Our Community Newsletter

BELMONT

1869-2019 Happy Sesquicentennial!

Town Administrator's Monthly Report

Upcoming Selectmen’s Meetings

The Board of Selectmen will meet with the Facility Strategy Committee on Monday, June 17, 2019 to discuss the options identified relative to the building needs of the Police Department and Town Hall. The meeting will begin at 5:00 p.m. at the Corner Meeting House in Belmont. The options under consideration by the Town can be found on the Town’s website under

http://www.belmontnh.org/projectsbuildingsfacilities.asp

Water Rates

The Town updated its Water Rate Study initially undertaken in July 2005, updated July 2008, September 2014 and most recently December 2018. Preliminary discussions regarding the results and proposed rate increase began at the Selectmen’s April 1st meeting and will continue through the spring and early summer. The Town will hold a public hearing on the new rates in July with an anticipated implementation date of September 1, 2019.

Hurricane Road Construction

The Hurricane Road Construction has begun and should be completed by early September. Your patience while we are under construction is greatly appreciated. It is anticipated that a travel lane will be open most of the project, however in the event of a road closure, notice will be given. Questions can be directed to the Public Works Director at 528-2677 or the Town Administrator at 267-8300 ext. 124 or townadministrator@belmontnh.org

Help us Celebrate!

The Town of Belmont will be celebrating its 150th birthday on July 5, 2019 and we hope that you will join us in the celebration. Numerous activities are planned, come on out and support the volunteers who have put together a fun filled schedule of events, including a free concert by three bands and fire spinning show on June 1st, the hunt for special painted rocks distributed throughout the Town, and the Belmont 150th Anniversary Evening event on July 5th, featuring a live concert by the Beatles tribute bank, Walrus Gumboot. Please check out the Town’s website for more events.
Property Violations

The Board of Selectmen’s office receives numerous complaints throughout the year from property owners who live next to neighbors that choose to violate the Town’s Land Use regulations. These complaints are referred to the Code Enforcement Office; the complaints are investigated and letters outlining the violation are sent to the offending property owner. This process takes time and, in many instances, when compliance is not achieved, the Town has no recourse but to involve the Town’s Attorney and eventually the courts in an effort to get results. It is disheartening though to us as public officials how long this process can take and, in some instances, how forgiving the courts can be to the offending party. We urge everyone to take pride in their property, follow the regulations established by the Town so that everyone can enjoy their property; don’t be an offender and please be kind to your neighbor.

Property Revaluation

Just a reminder that KRT Appraisals staff is in the community conducting a measure and list of residential and commercial property. Their staff have identification badges and carry letters from the Town explaining the Measure and List project. Any questions regarding the process can be directed to Alicia Jipson, Assistant Town Administrator/Assessing Administrator at 267-8300 Ext. 118. The Revaluation is scheduled to be complete in 2019. New property values will be established and notification will be sent to every property owner regarding their new values. The new values will be reflected on your Fall 2019 Tax Bill which will be issued in late October or early November. We anticipate that the Town’s portion of the tax rate will decrease as a result of the adopted budget and completion of the revaluation.

The first issue of the 2019 tax bills were in the mail in mid-May and are due on July 8th. The bills are based on last year’s assessment and last year’s tax rate; because we are in the final stages of a full revaluation, new construction permitted between April 1, 2018 and March 31, 2019 was not reflected in this bill. If you have any questions regarding the bill you just received, please do not hesitate to contact our office and we will be happy to assist.

Following is a link to a video developed by our recycling vendor to help us recycle better. Better recycling leads to lower costs for trash disposal as whatever we can remove from the trash stream reduces the tonnage we pay for. Your help is needed! www.bit.ly/recyclebetter

The Casella site on Route 140 is open on the 2nd Saturday of the month from 8 am to 12 noon to take your bulky and other non-trash items. Please check with the attendant regarding any fees due at the time of disposal.

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.
What’s Flushable or Not

We continue to stress the importance that “Not everything is flushable”, please check out the “Do Not Flush!” list to protect your sewer and septic system. A “Flushable” label does not mean it is SAFE for your septic system or the Town’s sewer. Please read the brochure we have included on the Town’s website at www.belmontnh.org. We need your help to insure our sewers keep flowing.

Just a reminder that the Town of Belmont is an active member of Lakes Region Public Access Television which can be seen locally on Atlantic Broadband 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
Finally the first day of summer is within our sights!!

