



**Minutes of the
Town of Belmont
Warrant Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 3, 2024
7:30pm**

RECEIVED TOWN CLERK BELMONT, MA
DATE: June 10, 2024
TIME: 9:06 AM

Call to Order: Mr. Lubien called the meeting to order at 6:09pm. There were 11 voting members present

Member	Present	Member	Present
Geoffrey Lubien, Chair	Yes	Anne Helgen	Yes
Paul Rickter, Vice-Chair	Yes	Robert McLaughlin	Absent
Conor McEachern, Secretary	Absent	Melissa Morley	Yes
William Anderson	Yes	Lynn Peterson Read	Yes
Tom Caputo	Yes	Marie Warner	Yes
Fitzie Cowing	Yes	Jack Weis	Yes
Susanne Croy	Yes	Roy Epstein, Ex-officio Designee, Select Board	Absent
Deepak Garg	Absent	Meghan Moriarty, Ex-officio, School Committee	Absent

1. Discussion on Article 23

Mr. Lubien recounted the discussion around Article 23 (the OPEB appropriation) and alternatives for rink funding since the Warrant Committee consideration of this item was postponed from May 28, 2024 meeting.

Since that meeting, there were discussions with Town Administrator Patrice Garvin and Assistant Town Administrator/Finance Director Jennifer Hewitt, which led to a proposal for rink funding that was approved by the Select Board at their May 31, 2024 meeting.

Under this proposal, the gap in rink funding will be closed using \$550,000 of Investment Income and \$950,000 from the Kendall Fund, plus the \$750,000 in State funding for the refrigeration system.

Mr. Anderson asked how much money is currently in the Kendall Fund and Mr. Lubien replied that there is \$2,100,000. Mr. Lubien noted that there is precedent for using the Kendall Fund for capital project gaps -- mostly recently for the Police Station project.

Mr. Lubien noted that Mr. McEachern's suggestion, raised during the May 28, 2024 discussion of Article 23, to reduce OPEB funding to allow free cash to be used for the rink project, may no longer be needed.

Mr. McEachern was unable to attend this meeting, but he now recommends favorable action on the original Article 23. Under Article 23, \$440,000 of free cash will be allocated to OPEB.

There was agreement from Warrant Committee members that we should proceed with a recommendation for favorable action on Article 23.

Ms. Cowing moved favorable action on Article 23. Ms. Helgen seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by a show of hands vote.

Adjournment

Mr. Weiss moved to adjourn the meeting of the Warrant Committee. Ms. Cowing seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:22pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Susan Peghiny
Recording Secretary