

**Town Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 10, 2026**  
**7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**  
**Belmont High School**  
**255 Seavey Road**

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**Town of Belmont Voter's Guide**

This year marks the Town of Belmont's 18<sup>th</sup> experience with the Official Ballot Voting process that is commonly known as "SB2". The first session of the annual Town Meeting was held on Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. At the Deliberative Session, the voters in attendance were presented with the articles on the warrant as proposed by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee. There was great discussion and input into all the articles presented. You may cast your ballot on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, from 7 am to 7 pm in the Belmont High School Gym, 255 Seavey Road.

All registered voters are eligible to participate in the process. New voters may register to vote at the Clerk's Office through February 27, 2026. You may also register in person on February 28, 2026, at the Supervisors of the Checklist meeting, held at the Town Hall from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. After that, new voter registrations will be accepted at the polls on Election Day. In addition to a valid photo ID and proof of residency (such as a utility bill, pay stub, or bank statement in your name), House Bill 1569 now requires proof of valid U.S. citizenship. Acceptable documents include a birth certificate, passport, or naturalization paperwork. This law also removes all exceptions to the state's voter ID requirements and eliminates the affidavit ballot system. For more information, please visit [www.sos.nh.gov/elections/register-vote](http://www.sos.nh.gov/elections/register-vote) .Unable to attend the election? Absentee ballot request forms are available at the Clerk's Office and ballots will be mailed once ballots are available. Please call 603-267-8300 ext. 2 to check availability.

We realize that sometimes the lengthy legal language required by law to write various warrant articles can be confusing to voters who have not been actively involved in the debate that created the article. To help voters, we have prepared this Voter's Guide for your use. This guide will be available at Town Hall and online via the Town's website ([www.belmontnh.gov](http://www.belmontnh.gov)). Should you have any questions regarding the information contained in the guide, please do not hesitate to contact Town Administrator Alicia Jipson (603-267- 8300, ext. 124).

**Tax impact** information listed in the guide will not be listed on the ballot. We have provided this information here to give voters an idea of what items are **estimated** to cost if voters approve the item. The tax impact information listed in the voter's guide is simply an estimate based on a current snapshot in time using information and revenue projections that are available today. The tax rate will be set by the NH Department of Revenue Administration (NHDR) in October/November 2026 using actual information that is available, including any additional value attributed to new construction.

The Board of Selectmen would like to extend their deepest gratitude to each of the volunteer Budget Committee members for their hard work, dedication, and thoughtful review of the proposed 2026 Town budget. Their commitment to ensuring fiscal responsibility while balancing the needs of our community is truly commendable. The time and effort that is devoted to analyzing, discussing, and refining the budget play a crucial role in shaping the future of our Town.

Their careful consideration of each line item, their insightful discussions, and their willingness to engage in thoughtful deliberation have helped create a budget that reflects both our Town's priorities and the interests of our residents. Their efforts ensure that we can continue to provide essential services, support community initiatives, and plan for long-term financial sustainability. It is through their dedication that we can move forward with a budget that is both responsible and forward-thinking.

In closing, we would like to "Thank you", our residents, for the opportunity to represent you the Townspeople, and we appreciate your consideration as we work together to maintain Belmont as a great community in which to live.

