The month of June was very busy with numerous construction projects getting underway and finally plans for the new bathhouse at Sargent Park being completed. The new bathhouse is going to be built by the NH Correctional Industries Woodworking shop and will be delivered on site we hope by late July.

In late June we began negotiations with our Public Sector unions in anticipation of a new contract to be voted on by the community at the March 2017 Town Meeting.

It is hard to believe but with the end of June here, we will soon begin preparation of the Town’s 2017 Annual Budget. The Budget Committee will resume meeting in late October.

Our first Livestream meeting hit the internet on Monday, June 6th; the process is user friendly and we look forward to bringing you our Selectmen’s meetings live. In addition you will be able to watch our Selectmen’s meetings on LRPA Channel 25.

We are looking forward to a busy summer and ask for your patience as you travel through the community.

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.

We would like to remind everyone to have a safe and Happy 4th of July and as a reminder the Town Hall will be closed on Monday, July 4th and will reopen on Tuesday, July 5th at 7:30 a.m.

Your feedback is always welcome and if my office can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at townadministrator@belmontnh.org.

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

We would like to remind all Dog Owners 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.
Happy Summer fellow Belmontians!!
We hope this month finds you Happy and Healthy!!

This month brings Independence Day which means that our office will be closed on Monday July 4, 2016 in observance of that holiday.

**Tax Bill**

The 2016 first issue property tax bills are due Tuesday July 5, 2016. The first issue tax bill is the estimated tax bill and covers the period from April 1st through September 30th. It is exactly half of the total amount paid the year before. So far in true Belmont resident form, we have collected around $1,500,000 in tax payments! Way to go!

Also Due on July 11th this month are the second issue water/sewer bills. These bills cover the months of March through May.

As always, you can mail in your payment slip and check to PO Box 310, Belmont, NH 03220, you can make your payment online at www.belmonthh.org, or you can always swing by the office and make your payment. We accept Cash, Check and now Credit/Debit Cards. Please keep in mind that there is a 2.95% convenience fee added to the total when using a credit or debit card.

July is also the month of Belmont’s Hazardous Waste Day. It will be held on Saturday July 30th at the Belmont Fire Station. There is a flyer posted on our town website with additional information.

Have a happy and safe summer folks!!
GET IN THE GAME READ

TUESDAYS 2PM
KIDS’ CLUB (Gr. 1-5)
7/5 PATRIOT GAMES
7/12 MINECRAFT
7/19 TBD
7/26 HARRY POTTER
8/2 OZOBOTS

juggler
Bryson Lang
courtesy of the Kids Books, and the Arts grant
August 5 11am

Giant Games
July 11 1-5pm

WEDNESDAYS 10:30 AM
MULTI-AGE STORYTIME

THURSDAYS 2 PM
LEGO FREE PLAY
JULY 2 10 AM
LEGO BUILD

CLiF Summer Readers

Storyteller
Belmont Elementary School
July 19 8:30am

book giveaway

BELMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY 146 MAIN STREET
267-8331 BELMONTPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG
BELMONT LIBRARY JULY EVENTS
FOR ADULTS AND TEENS

Tech Trouble? Expert Help
July 11 & 25 or by appointment

TEEN ACTIVITY
FRIDAYS IN JULY 2PM

Teen Movie and Craft
8/5 1 pm

Mondays
7/11-8/1 at 11 am: Adult Chair Yoga

Thursdays:
5:30 pm Adult Craft & Laugh

Fridays:
7/1-8/5 9 am: Adult Walking Group
(Meet at the Library before it opens)

July 15 10:30am Book Group
Me Before You by Jojo Moyes

July 25 4pm
Beach Reads Party
Sign up required.

146 Main Street 267-8331 BELMONTPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG
A brief historical overview is required to get a better understanding of the concept of regionalization and consolidation. In the northeast section of the United States government is operated at the smallest levels: towns and cities; many even operate on village levels. This concept of government dates back to just after the Pilgrims landed. As each group of people felt compelled to make their own decisions they created more towns. As towns developed, buildings were constructed, and eventually there were fires, then volunteer fire departments were formed. Many of these fire departments were organized around clusters of homes, which became villages and then towns. Many fire departments were located very close to the factories that were eventually built, and in many cases the department and equipment was originally owned by the factory. Towns and factories were built up around rivers and lakes. As the areas developed, water systems were installed, to supply the homes and provide water for fire protection. As the water systems expanded, communities grew and fire departments expanded. It was not unusual to have several independent fire departments in a town: each operated by a factory or water company.