**PROPERTY TAX BILLS** It is that time of year again! The first issue property tax bills were mailed out in May, these bills cover the time period from April 1st through September 30th. The amount of the first issue tax bill is one half of the total taxes paid in the previous year (2018). Taxes are due on July 8, 2019. You can mail your check in with your payment stub, stop by the office with your payment, or pay on our town website, www.belmontnh.org using either your checking account or a credit card. Please keep in mind that there are extra fees associated with using the online option as well as if you use a credit card. We will assume that you consider your returned check your receipt unless you bring in the top portion of your bill for us to stamp **PAID** in the office. If you are mailing in your payment and want a stamped receipt, please include the top half of your bill and a self-addressed stamped envelope, we will stamp the top half **PAID**, and return it to you.

**WATER & SEWER** Residents with town water and sewer service can also look in their mailbox for the 2019 second issue bills, to be mailed out in June and due in July. The second issue bills cover the time period of March, April and May.

**DOG LICENSES** Dog licenses are due to be renewed by April 30th every year. Sometimes this task is overlooked so we send out reminder postcards the first week of May in case it slipped your mind. In the month of June, a letter will be sent out to owners of unlicensed dogs by the Belmont Police Department mandating that we apply a $25.00 civil forfeiture fee to each dog license that has not been renewed, per NH State law (RSA 466:13). There is also a late fee of one dollar per month (starting in June) that is added to the cost of the license. You can mail in your payment along with a self-addressed stamped envelope, stop by the office, or renew the license on our town website www.belmontnh.org. Let’s get those dogs licensed as soon as possible!
**MARRIAGE LICENSES** For those of you who are planning a summer wedding, we at the Town Clerk’s office can provide your marriage license. The license costs $50.00 and is valid for 90 days. Both parties must be present at the time of application. If either party has been married previously, you must provide the official, sealed document pertaining to how the marriage ended (divorce decree, death certificate, etc.), as well as your state issued identification. Couples also have the option of pre-paying for the marriage certificate, which is used to change your name, insurance paperwork, etc. The cost of the certificate is an additional $15.00 and when we receive the completed marriage license back, we will print out the certificate and mail it to you. If you have any questions, feel free to call our office.

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Welcome back summertime! We’ve missed you!!
Summertime is finally here. Time to break out the grill and outside table umbrellas and put this long winter behind us. It’s also the time of year that petty thefts go up just a bit. Because we are busy outside we tend to leave the lock off the utility shed, and our power tools and mowers tend to go missing.

We leave the first floor windows open during the day for some fresh air. Someone might try to cut a screen to get in your home while you are working. If you have ladders near your home lock them to something when they are not in use. Ladders are frequently stolen and are also used in second floor home burglaries.

If you are installing window air conditioners this year, please secure them into place from the inside of your home. This prevents a burglar from easily pushing your AC unit in and gaining access. Close and lock your garage doors when you leave for the day. If you are not home and a thief enters your garage they can close the door and use the tools in your own garage to break your door or defeat your lock.

Changing the size of the screws on your doors and locks adds increased resistance to being kicked. The longer the screw is set into the frame or door lock the greater the force needed to kick the door open. Pull your blinds down to keep someone from looking in to see what you have. Lock your screen doors to add a layer of deterrent of entry to a porch or three season room.

There are a few things you can do to help us - help you. If you can take a photo of your valuables along with a serial number of the item that is fantastic. It allows us to enter stolen items into a national database which can aid in their return and you have proof of ownership for any insurance claim you may need to file.
If you are ever the victim of theft you can email the photos and they can be uploaded into our report. We can then share the images with other police departments and pawn shops to help us identify your property.

We also encourage personal identifiers be applied on property in a spot easy to access but not visible unless you know where to look. Etch something into your property somewhere. You can then tell us, "Hey I put the last four digits of my phone number and my first initial inside the door to the grill." Do the same thing with bicycles, just flip the bike over and put the identifiers on the bottom of the crank.

Residents have been great about sharing digital surveillance camera footage of suspicious cars and people on their property with us. That footage is used to identify persons of interest and our officers look out for those people/vehicles while they are on patrol.

If you are leaving for vacation or a business trip we offer property check services. Drop by the station and fill out a property check form with some brief information regarding your lights are being on timers, emergency contact numbers, and cars that may be in the driveway. Once you are gone our officers will be aware you are away and add your address to their daily patrols.