Sincerely,

Belmont Board of Selectmen

*Ruth P. Mooney, Chairman*

*Jon Pike, Vice Chairman*

*Travis O'Hara*

*Claude B. Patten, Jr.*

*Sharon Ciampi*

**Article #1 To choose necessary officers, including:**

**Selectman 3-Year Term (Vote for up to 2; 2 will be elected)**

Travis O'Hara  
Russell Greene  
Mark Lewandoski  
Thomas Murphy

**Budget Committee 3-Year Term (Vote for up to 4; 4 will be elected)**

Douglas Trottier  
Scott Bell  
Marsha Campbell  
Donald Hurd

**Trustee of Trust Funds 3-Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)**

Thomas Garfield

**Library Trustee 3-Year Term (Vote for up to 2; 2 will be elected)**

Mary-Louise Charnley  
Shela Cunningham  
Samantha LeClair

**Cemetery Trustee 3-Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)**

Katie Eaton

**Planning Board 3-Year Term (Vote for up to 2; 2 will be elected)**

Peter Harris  
Richard Pickwick

**Zoning Board of Adjustment 3-Year Term (Vote for up to 2; 2 will be elected)**

Susan Bouthiette  
Dennis R. Grimes  
Peter Harris

**Town Moderator 2-Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)**

Alvin Nix Jr

**Supervisor of the Checklist 6-Year Term (Vote for not more than 1)**

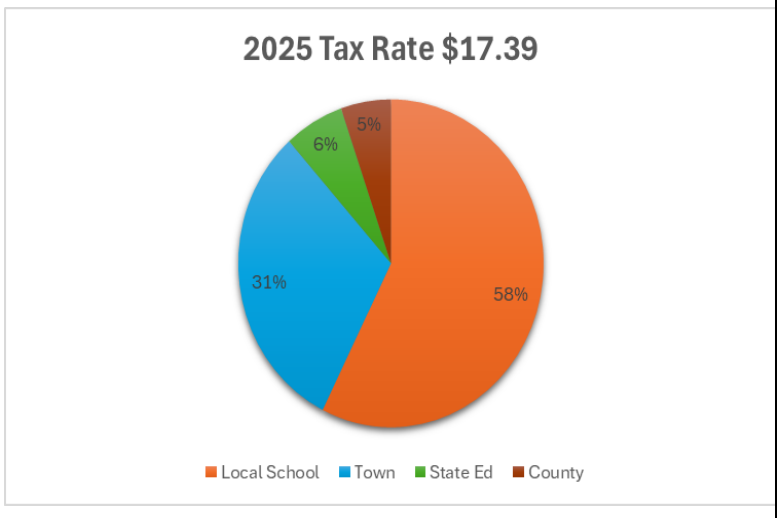
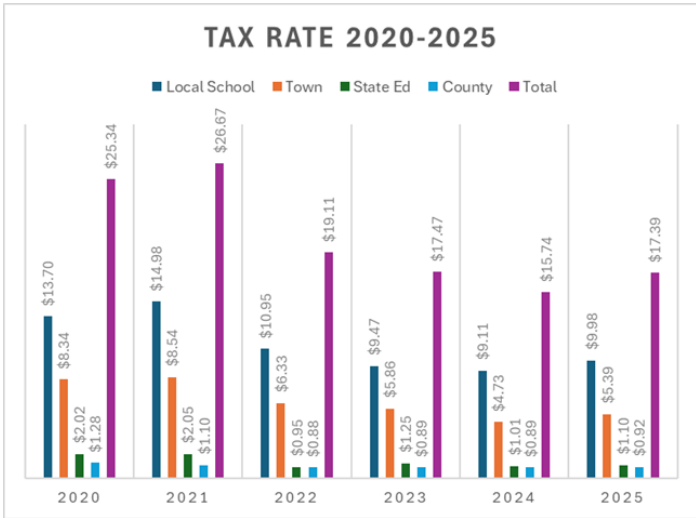
Donna Shepherd

Elected officials are required to take an oath of office within 6 days of being notified of their election, in accordance with RSA 42:4. All officials elected on March 10<sup>th</sup> will need to contact the Town Clerk at 603-267-8300 ext. 122 to schedule a time to take their oath.

- ▶ 2025 \$17.39
- ▶ \$1.65
- ▶ 10.48% Increase



	Local School	Town	State Ed	County	Total
2020	\$13.70	\$8.34	\$2.02	\$1.28	\$25.34
2021	\$14.98	\$8.54	\$2.05	\$1.10	\$26.67
2022	\$10.95	\$6.33	\$0.95	\$0.88	\$19.11
2023	\$9.47	\$5.86	\$1.25	\$0.89	\$17.47
2024	\$9.11	\$4.73	\$1.01	\$0.89	\$15.74
2025	\$9.98	\$5.39	\$1.10	\$0.92	\$17.39



TAX YEAR	BILL NUMBER	BILLING DATE	INTEREST RATE	DUE DATE
2025	002191-002191	11/15/2025	8% if paid after	12/16/2025
MAP/PARCEL	LOCATION OF PROPERTY			AREA
	1 D			8.70
OWNER OF RECORD		TAX CALCULATION		
		Municipal Tax Amount 3,615.07 School Tax Amount 6,693.58 Education Tax Amount 737.77 County Tax Amount 617.05 Total Tax 11,663.47 Actual Tax Amount 11,663.47 Paid to Date -5,278.41		
TAX CALCULATION	ASSESSED VALUATION		<b>PAY THIS AMOUNT</b> 6,385.06	
Municipal 5.39 School 9.98 Education 1.10 County 0.92 <b>TOTAL 17.39</b>	Buildings 557,700	Land Value 113,000		
	<b>NET VALUE 670,700</b>			

While each property tax payment is made as a single check to the Town of Belmont, the Town acts as a “pass through”. The Town is obligated to make all the outgoing payments to the Shaker Regional School District, Belknap County and the state if NH Department of Education.

In 2025, the Town made the following payments:

\$15,015,505 to Shaker Regional School District

\$1,629,571 to State of NH Department of Education

\$1,387,651 Belknap County

In 2025, out of \$26,150,235 collected in taxes, the Town only retained \$8,117,508 to operate the Town.