Jump ahead almost 400 years and you will find that in most of the northeast the concept of small government - towns and cities - has not changed all that much. There are still towns served by multiple individual fire departments - Barnstable MA, Conway NH, Andover NH, Coventry RI, Stamford CT, Cumberland RI, and most of Long Island NY operate multiple individual fire departments.

Move away from the northeast and you will find that Counties are the primary government operating agency; with the exception of the larger cities. Some of the biggest fire departments in this Country operate on a county level – Prince George, Fairfax, Los Angeles, Orange, Miami-Dade, Broward, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, Clark, Arlington, Roanoke, Anne Arundel. Then there are fire districts such as North Hudson, NJ and Tilton/Northfield, NH to name just a few. Many of these departments started as small organizations and grew with the communities. Some of these consolidated to create the entity as it is today. North Hudson consolidated about ten years ago and is a model for consolidation.

In our area, we have one of the oldest consolidated dispatching systems in the northeast, known as Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid (LRMFA). This agency covers an area the size of Rhode Island and encompasses 38 different towns. LRMFA is not mutual aid; it is a communication and dispatching system. If we ask for help LRMFA will get it and send it. We pay an annual assessment for dispatching services; mutual aid is reciprocal and normally at no cost to the receiving town.

It is the responsibility of all government officials, appointed or elected, to make sure we operate as efficiently and effectively as possible. For Police and Fire, we must also make sure we operate as safe as possible. We must do everything in our power to earn the public trust and be transparent. As part of that duty we must try to find better ways to do the job at hand. I believe the only way to be more efficient and effective, and improve safety, and deliver quality service to the public is to consolidate. Does every town need a fire chief, or police chief, or public works director? Does every town need a ladder truck, or road grader, or tank truck? Can we share fire prevention and training officers, or mechanics? Can we share building inspectors and health agents? These are all very real possibilities that should be explored. Taxpayers want accountability and they do not want to spend any more than is necessary.

As Fire Chief I am now responsible for leading and managing the Belmont and Laconia Fire Departments. The area responsibility now encompasses 56 square miles of service area, 3 billion dollars in property, 13,000 living units, 52 full-time and 16 part-time employees. The two departments combined respond to 5,500 emergency calls each year. We have been working together under automatic aid for years. Laconia and Gilford started automatic aid in 2004. We respond at the same time to each other’s serious fires and rescues. This was started to improve firefighter safety and enhance delivery of service. Belmont started automatic aid to Laconia a few years back. Belmont now gets automatic responses from Gilman, Laconia, and Tilton for serious fires depending on where the fire is in town. This improves the initial response from 2-3 firefighters to 10 firefighters heading to a fire at the same time. Automatic aid was kind of the first step in consolidating.

When Laconia and Belmont consolidated the Fire Chief position there was some savings for Belmont, and increased revenue for Laconia – a win for both. When the idea of sharing the fire chief was proposed I told the Selectboard that my office would be in Laconia. Either I or my Assistant Chief would be in Belmont as needed. There were no specific office hours. I told the Selectboard if they wanted someone in the Belmont station 40 hours a week this would not work. I have told the firefighters from both Departments that I work Monday through Friday. I work nights, weekends, and holidays as duty requires.

The Fire Chief’s job is to coordinate the work force, ensure the firefighters are trained and properly equipped, deal with administrative duties, and plan for the future. There are other Officers to handle the daily work and problems. The Chief responds to significant emergencies to command and control the operation a needed. The real job of the Chief is to lead the department into the future. My work philosophy has always been “what is in the best interests of the people we serve?” I ask that question on a daily basis to make sure we are providing the best possible service.

The next step could be to merge the two departments, in the meantime we are taking the process slowly, looking at all the options and opportunities a true consolidation might afford.
Floodplain Forest Habitat in Belmont

What is this landscape that is so different from most other views in Town? What makes the Floodplain Forest Habitat straddling the Belmont/Northfield line valuable as wildlife habitat? The Floodplain Forest depicted above is among the highest ranked habitat in New Hampshire. These areas support vegetation that is uniquely suited to periodic inundation and benefit by the deposition of silts and sands and nutrients. The soils tend to be deep, rich alluvial soils. They mitigate the occurrence of downstream flooding.

