

**TOWN OF BELMONT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
NAMING POLICY-TOWN ASSETS**

INTRODUCTION

The Board of Selectmen shall be responsible for the naming of public assets. For this purpose, public assets shall mean buildings, parks, squares, parcel of land, or portions thereof owned by the Town. The Board understands that a name given to a Town asset may have long-lasting effect and will span future generations whose perceptions and values might change. The Board intends to be cautious exercising this Policy to avoid over-naming public assets.

PURPOSE

The Board of Selectmen believes that the naming of public assets is a matter of substantial or significant interest and deserves careful consideration. The Board, therefore, creates this policy to establish a systematic, consistent and transparent approach for naming public assets in the Town.

PROCESS

Any board, committee or resident may propose in writing that a Town asset be named. Said proposal shall be submitted to the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen Office. Proposals should include documentation to support the rationale and should reflect a broad level of community backing. Requests pertaining to the facilities under the care, control and custody of any town board, committee or commission shall be referred to that board, committee or commission.

POLICY

Property may be named after an individual when the individual has a historical association with the property, the area in which it is located or the Town as a whole, or where the individual played a leadership role in the Town, such as through distinguished service in military, law enforcement, public office. Quality of contribution in these areas may be considered along with length of service.

Property may be named after an individual or organization that has made significant financial and civic contributions to the Town, or that has made a direct financial grant to the Town for purposes of developing a particular property.

Names would be chosen in a manner that avoids duplication, confusing similarity or inappropriateness.

In the event of an individual's passing, a year must pass before consideration may be made to be applicable.

If in the future the individual associated with a naming is questioned it may go before the Board for review and renaming.

The Board of Selectmen will determine if the name change warrants a public meeting.

Naming Policy ADOPTED: BOS 11-5-18

CRITERIA

In deciding the appropriateness of any naming or renaming proposal, the Board shall consider the following:

1. The significant value of the public asset;
2. The public interest to be served;
3. Any historic events, people or places associated with the public asset;
4. Any outstanding individual associated with the public asset;
5. Any major gift associated with the public asset;
6. Whether the naming proposal is for a time certain; and
7. Whether a naming agreement or other documentation is appropriate or necessary

In addition, in deciding the appropriateness of any renaming proposal, the Board shall consider:

1. Any existing agreement or documentation regarding the current name
2. The appropriateness of a new name, taking into consideration historical significance of the public asset or its current name; and
3. Any costs associated with the renaming