**Article #2** Are you in favor of Amendment #1 to the Belmont Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Amend the definition of Manufactured Housing and the Table of Permitted Uses to allow manufactured housing in the Residential Multi-Family, Residential Single-Family, Rural and Village districts on individual lots and outside of manufactured housing parks and manufactured housing subdivisions?

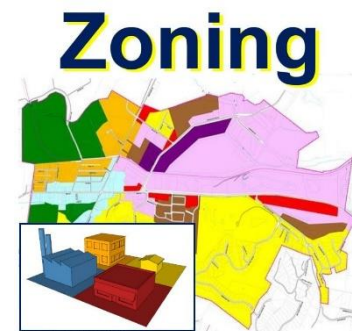
(This article recommended by the Planning Board)

**EXPLANATION:** Currently the Ordinance language Article 15 Definitions states that *“Manufactured Housing may only be placed in approved manufactured housing parks or manufactured housing subdivisions”*. As proposed by the Planning Board, this change would allow manufactured homes in the Residential Multifamily, Residential Single, Village and Rural Zones. In 2025 a petitioned warrant article passed indicating that the voters were in favor of allowing manufactured houses outside manufactured housing parks or subdivisions. The article was advisory only as it is in conflict with Article 15 of the Zoning Ordinance. This proposed amendment removes the conflict.

**Article #3** Are you in favor of Amendment #2 to the Belmont Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: Delete the definition of Solar and adopt specific definitions of Commercial Solar, Residential Solar, Agricultural Solar, Roof Mount and Ground Mount; and adopt a new Article 4M to limit the height of fixed ground mounted Residential Solar systems to 15 feet, the height of tracking ground mounted Residential Solar systems to 20 feet, to prohibit solar collections systems from creating glare hazards and to require solar collection systems to comply with the Town’s noise ordinance.

(This article recommended by the Planning Board)

**EXPLANATION:** Currently the Ordinance language contains a definition of a solar that does not differentiate between Residential, Commercial or Agricultural Solar Arrays. The proposed definitions help provide clarity. Additionally, the Board is proposing definitions of both roof mount and ground mount arrays. The Board is also proposing language to limit the height of ground mount arrays as well as addressing potential glare hazard and any noise that may be produced by the array and its collection components.



**Article #4** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the deliberative session, for the purposes set forth herein, \$12,071,283. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$11,263,508 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority Vote Required)

Note: This warrant article (Operating Budget) does not include appropriations in any other warrant article.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$12,071,283 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

### **2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$5.79.**

**EXPLANATION:** The annual operating budget covers all Town departments including Highway, Police, Fire/EMS, Library, Parks & Rec, and all functions at Town Hall. About 50% of the operating budget is funded through non-property tax revenue. Revenues for 2026 are estimated to be around \$5,512,616. This article provides funding for the recurring annual operating costs of providing a broad range of public services to the community. These increases are generally the result of materials, service contracts and utility price increases that are anticipated to occur due to the surge in inflationary pressures that are being experienced nationwide. Please review the financial report and recommendations of the Budget Committee detailed in the warrant as shown on the MS-737 Form. The operating budget is a "bottom line budget" by law in New Hampshire. Therefore, the final vote taken on this article will be based on the aggregate appropriation.

### **Implications of a Default Budget for the Town as a Whole**

A municipality that does not receive proper funding experiences a gradual decline in essential services, infrastructure maintenance, and overall community well-being. Without adequate financial resources:

- Public safety is compromised due to insufficient Police, Fire and DPW staffing and outdated equipment.
- Infrastructure deteriorates as road maintenance, building repairs, and park upkeep are delayed or neglected.
- Economic development is stifled due to reduced investment in community projects, deterring businesses and residents from settling in the town.
- Resident satisfaction declines as public amenities and events are reduced or eliminated.
- Emergency response and disaster preparedness efforts are weakened due to limited funding for necessary resources.
- Staff retention and recruitment challenges increase, resulting in higher turnover and reduced efficiency in municipal operations.
- Long-term financial instability leads to higher costs in the future as deferred maintenance results in more significant repairs and replacements.

### **Conclusion**

The constraints imposed by a default budget have impacted every department, reducing services, delaying maintenance, and hindering community growth. If another default budget is implemented, the long-term effects will become even more pronounced, including further infrastructure decline, difficulty retaining and attracting staff, and increasing limitations on Town services. It is necessary to address these financial shortfalls to ensure the sustainability of essential services and future community development.