Because of their continually damp soils many reptiles and amphibians call the Floodplain Forest home. Many birds and mammals feed on those creatures and make their homes in nearby uplands. Bittersweet and buckthorn are common invasives whose berries are not so nutritious as native plant species.

The Town-owned Tioga River Wildlife and Conservation Area contains a portion of this Floodplain Forest and is well worth a walk. There is a parking area on Depot Street and some rough trails, one paralleling the edge of the wetland. It’s also possible to kayak, with some snags to traverse, the Tioga River through the middle of the Floodplain Forest out to the Winnipesaukee River to observe this unique resource.
Belmont Parks & Recreation
Swim Lessons

July 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29, 2016
Tuesday & Friday
6 classes (3 weeks)
$30.00 per person

Beginner: 12:30PM & 1:00PM
Intermediate: 1:30PM
Advanced: 2:00PM

Our instructor Jeannine Beckett will not be teaching the entire Red Cross course in the time we have allotted so certificates will not be issued at the end of the lessons. Lessons will be cancelled in the case of inclement weather, all efforts will be made to reschedule lessons if time allows. The lessons will be taught at the Leslie Roberts Town Beach on Lake Winnisquam. There is no minimum age for the lessons but children should be comfortable swimming in water that is constantly moving.

IMPORTANT: A Belmont beach sticker is required for admission and parking at the town beach.

Please utilize the following swim lesson categories to assist you in deciding which class is appropriate for your child.

Beginner – This class is 30 minutes long for non-swimmers or swimmers who need the support of a bubble or noodle. Provides students with the opportunity to get acclimated to the water by learning how to put their heads under water and includes basic kicking, pulling, and floating skills.

Intermediate – This class is 30 minutes long for beginner swimmers who can swim without the support of a bubble or noodle. Provides students with the opportunity to move from the basic “doggie paddle” stroke to other strokes such as the front and back crawl.

Advanced - This class is 30 minutes long for swimmers who can swim the front crawl stroke either with their head in or out of the water. Provides students with the opportunity to fine-tune their front crawl, as well as learn additional strokes such as the back crawl, breaststroke, and elementary backstroke, as well as to build swimming endurance.

Space is limited advance registration is required.

Registration forms: www.belmontnh.org – (603) 267-1865
Belmont Parks & Recreation

SOCCER CAMP
Register for Challenger Sports’ British Soccer Camp and join over 154,000 players who will learn the Challenge Way this year. Each camp will feature the 1,000 Touches Curriculum, packed with drills and practices designed to improve individual ball control, footwork, fitness, moves, juggling and core techniques.

August 1-5, 2016
Bryant Field, Route 106, Belmont, NH 03220

|                      | Ages 3-5 | 6:00PM-7:00PM | $77  
|----------------------|----------|----------------|------
| Mini Soccer          | Ages 6-16| 9:00AM-12:00PM| $127 |
| Half Day Camp        | Ages 6-16| 9:00AM-4:00PM | $182 |
| Full Day Camp        |          |                |      |

REGISTER BEFORE June 17th to receive your FREE camp jersey

Register ONLINE at: www.challengersports.com

For more information contact:
Janet Breton, Recreation Director

OPTIONAL before and after camp care is available, provided by Belmont Parks and Recreation staff.

7:30AM-9:00AM $3 per day per camper
4:00PM-5:00PM $2 per day per camper

Belmont Parks & Recreation
(603) 267-1885
www.belmontnh.org
Belmont Parks & Recreation Summer Day Camp
June 27-August 12, 2016

Belmont Parks and Recreation Summer Day Camp will be an 7 week program this summer. We will start on Monday, June 27th ending August 12th. The camp is open to youth who are entering the 1st-8th grade in the fall. Our camp will be held at the Belmont Middle School, Monday through Friday from 8:00AM to 4:00PM. Early drop off starting at 7:30 AM and pick-up until 4:30 PM is available at no extra charge. Extended care is available for $3.00 per day for pick-up 4:30 PM-5:00 PM. Three field trips are planned per week; two days will be spent at the Belmont Town Beach and one day at a local attraction. Field Trip admission and transportation are included in the weekly registration fee. The Counselors in Training program is open to students who are 15 years (at the start of camp) and older. Counselor in Training is an unpaid position that lets participants work with our counselors in hopes that they may want to join our staff in the future. Registration forms will be available on the town website April 18th, but will not be accepted prior to 7:00 PM. Completed applications will be processed in order of receipt with priority given to campers reserving the majority of the 7 weeks. Belmont residents will be giving priority over non-residents for placement. Proof of residency is required at registration in the form of a recent utility bill or tax bill with home address and a matching photo id. A limited number of scholarships are available, forms are available from the parks and recreation office. Deadline to apply for a scholarship is Monday, May 2, 2016.