As always if you see anything out of the ordinary such as people or cars you don’t recognize feel free to us at 267-8350.
As we gear towards summer and the long weekends and holidays quickly approach, we remind Belmont residents that permits for class "C" fireworks are required per Town of Belmont ordinance. This went into effect January 1, 2019. Applications and copies of the ordinance can be picked up at the station or printed from our website. For questions or concerns, please contact the station at 603-267-8333.
On May 15, 2019, Belmont Fire celebrated the swearing in of Lieutenant Josh Huestis, EMS Lieutenant Andy Frechette, Firefighter Kyle Megan and the badge pinning of Firefighter Bryan Fenn and Firefighter Pete Latuckey. Congratulations to you all!
Driveway Permits Required

Spring is the time that we remember any problems we have with our driveway; mud, bumps, drainage. Just a reminder that any work done on that portion of the driveway that meets the Town or State road right-of-way requires a Driveway Permit before the work commences. This includes just paving or re-paving.

Several homeowners have had their driveways accessing town roads re-paved or reconstructed only to learn after the work that it required a permit. Fees are doubled for any permits where the work has already been started. In addition, violations of the Regulations can result in a Violation or Misdemeanor charge.

The Town has requested assistance from paving companies asking for their cooperation in making sure that a valid permit exists before they pave. That obviously is not happening based on information we get from homeowners and the responsibility for the permit ultimately falls to the property owner.

Driveway Permit Applications can be obtained in the Land Use Office or on line. Processing applications may take 7-10 business days as the Public Works Department will view the site to make sure that no concerns related to adequate road drainage exist.

Roadside Trash Pickup

Each Spring trash bags are available at the Highway garage for people interested in organizing local neighborhood trash pickup. If you or your organization would like to receive bags, they can be picked up during normal business hours.
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 should 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.

Construction Season Upon Us

Please drive cautiously (SLOW DOWN) as our crews will be out working as well as many private contractors in the area. Take note of all signage and slow down when entering a work zone. Remember to stay off your cell phone. Our lives and the many construction workers trying to improve your roads depend on it!!

Please remember to call Dig Safe

It’s the Law!

Winter Sand Still Available

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 – Thursday 6:30 – 4:00 Friday – 6:30 -10:30
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 to 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 proper installation was performed before contacting the DPW. See following photo for recommended installation:

Metal USPS Approved Mailbox Specifications

- Front edge 2’ from the edge of road
- 46” in height (This allows for Plow Wing to go under without hitting)
- Main post minimum 3’ back from edge of road and post should be at least 2’ in the ground
Planning and Zoning News

Go Fishing Day
June 18, 2019

Application Review Committee
A. Terry Threlfall Jr.: Review of Boundary Line Adjustment to transfer 0.86 ac from 120-014-000-000 to 120-013-000-000. Properties located at 123 and 115 Gardners Grove Road, “RS” Zone. #10-19R.

B. Family Advantage Holdings, LLC & Jeffrey & Danielle Mellett: Review of Boundary Line Adjustment to transfer 15.5 ac from 229-010-001-000 to 229-015-000-000. Properties located at Farrarville Road and 33 Gaudet Drive “R” Zone. #11-19R

Planning Board
Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc.: Approved request for site plan approval to construct a 1,200 sf unmanned data center with expansion capability of an additional 1,200 sf in the future. Property is located on Corporate Drive, Tax Lot 205-005-003-000 in the “C” Zone. PB #0919P.

Zoning Board of Adjustment
NO CASES IN MAY

Tiny Homes in New Hampshire

On Friday May 10, 2019 Belmont Building Inspector Steve Paquin joined a panel of statewide experts in leading a discussion about the emerging topic of Tiny Homes in New Hampshire. Steve, along with co-panelists Ben Frost of the NH Housing Finance Authority and Robert Tardif of the NHDES Subsurface Systems Bureau, educated attendees on a variety of issues surrounding the topic of tiny homes including, financing, code compliance, water, septage and residential status.

As Steve explained to a room full of planners and other interested individuals from around the State, there is a difference between a small conventional home, which is built on a foundation and meets existing residential code, and a tiny home, which is built to be moved on wheels and does not conform to most municipal zoning ordinances.

Here in Belmont, although a tiny home build upon a trailer carriage would not be permitted, a conventional home as small as 120 square feet, anchored to a foundation could be built under today’s regulations.