**Article #5** To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Belmont and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Council 93, Local 3657 (Public Safety Employees Union-Fire Unit B), for the term April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2029, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Year	Increase in Wages & Benefits
2026	\$162,346
Year	Estimated Increase in Wages & Benefits
2027	\$84,774
2028	\$62,548



And further, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$162,346 for the current fiscal year (2026), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels under the existing agreement.

Should this article fail to pass, the cost items in the current contract for the (Public Safety Employees Union-Fire Unit B) collective bargaining agreement for the term ending March 31, 2026, shall remain in place.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$162,346 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.11.**

**EXPLANATION:** The proposed Fire Department Collective Bargaining Agreement reflects a comprehensive review of staffing needs, regional compensation trends, and the Town’s long-term fiscal responsibilities. Developed through discussions between the Town and the Fire Department union, the agreement establishes terms for the next three years with an emphasis on workforce stability and responsible compensation. The proposed wage adjustments are limited in scope and are focused primarily on addressing pay levels at the lower end of the department’s wage scale.

These employees are the firefighters and emergency medical personnel who respond when residents call 911, who arrive at homes and businesses during emergencies, and who provide fire suppression, emergency medical care, rescue services, and life safety support during critical incidents. In recent years, the department has experienced challenges with recruitment and retention, consistent with trends seen in surrounding communities, including the impact of rising living costs and regional competition for qualified personnel.

This contract is intended to keep Fire Department compensation in line with similarly sized departments that operate at comparable service and call volumes. By doing so, it supports the Town’s ability to retain trained and experienced personnel, attract qualified candidates, and maintain consistent, high-quality emergency services for the community, while helping to avoid the higher long-term costs associated with frequent turnover and repeated training.

**Article #6** Shall the Town, if Warrant Article #5 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Warrant Article #5 cost items only? (Majority Vote Required)

**EXPLANATION:** If the amended Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) as described in Article 5 is defeated and if this Article passes, the Board of Selectmen may, if they so choose, call a Special Town Meeting to vote on the cost items only of the amended CBA.

**Article #7** To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Belmont and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Council 93, Local 3657 (Public Safety Employees Union-Police Unit A), for the term April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2029, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Year	Increase in Wages & Benefits
2026	\$24,319
Year	Estimated Increase in Wages & Benefits
2027	\$55,257
2028	\$71,358



And further, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$24,319 for the current fiscal year (2026), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels under the existing agreement.

Should this article fail to pass, the cost items in the current contract for the (Public Safety Employees Union-Police Unit A) collective bargaining agreement for the term ending March 31, 2026, shall remain in place.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$24,319 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.02.**

**EXPLANATION:** These proposed wage adjustments are the result of months of collaborative negotiations between the Town and the PD union to establish a fair, sustainable contract for the next three years. The goal of this agreement is straightforward: to support retention and stability within the Police Department by ensuring compensation remains competitive and responsible. The adjustments are narrowly targeted and apply only to the department's lowest-paid employees.

These employees are the officers who respond when residents call 911, who arrive at homes during emergencies, and who investigate the community's most serious and sensitive crimes, often involving victims at their most vulnerable moments. In recent years, the department has experienced challenges recruiting and retaining officers, including candidates who have struggled to secure housing due to rising costs and comparatively lower wages.

This contract helps keep pay in line with similarly sized agencies that operate at comparable activity levels. By doing so, it strengthens the Town's ability to retain experienced officers, attract qualified candidates, and maintain consistent, high-quality public safety services for the community while avoiding the high costs of constantly training and losing officers.

**Article #8** Shall the Town, if Warrant Article #7 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Warrant Article #7 cost items only? (Majority Vote Required)

**EXPLANATION:** If the amended Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) as described in Article 7 is defeated and if this Article passes, the Board of Selectmen may, if they so choose, call a Special Town Meeting to vote on the cost items only of the amended CBA.

**Article #9** To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town of Belmont and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Council 93, Local 534 (Public Works Employees Union), for the term April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2029, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Year	Increase in Wages & Benefits
2026	\$41,575
Year	Estimated Increase in Wages & Benefits
2027	\$36,203
2028	\$25,008



And further, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$41,575 for the current fiscal year (2026), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels under the existing agreement.

Should this article fail to pass, the cost items in the current contract for the (Public Works Employees Union) collective bargaining agreement for the term ending March 31, 2026, shall remain in place.

(The Budget Committee recommends \$41,575 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.03.**

**EXPLANATION:** The 2026 union contract is a product of months of good faith negotiation between the Town and AFSCME council 93, the Public Employees Union. Efforts were focused on employee retention through reasonable compensation over the life of the 3-year contract.