**Summer Camp 2016 Registration Fees:**
Belmont Residents: $110 per week
Non-Residents: $155 per week

There is a $25 late fee for registrations after May 16, 2016

**Sibling Discount:** $20.00 per week for the 2nd and 3rd child attending the same week

**Payment Schedule:**
Weeks #1-3 registration fees are due no later than Monday, May 16, 2016
Weeks #4-7 registration fees are due no later than Monday, June 6, 2016

Late payments can result in the camper losing their space for any unpaid weeks. There is a $25 per payment late fee. Registration fees are non-refundable except in the case of a family emergency or a medical reason with supporting documentation.

**Registration Date:**
April 18, 2016—Monday
7:00PM—8:00PM
Belmont Parks & Recreation Office

For more information contact:
Belmont Parks & Recreation
(603) 267-1865
recreation@belmontnh.org
www.belmontnh.org
Planning and Zoning News
July, 2016

Moon Day, July 20th

Applications

Planning Board

- **Chet Lewandoski**: Site Plan review for motor vehicle sales at 995 Laconia Road.
- **Laurie Libby, Claire Levesque & Steven Aucoin**: Boundary line adjustments (2) review at 167, 168 & 173 Gardners Grove Road.
- **Belmont DG, LLC**: Site Plan review for 9,100sf retail building at 15 Gilmanton Road.
- **Belmont DG, LLC**: Conditional use permit review for impervious surface greater than 15% within the Aquifer and Groundwater Protection District at 15 Gilmanton Road.

Application Review Committee

- **GMI Asphalt LLC**: Site Plan Review for contractor’s yard for equipment, supplies, aggregate and related materials storage at 284 Laconia Road.
- **Tap Public House**: Site Plan Review for restaurant/tavern outdoor seating at 930 Laconia Road.
- **Belmont Penguin Real Estate**: Request for Site Plan Review to amend previous site plan (propane fill, dumpster, parking, transformer) at 916 Laconia Road.
- **Belmont DG, LLC**: Request for Subdivision Review to create one new lot at 15 Gilmanton Road.

Zoning Board

- **Scott Firth & Tracy Secula**: Approved three variances to replace an existing single-family home closer to the highwater mark and two side lines than allowed at 7 Gilman Shore Road.
- **John & Josephine Farley**: Approved special exception to install full foundation under preexisting nonconforming single family home at 61 Dock Road.

Other Land Use News

Finally! Good Weather is Here!!

There's nothing more refreshing than a dip in the pool. But please be aware of the safety and permitting requirements for pool ownership.

Every pool, spa, hot tub and whirlpool that requires a temporary or permanent electrical connection requires a permit from the Belmont Building Office. This includes those installed by others or purchased from a local department or discount store. It includes in-ground, above-ground, permanent, seasonal, hard and soft-sided units. Seasonal units are eligible for a one-time permit that allows the unit to be disassembled in the fall and re-erected each spring.

Find important pool safety tips below:

- **Backyard Pool Supervision**
- **Swimming Pool Safety Alert**
- **Recreational Water Illnesses**
- **Spas, Hot Tubs & Whirlpools**

**Household Hazardous Waste Day** – July 30th – 8:30am to Noon – Belmont Fire Station

Be sure to bring your eligible household items to this free disposal day. Read More at [http://www.lakesrpc.org/serviceshhw.asp](http://www.lakesrpc.org/serviceshhw.asp).

Visit [www.belmontnh.org/agendasminutes.asp](http://www.belmontnh.org/agendasminutes.asp) to view agendas and minutes for all meetings.

