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<tr>
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<td>22 BOS Meeting 5:00P @ CMH Planning Board 6P @CMH</td>
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<td>24 Zoning Board 6P @ CMH</td>
<td>25 ARC meeting 8A @ CMH</td>
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