These employees keep the streets safe for travel, provide safe drinking water, and operate the sewer collection system 365 days a year for the Town of Belmont. This is a group that consistently shows up to perform both basic maintenance and emergency operations with the same goal, to keep Belmont moving safely and efficiently.

This contract will allow the department to pay a fair wage, comparable to surrounding similar sized communities and promote employee retention. Experienced, dedicated employees are hard to find. Supporting the team in place ultimately results in more efficient, cost-effective maintenance in the long term.

**Article #10** Shall the Town, if Warrant Article #9 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Warrant Article #9 cost items only? (Majority Vote Required)

**EXPLANATION:** If the amended Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) as described in Article 9 is defeated and if this Article passes, the Board of Selectmen may, if they so choose, call a Special Town Meeting to vote on the cost items only of the amended CBA.

**Article #11** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$800,026 for the operation and maintenance of the Sewage Collection and Disposal System for the ensuing year, said sum to be offset by user fees. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$816,687, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Budget Committee recommends \$800,026 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

**This budget is to be offset by user fees not from taxation.**

**EXPLANATION:** The operating budget for the Sewer department is for those users on the Public Sewer system only. The budget is funded through sewer usage fees and not from taxation. It will include amounts to operate and maintain the sewer system and its fees to the State of NHDES and the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program (WRBP).

**Article #12** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$435,616 for the operation and maintenance of the Water Distribution and Treatment System for the ensuing year, said sum to be offset by user fees. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$326,268, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Budget Committee recommends \$435,616 and the Board of Selectmen supports this recommendation.)

**This budget is to be offset by user fees not from taxation.**

**EXPLANATION:** The operating budget for the water department is for water users only. The budget is funded through water usage fees and not from taxation. It will include amounts to operate and maintain the Towns public water system.

**Article #13** To see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a long-term lease/purchase agreement with a non-appropriation clause in the amount of \$364,823 payable over a term of 60 months (5-years) for a new Fire Truck for the Fire Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the first year's payment for that purpose. (Note: The Town has received \$500,000 in grant funds to offset the purchase of the Firetruck, If article #13 is defeated grant funds will be lost). (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$100,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.07.**

**EXPLANATION:** In 2025, the Fire Department began the process of replacing the Town's 1998 Freightliner fire engine, which has exceeded its recommended frontline service life and is becoming increasingly unreliable and costly to maintain. Per NFPA 1911, fire apparatus are recommended to serve on first alarms for 15 years and then be placed in reserve status for an additional five years. The 1998 Freightliner has far surpassed these guidelines and no longer meets current safety and operational standards.

The Fire Department applied for and was awarded approximately \$500,000 in state grant funding from the Granite State Clean Fleets Program, to go towards the purchase of a replacement fire engine. The total cost of the new engine is \$864,823. The remaining project costs, including items not eligible for reimbursement under the grant, will be funded through borrowing \$364,823,000 over a 5-year period. To control costs, the Department worked with the manufacturer to purchase a pre-specification engine and make limited modifications to meet the Town's operational needs.

**Article #14** To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken on Article 7 at the 1999 Annual Meeting to restrict all revenues from ambulance billings to be deposited in the Special Revenue Fund known as the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund to instead restrict all but the first \$149,500 of revenues from ambulance billings received during the 2026 budgetary year to be deposited in the Special Revenue Fund known as the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund. The first \$149,500 of revenues from ambulance billings will be deposited in the Town's General Fund to defray the cost items identified below. This restriction shall only be effective for the 2026 budgetary year. No amount to be raised by taxation. (2/3 Majority Vote Required)

Training Expenses \$3,000  
Medical & Supply Expenses \$30,000  
Ambulance Billing Fees \$20,000  
Overtime \$40,000  
Telephone \$2,000  
Conferences & Dues \$1,500  
Office Expense \$12,000  
Vehicle Repair & Parts \$33,000  
Fuel \$8,000

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$149,500 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**No funds to come from taxation. The current balance in the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$360,892. Funds to support Articles 14,15 and 16 are proposed to be withdrawn from the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund.**

**Article #15** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$105,000 for the third year's payment on the long term lease/purchase agreement entered into in 2023 for the purchase of a new Ambulance for the Fire Department, and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of said amount from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund previously established in accordance with RSA 31:95-c (Created 1994/Amended 1999). The Town is obligated by the terms of the lease/purchase agreement, as well as the super majority ratifying that agreement in Article 7 at the 2023 Town Meeting, to make these yearly payments. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$105,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**No funds to come from taxation. The current balance in the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$360,892. Funds to support Articles 14,15 and 16 are proposed to be withdrawn from the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund.**

**EXPLANATION:** This article is part of the Capital Improvement Program. These funds have been used to purchase a new ambulance with equipment through a Capital Lease. That vote in 2023 authorized the down payment and all future loan payments. If this article does not pass the Town will need to return the ambulance and will lose all the money paid to date on the lease.

