

**Town of Belmont
Warrant Committee
Public Services Subcommittee**

2018 MAY 10 PM 2:09

Minutes: Warrant Committee Public Services Subcommittee Meeting

Friday, April 6, 2018
Conference Room 4, Town Hall
455 Concord Ave, Belmont, MA

Present: Robert McLaughlin; Geoffrey Lubien; Michael Libenson; Chris Doyle; Director of Community Development, Glenn Clancy; Director of Public Works, Jay Marcotte; Assistant Director, Michael Santoro; Acting Director of Facilities, Phyllis Marshall; Administrative Coordinator, Cindy Papa; Budget Analyst, Glen Castro.

Meeting called to order at 8:05 am.

1, Department Head Discussions

The Subcommittee met with the heads of the three Public Services Departments and discussed each Department's needs, each Department's budget for FY19, any progress on prior Warrant Committee recommendations, and possible future Warrant Committee recommendations for each Department.

Questions were sent to each department head in advance and the subcommittee received responses to the questions prior to the meeting. Committee members then followed up clarifying questions and/or comments during the meetings with the departments.

8:05 am - Community Development

(Divisions: Administrative, Planning, Engineering and Inspections)
Met with Glen Clancy, Director

Highlights:

- Incinerator site is moving slower because we need to address post cap for use. \$700K funding request for design from \$2.7MM Landfill stabilization fund. Cost to cap approximately \$3MM.
- Community Development looks the same from year to year with things pretty much business as usual.
- Increased role of Planning Bared had put a lot of pressure on the planning division. Shift some of the special permitting back to ZBA will alleviate some of this.
- The roads policy is working with the backlog of \$22MM backlog compared to \$44MM 10 years ago.
- There are now enough funds to do curbing and sidewalks improvements outside of major road construction projects.

8:40 am - Public Works

(Divisions: Administrative, Highway, Recreation/Parks/Cemeteries, Water)

Met with Jay Marcotte, Director and Mike Santoro

Highlights:

- Current cost is just for collection as current vendor was get cash value for recycling that is no longer and we are paying the full cost of recycling. Collection is up because we are not getting a discount
- Dual stream recycling does not exist anymore. The market is now volatile with changes in global recycling demand.
- There is now a processing fee that varies by market forces. Volatile market the varies monthly.
- Trees in town get older in town so there an increasing need for tree removal
- The drought from two years ago is a root cause of many tree damage
- The March nor'easters also did not help. 62 town trees (which the town was able to address) with private 75
- Need a more proactive program to take down old unhealthy trees.
- Tree warden is concerned that many trees in town are approaching 100 years their useful life and need to come down. Costly trees where you need bigger equipment cranes etc. 10-12 need to come down
- There is a process to replace trees.
- Pool is a great asset but has tough financials because of the time only 10 weeks. Not heated and lifeguard shortage.

9:20 am - Facilities Dept.

(Divisions: Administrative, Building Management)

Met with Phyllis Marshall, Acting Director and Cindy Papa

- The department has a new director that will start soon.
- The FY19 budget does not have the funding for the OPM.
- House doctors is going well.
- The school and town combination is complete in terms of budgets and resources. Still have two different unions. They library is still on its own.
- The high school and middles schools are contracted for cleaning services at night. Thinking of adding service to Town Hall and the Beech Street Center.

2. To approve Minutes of any prior meetings of the subcommittee.

No minutes were approved at this meeting.

1. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn

RM motion, ML second
Vote yes 4-0

Adjourned at 9:59 am

Submitted by Geoffrey Lubien,
Public Services Subcommittee Chair

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