For additional Land Use Information:
Visit www.belmontnh.org
Contact LandUse@BelmontNH.org
Call 267-8300 x 119
## Library News

**146 Main Street – Belmontpubliclibrary.org – (603) 267-8331**

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<td><strong>SENIOR CENTER BOOK GROUP</strong> 10:30am</td>
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<td><strong>Middle School MADNESS</strong> 3:30pm</td>
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<td><strong>Fiction BOOK GROUP</strong> 10:30am</td>
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<td><strong>Family Storytime</strong> 10:30am</td>
<td><strong>On the Wing Belmont Senior Center</strong> 10:30 am</td>
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### SUMMER ROAD TRIP 🚗

Share a favorite New Hampshire place and we will all find new places to go this Summer. Every person (18+) who shares will be entered to win $25.

**ALSO —** enjoy library passes to Squam Lake Science Center, McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, NH State Parks and Canterbury Shaker Village.
LEGO Build
Saturday June 1 from 10am-noon
Drop in to create with other LEGO fans!

Book Binding Workshop
Saturday June 8 10am-noon
Please RSVP.

NonFiction Book Group
Thursday June 13 1pm
The Feather Thief by Kirk Wallace Johnson

Senior Center Book Group
Tuesday June 18 10:30am
H is for Hawk by Helen Macdonald

Middle School Madness
Wednesday June 19 3:30pm
Create watercolor space sun-catchers.

Fiction Book Group
Friday June 21 10:30am
Calico Joe by John Grisham

On the Wing
Thursday June 27 10:30am
Belmont Senior Center
Jane Kelly and three birds of prey. Open to the public.

Family Storytime
Wednesdays 10:30 am June 5, 12, 19, 26

SUMMER READING
Sign up begins June 24
ALL AGES
Weekly prize drawings
June 5th - 12:30pm The Belmont Middle School Chorus will visit the Senior Center to entertain everyone.

June 11th and 25th - Brunch will be served

June 13th - A Father's Day Luncheon will be served

June 27th - 10:30am "On The Wings" This program is from a rehabilitation group that will be bringing in 3 birds to talk about their habitat, habits, and rehabilitation. The Belmont Library and Belmont Senior Center are sharing this wonderful program.

June 29th - YARD SALE! Seniors will host a fund raising yard sale from 9am to 1pm. We will set up in the parking lot. If it rains it will be indoors on the second floor of the Center.
This is Dusty, he has been the neighborhood cat on Aiden Circle for 15 years. Dusty is 16 ½ years old. He likes to visit the neighbors who let him in and give him treats, it has been reported that he even will say “hello”. He is still a good mouser but in his heyday he was unstoppable, twice bringing home weasels! Dusty likes to sleep a lot now and is always looking for a warm lap. He is the sweetest and most loveable and laid back cat you will ever meet. He has never met a person he didn’t like. Dusty was featured in the 2011 May edition of the Community Newsletter looking a little less tattered.

Tracey Russo
Aiden Circle

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.
BELMONT’S 150TH ANNIVERSARY EVENING

FRIDAY JULY 5, 2019
BANDSTAND ON MILL ST.
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

July 5, 1869—July 5, 2019
Come celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Town of Belmont. The evening will include special acknowledgements, celebration cake, and live music on the Bandstand. A historic milestone… our Sesquicentennial!

FEATURING A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY WALRUS GUMBOOT, A BEATLES TRIBUTE BAND

For more information, contact Gretta Olson-Wilder, Special Events Coordinator, at 603-998-3525.
Calling all alumni of Belmont schools. Join in the town’s 150th celebration & connect with old friends. Enjoy three live bands & an amazing Cirque de Light fire spinning show. Event is FREE & open to the general public.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1
4:00 PM—9:00 PM

Featuring radio roulette, 19 miles per hour, & STOLEN THUNDER

Mill & Bandstand Area on Mill Street, Belmont

FREE OUTDOOR EVENT
For more information, contact Gretta Olson-Wilder at 603-998-3525
*All meetings held in CMH (Corner Meeting House) unless otherwise noted. ↑ = upstairs, ↓ = downstairs

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BOS: Board of Selectmen
CC: Conservation Committee
PB: Planning Board
SOGS: Save Our Gale School
Heritage: Heritage Commission
ARC: Application Review Committee
ZBA: Zoning Board of Adjustment
FSC: Facilities Strategy Committee