**Article #16** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$68,561 for the first year's payment on the long term lease/purchase agreement entered into in 2025 for the purchase of a new Tanker for the Fire Department, and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of said amount from the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Special Revenue Fund previously established in accordance with RSA 31:95-c (Created 1994/Amended 1999). The Town is obligated by the terms of the lease/purchase

agreement, as well as the super majority ratifying that agreement in Article 10 at the 2025 Town Meeting, to make these yearly payments. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$68,561 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**No funds to come from taxation. The current balance in the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$360,892. Funds to support Articles 14,15 and 16 are proposed to be withdrawn from the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund.**

### Capital Reserve Funds

The Town of Belmont uses Capital Reserve Funds as a cost-effective method of financing the purchase or replacement of facilities, equipment and infrastructure. Consistent amounts have been included in annual budgets for transfer to Capital Reserve Funds (similar to savings accounts) in past years, so that sufficient monies are available in these funds when purchases or replacements are required. This spreads the cost over the funding period, rather than requiring a large appropriation in the year of purchase or replacement and thereby helps to stabilize property tax rates. The added benefit of earning interest on the funds serves as an extra cushion against inflation, further stabilizing finances.

**Article #17** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$750,000 to be placed in the Highway Reconstruction and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006). (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$750,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.49. The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$1,328,088.93.**

**EXPLANATION:** The Highway Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund was established in 2006. This \$750,000 appropriation allows the Town to continue necessary road reconstruction and improvements to the infrastructure. The current request for appropriation has remained the same since 2009. By depositing the funds into this Capital Reserve Fund, it ensures that the funds can only be used for that purpose. Background: Within the context of the Annual Road Program, capital road rehabilitation and reconstruction continue towards a goal of improving overall road conditions within the Town. Road Program priorities are generally guided by road condition and PCI (pavement condition index) ratings, traffic volumes, and opportunities to coordinate road construction with other projects. Most of the funds are dedicated to construction, with a portion of the funds being allocated to engineering. This overall approach enables the Town to execute a well-coordinated construction project, and at the same time, prepare/maintain a healthy backlog of design projects that will be ready for reconstruction in subsequent years. Well maintained roads will cost less to reconstruct in the long-term, which is savings to taxpayers.

**Article #18** Shall the Town vote to establish a Mill Renovation Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of design, construction, engineering, and upfitting the remaining necessary Mill Renovations for the purpose of moving Town Hall offices from their current location, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000 to be

deposited into the fund. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund.  
(Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$300,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.20.**

**EXPLANATION:** In 2025 the idea was proposed to create a separate CRF specifically for Mill renovations. The Mill has been an under-utilized Town owned building for many years. It has been in the works to renovate the building to accommodate Town Hall staff and operations. So far, the 4<sup>th</sup> floor has been renovated to accommodate 2 meeting room spaces utilized by the Board of Selectmen, and many other Boards and Commissions to conduct important Town business and hold required meetings. The meeting spaces are crucial for the Town. A portion of the second floor houses the Parks and Rec Department, as well as meeting space for non-profit groups. A portion of the first floor was renovated to house the General Assistance Department. Recent upgrades to the building include a new generator, and major upgrades to the elevator and sprinkler system. Moving Town Hall offices over to the Mill is crucial as the current TH is too small to support staff and any future growth and have run out of space for storing documents. Once the project is completed this CRF would no longer need to be funded.

**Article #19** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$203,905 for the reconstruction of highways, anticipated to be offset by Highway Block Grant funds provided by the State of New Hampshire. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

**No funds to come from taxation.**

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$203,905 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

#### HIGHWAY BLOCK GRANT AID

By law, all municipalities in the State having Class IV and V mileage are entitled to Highway Block Grant Aid. RSA 235:23 stipulates the funding apportionments. Highway Block Grant Aid is distributed to municipalities by the State of New Hampshire on a yearly basis with partial disbursements made four times a year. The funds can only be used for construction, reconstruction and maintenance of each municipality's Class IV and V highways. It can, therefore, be used to be part of the match for a project in the bridge aid program. It also can be used towards equipment to maintain the local roads. The intent here is that it be used towards the local roads, i.e., not used to build a new library or school or buy a fire truck. Highway Block Grant Aid funds represent a portion of the State's highway revenues received in the preceding fiscal year including revenues resulting from Senate Bill (SB) 367. If this article fails, the Town will not be able to spend the revenue received by the State of NH for its intended purpose.