Contact [LandUse@belmontnh.org](mailto:LandUse@belmontnh.org) or 267-8300 x 119 for assistance!
Belmont's Lake Winnisquam Scenic Trail Nearing Completion

Construction on the 1.8 mile Lake Winnisquam Scenic Trail is scheduled to be substantially complete by the end of July with all work done by mid-August. After over 15 years of planning and effort under the leadership of Ron Mitchell and support from Town citizens and staff, we are almost there with this first phase of the trail. The “Winni Trail” will be a paved pedestrian and bicycle trail extending from Leslie Roberts Road (Town Beach Road) to Agway where it ends at the Daniel Webster Highway. A ribbon cutting ceremony and celebration will be held in August. After all these years of planning, it is exciting to see this beautiful trail become a reality. The trail weaves through the woods over rolling terrain with some scenic vistas across the lake. It is part of a trail system planned from Meredith to Franklin.

Belmont's Trail Committee is providing information and “show me” trips on Lake Winnisquam Trail on July 9th and 10th at 10:30AM. This is a great chance to walk part of the trail and see what an asset it is to the community. Trail information will be available during Agway's Dock Dog Splash and Wag event on July 8-10th. To join the Trail Show Me trip, just meet on the west side of Agway located at 304 Daniel Webster Highway. No advance reservation needed. Sturdy shoes and a hat are recommended. The trail base is uneven rough gravel which will be paved later in construction. Plan on a 1 mile walk, one half mile out and back. The full trail is 1.8 miles and ends at Leslie Roberts Road.

The Lake Winnisquam Scenic Trail will connect to Phase 2 of Laconia's WOW Trail which will break ground and begin construction on July 6th. When completed by this fall these “Winni” Trail and WOW Trail sections will provide 5 miles of continuous paved pedestrian and bicycle trail for Lakes Region residents and visitors.

There are lots of ways to get involved with the new Lake Winnisquam Trail. Please fill out this survey to help us know what you are interested in. Whether it is baking cookies for the Opening Ceremony, volunteering to help with children's events in the future, taking photos or serving as a Trail Ambassador, we can use your help. Here's the link for the Survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RSNLYZ8

Paper copies of the survey are also available at the Belmont Recreation Office and the Town Office. Please respond to the Survey by July 10th (sooner is better!).

The Belmont Recreation Trail Committee welcomes suggestions and is looking for volunteers. For a map of the Winni Trail and more information, you can track what's happening on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/winni.trail.7. Planning for extending the “Winni” trail to the west is beginning. For more information contact Donna Hepp dhepp3@gmail.com or Rick Ball LUTech@belmontnh.org
Belmont Police Bike Patrol Members pictured  

The BPD bike patrol has been active in our community. The officers assist with road races, parades, Old Home Day activities and keeping visitors safe on the WOW trail.

Bicycle Patrol offers an alternate form of policing by utilizing bike riding skills in conjunction with specialized tactics specific to police operations.

Bikes can go where cars cannot. They are environmentally friendly and cost little to maintain. By having officers on the bike they can easily interact with residents.

Our bicycle team members have gone through extensive training to become qualified to participate in the program. Officers are easily identified by their black shorts and bright yellow or blue shirts.

If you would like to see bike patrol officers in your neighborhood please let us know.

Call 267-8350 and ask to speak to a patrol supervisor.

Lt. Richard W. Mann
Heritage Series 2016 Continues

Concerts in July and August at the Bandstand, are the second and third acts for this year’s Heritage Series. Launched last year to celebrate completion of the landmark’s restoration, the program concludes in October with special activities for New Hampshire History Week.

Community partners sponsoring the 2016 Heritage Series are the John M. Sargent Fund, Belmont Parks and Recreation, Friends of the Bandstand, and the Library, along with leadership support from the Heritage Commission. All events are free, family-friendly and held rain or shine. Picnics are encouraged and children’s activities will be offered starting an hour before performances.

Fourth of July weekend starts in the Village with three outstanding musicians, all sharing Belmont roots. Local singer Jackie Lee returns to the Bandstand, followed by the “Good Dr. Jack” new resident Jack Polidoro, and Audrey Drake, a native of our community. Their all star performances of original music and across genres, get underway at 5:30 p.m. and last until 8:30 p.m.

The Sunday, August 28th concert features the 22 piece Newmont Military Band, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Last year’s brass pops performance was held in the Corner Meeting House, and all hope for better weather allowing their classic music on the Town green in the Bandstand.
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