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BELMONT, MA

DATE: February 14, 2022
TIME: 9:36 AM

Minutes of the
Town of Belmont
Warrant Committee Meeting
Wednesday, December 1, 2021
7:30pm



To view the recording of the meeting, please click [HERE](#).

Call to Order: Mr. Lubien called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

Member	Present	Member	Present
Geoffrey Lubien, Chair	Yes	Andrew Levin	Yes
Christine Doyle, Vice Chair	Yes	Robert McLaughlin	Yes
Elizabeth Dionne, Secretary	No	Lynn Read	Yes
Tom Caputo	Yes	Paul Rickter	Yes
Jennifer Fallon	No	Ellen Schreiber	Yes
Elizabeth Goss	Yes	Laurie Slap	Yes
Daniel Halston	Yes	Jack Weis	Yes
Anne Helgen	Yes	Adam Dash, Ex-officio - Select Board	Yes
Staff		Jamal Saeh, Ex-officio, School Com. Chair Appointee	No
Patrice Garvin, Town Administrator	Yes		

I. **Communications Working Group Update:** this item was removed from the agenda.

II. **Reports (if any) from Select Board, Town Administrator, School Committee, and liaisons**

Select Board: Mr. Dash reported that the Select Board met to set the annual tax rate, including the possibility a residential exemption and a separate tax classification for commercial property. The tax went from \$11.54/1000 to \$11.56/1000. It was decided that there would not be a residential exemption and to not create a separate tax rate for commercial property.

He said that the Select Board interviews with Department Heads will be December 13 and 16 in the morning to review budgets.

Town Administrator: Ms. Garvin reported that the budget meetings have started with departments and that there is some work to be done. They hope to have the budgets wrapped up by the end of December. For revenue, she will be presenting to the Select Board on Monday about FY21's actual revenue, estimated revenue for FY22, and FY23 estimates. She outlined the revenue sources for the Town. Free cash use is still unclear as about \$7.2M was used this year and she believes next year will be higher but doesn't know how much more.

She said that the Town Auditor will be going through the revenue losses for ARPA and outlined how this money can be used.

Ms. Gavin advised that the Town had been earmarked for the following ARPA money:

- \$250,000 for rink design costs
- \$250,000 for library construction
- \$100,00 for economic development
- \$500,000 for affordable housing related projects

High School Building Committee: Ms. Schreiber reported that they are now looking at the west of Harris Field. Because of the School Committee's decision to put a future new hockey rink behind the current location, the HSBC is now able to move forward on their plans. They are starting to go through the preliminary design in order to get cost estimates.

Hockey Rink Financing Committee: Ms. Schreiber reported that they are trying to identify funding but do not yet have a design – only a rough idea of location. A group to define this project is being created.

Mr. Weiss asked question about the timing of the fields and the new rink, which Ms. Schreiber and Mr. McLaughlin answered and described the plan for the fields.

Ms. Doyle asked if the rink will be funded by a debt exclusion. Ms. Schreiber responded that this question is part of the discussion of the committee, but she thinks it will need one although no decisions have been made about it. There was a discussion of the process for determining the size and location of the rink as well as funding.

III. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Mr. McLaughlin moved to adopt the Warrant Committee portion of the minutes of the **Joint Meeting of the Warrant Committee and Select Board dated November 18, 2019**. Mr. Rickter seconded, and the motion passed by rollcall vote with Mr. Dash, Ms. Goss, Mr. Caputo, and Mr. Levin abstaining.

Motion: Mr. McLaughlin moved to adopt the Warrant Committee portion of the minutes of the **Joint Meeting of the Warrant Committee and Select Board dated March 31, 2021**. Mr. Levin seconded, and the motion passed by rollcall vote with Mr. Dash, Ms. Gross, Mr. Caputo, and Mr. Halston abstaining.

Motion: Mr. McLaughlin moved to adopt the Warrant Committee portion of the minutes of the **Joint Meeting of the Warrant Committee and Select Board dated August 18, 2021**. Ms. Read seconded, and the motion passed by rollcall vote with Mr. Caputo, Mr. Levin, and Ms. Helgen abstaining.

Motion: Mr. McLaughlin moved to adopt the Warrant Committee portion of the minutes of the **Joint Meeting of the Warrant Committee, Select Board, School Committee, Financial Task Force II, and Capital Budget Committee dated November 23, 2020**. Mr. Rickter seconded, and the motion passed by rollcall vote with Mr. Dash and Mr. Caputo, abstaining.

Motion: Ms. Reid moved to approve the minutes of the **March 11, 2021** as amended and **September 15, 2021** meetings of the **Public Safety Committee**. Mr. Halston seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by rollcall vote.

IV. **Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

V. Adjournment

Motion: Mr. McLaughlin moved the adjourn the meeting of the Warrant Committee. Mr. Halston seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11pm.

Next Meeting: December 15, 2021

Respectfully submitted by,

Susan Peghiny
Recording Secretary