**Article #20** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000 to be placed in the Municipal Facilities Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006). (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$200,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.13. The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$664,498.17**

**EXPLANATION:** The intent of this expendable Trust Fund is to save money for the purpose of Town buildings' interior and exterior capital maintenance (including but not limited to carpeting/flooring, siding, roofing and painting,) all building site maintenance, building expansion and/or reconfiguration, and buildings' interior systems (including but not limited to HVAC, electrical, plumbing, communications, and security) repair and/or replacement. This fund continues to be invested in an interest-bearing account and can only be withdrawn by a majority vote of the Board of Selectmen. Funds have been used to renovate the Belmont Mill in anticipation of Town Hall moving to the building in the future, siding on Town Hall, painting of the front of Town Hall and

Library exterior, a new roof on the Mill, the purchase of the property at 154 Main Street, replacement Heat and HVAC systems at the Highway and Fire Departments, the overhang at the Highway Garage, lighting retrofits at the Highway Garage, repairs to the floor on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Mill, access system at Town Hall including security cameras, renovations to the Mill allowing usage of the 4<sup>th</sup> floor for meetings and the 1<sup>st</sup> floor for relocation of General Assistance Office. Funds have been used to replace the oil tanks at the Mill and to enclose the dumpster, and roof repair at the Fire Station. Repairs were made to the Mill's furnace, the tennis court backboard at Sargent Park was rebuilt, and garage doors were repaired at the Fire Station.

**Article #21** To see if the Town will vote to establish a SCBA Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding the purchase of SCBAs (Self -Contained- Breathing Apparatus) for the Fire Department and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$123,666 to be placed in the fund for 2026. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$123,666 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.08.**

**EXPLANATION:** The Fire Department is requesting inclusion of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) replacement in the Capital Improvement Program as part of a structured lifecycle replacement strategy for critical life-safety equipment.

SCBA are essential firefighter life-safety systems required for interior fire suppression, rescue operations, and responses involving hazardous atmospheres. Industry standards, including NFPA guidance, establish a recommended service life of fifteen (15) years for SCBA components. The department's current SCBA inventory is approaching this lifecycle threshold, at which point continued use becomes increasingly constrained by compliance limitations, parts availability, and rising maintenance demands.

While the current SCBA remain operational, lifecycle expiration does not represent a sudden failure point; rather, it marks the transition from routine maintenance to heightened operational risk and reduced manufacturer support. As equipment nears or exceeds its service life, the likelihood of unplanned outages increases, replacement parts become more difficult or costly to obtain, and compliance requirements become more challenging to sustain.

Including SCBA replacement in the CIP allows the Town to plan for this known lifecycle event in a deliberate and fiscally responsible manner. Planned replacement avoids the need for emergency procurement following equipment failure, supports predictable capital planning, and reduces exposure to operational and liability risks associated with outdated life-safety equipment.

This CIP entry also allows the Town to evaluate phased funding strategies and pursue grant opportunities when available, helping to offset local costs. This request reflects best practices in municipal asset management and demonstrates the Town's commitment to firefighter safety, operational readiness, and long-term financial planning.

This request is forward-looking in nature and is not driven by an immediate equipment failure, but rather by responsible planning for the scheduled end of service life of critical safety equipment.

**Article #22** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to be placed in the Sewer System Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2011) with said sum to be offset by user fees. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$100,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**No funds to come from taxation. The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$68,257.40.**

**EXPLANATION:** The Sewer Department request for \$100,000 for the Capital Reserve Fund allows funds to be available for future upgrades and repairs to our collection system. These funds are necessary for continued upgrades as well as unanticipated and emergency repairs.

**Article #23** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to be placed in the Water System Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2006) with said sum to be offset by user fees. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$100,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**No funds to come from taxation. The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$485,771.05.**

**EXPLANATION:** The Water Department request for \$100,000 for the Capital Reserve Fund allows funds to be available for future upgrades and repairs to the distribution system. These funds are necessary for continued upgrades as well as unanticipated emergency repairs.

**Article #24** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 to be placed in the Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2005), to meet our constitutional and statutory requirement that assessments are at full and true value at least as often as every fifth year. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$80,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.05. The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$149,124.82.**

**EXPLANATION:** This article adds \$80,000 to the existing fund that has been established to budget for the State mandated reassessment of all properties in Belmont. The law, RSA 75:8-a, requires a full revaluation take place every five years. This \$80,000 request is one of the yearly installments needed to save towards the estimated cost of \$350,000 for the next full revaluation in 2029. This fund will help level the cost of the 2029 revaluation out over multiple years. This fund will be invested in an interest-bearing account and funds can only be withdrawn by a majority vote of the Board of Selectmen. If funds are not set aside leading up to 2029, the Town will need to enter into a loan to cover the costs, thus creating an increased financial impact on taxpayers.

