

**BELMONT WARRANT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**MAY 9, 2018, 7:30 P.M.**

**CHENERY COMMUNITY ROOM**

2018 JUN 18 PM 2:11

Present: Chairman Epstein; Members Alcock, Crowley, Dionne, Doyle, Helgen, Lisanke, Lubien, McLaughlin, Schreiber, Slap, Weis, Selectman Dash, School Committee representative Burgess-Cox.

Members Absent: Libenson, Fallon.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by Chairman Epstein.

***I. Approval of Minutes***

The Public Services, General Government, and Human Services subcommittees convened briefly to vote acceptance of past meeting minutes.

***II. Discussion of Warrant Committee Report***

Chairman Epstein asked for final edits on the FY19 Warrant Committee report that had been distributed previously. He then began a discussion of the Executive Summary in the report, focusing on section VI(3): Capital Projects. That section addresses the position of the Warrant Committee in regard to funding Belmont's capital spending at a higher level.

There was general support for the principle of increasing capital spending but members were concerned that this question, particularly as it relates to financing strategies and funding sources, had not been analyzed in sufficient detail to make specific recommendations in this year's report.

The WC decided the appropriate course was for the Executive Summary to emphasize the importance of beginning a community-wide discussion of capital spending priorities and funding sources. There was consensus that there should be more communication between the WC and the Community Preservation Committee and the Capital Budget Committee.

Member Dash pointed out that the CPC was beginning to take a multi-year perspective on allocating CPA funds on capital-related spending to consider saving up for larger future projects.

Chairman Epstein noted that the Major Capital Projects Working Group had been successful in developing a plan for the DPW facility and the police station but that it was winding down. He suggested to BOS representative Dash that the BOS consider appointing a permanent successor committee to help plan future large projects.

The WC voted to approve the report subject to Chairman Epstein revising section VI(3) of the Executive Summary to reflect the consensus to recommend initiating a community-wide discussion.

## *II. BOS Updates*

Selectman Dash reported that four candidates have come forward to be considered to fill the position on the School Committee created by the election of Tom Caputo as the new Selectman.

A Special Town Meeting will be convened in November 2018 to vote on new zoning regulations for marijuana sellers and to vote on authorizing a debt exclusion for the new grades 7-12 school.

The BOS will hold a public forum on June 18 to discuss post-closure use of the former incinerator site on Concord Ave. The post-closure use will determine the scope of work needed for the landfill cap to address environmental issues.

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 PM.

Submitted by Roy J. Epstein.