**Article #25** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 to be placed in the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2002). (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$60,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.04. The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$210,677.40.**

**EXPLANATION:** The Department of Public Works has over 20 vehicles or pieces of equipment with values ranging from \$50,000 to \$310,000. The expected life of this equipment and vehicles ranges from 10 to 25 years. DPW has scheduled its expected equipment needs, including costs and the expected year of replacement, as the basis for the necessary level of funding. Timely deposits into the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund will allow for the orderly replacement of highway vehicles using only capital reserve funds which helps to stabilize the yearly tax impact. This fund is invested in an interest-bearing

account and funds can only be withdrawn by a majority vote of the Board of Selectmen. Since 2002, the Town has set aside money annually in this capital reserve to stabilize our future tax rate. Without this savings account, our tax rates would increase in the years we purchase new equipment, or we would need to borrow, paying long-term interest rates. As our Town grows and new roads are added, the demand for our equipment increases.

**Article #26** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be placed in the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust Fund previously established (2007) and further to fund said appropriation by authorizing the transfer of \$50,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$50,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**No funds to come from taxation. The balance in the Expendable Trust Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$111,786.19.**

**EXPLANATION:** This fund was established to cover the payment of earned time balances when employees retire, as required by law or negotiated in contracts. We have 15 employees who are at retirement status in 2026. The total amount needed to fund these liabilities in 2026 is \$178,996.29.

**Article #27** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be placed in the Information Technology Non-Capital Reserve Trust Fund previously established (2002). (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$50,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.03. The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$35,452.54.**

**EXPLANATION:** This article is part of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The intent of this fund is to maintain Town information technology systems including repair or replacement of necessary technology equipment/systems and/or software to perform important critical Town business. Timely deposits into this fund will allow for the orderly replacements and/or updates of important information technology equipment and software using capital reserve funds, which helps to level the yearly tax impact. This fund will be invested in an interest-bearing account and funds can only be withdrawn by a majority vote of the Board of Selectmen.

**Article #28** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be placed in the Town Bridge Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2003). (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$50,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.03. The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$452,565.34.**

**EXPLANATION:** Bridges and culverts enable Town roads to cross waterways and divert stormwater to minimize flooding and keep our road infrastructure passable. This CRF is used for the engineering, design and construction costs for current and future bridge and culvert replacement. The Town of Belmont continues to request these funds for the eventual need for the replacement of the Church Street bridge as well as other necessary repairs to this type of infrastructure throughout Town. The replacement costs for these repairs are significant.

**Article #29** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Library Building Improvements Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2000). (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$25,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.02. The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$435,215.22.**

**EXPLANATION:** This \$25,000 request aims to fund important improvements to the library building, ensuring its continued service to the community. This reserve fund has been built over the past 20 years through contributions from voters, reflecting a long-term commitment to maintaining and enhancing the library's facilities. The original library is 100 years old, and Belmont has outgrown the building and it lacks necessary ADA accommodations. It is the intention of the Library Trustees to move forward with plans for an addition to the current building that will support ADA needs and create more space for the community. The funds will be used for essential upgrades to the current structure and set aside for future expansion plans. In 2025, the library used capital reserve funds to develop an initial plan and design for a historically respectful and user-friendly expansion at the current location.

**Article #30** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Contingency Fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further raise and appropriate \$20,000 to go into the fund. This sum to come from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at year end will lapse to the General Fund. Use of these funds will be pursuant to RSA 31:98-a. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$20,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.01.**

**EXPLANATION:** Establishment of a contingency fund gives the Board of Selectmen another tool to manage the Town efficiently. If unanticipated expenses arise the Board of Selectmen would have a source of funds to pay for the unanticipated expense. A Contingency Fund is less restrictive than other typical Capital Reserve Funds. The fund must be re-established each year with a new appropriation and funds cannot accumulate from year-to-year. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. In 2025 funds were used to upgrade the security cameras at Town Hall and replace end of life computers at TH, PD, and FD.

**Article #31** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be placed in the General Cemetery Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established (1997); governed under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of cemetery maintenance, said amount to be expendable at the discretion of the Cemetery Trustees. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$10,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand \$0.01. The balance in the Cemetery Maintenance Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$49,464.63.**

**EXPLANATION:** The Cemetery Trustees Capital Reserve Fund is used as a tool for the Trustees to save for large or long-term projects such as restoration, fence repair, signs and more. Funds are also used for emergencies like storm damage.

**Article #32** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be placed in the Durrell Mountain Road Capital Reserve Fund previously established (2021). This sum to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$5,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**No amount to be raised from taxation. The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$22,740.77.**

**EXPLANATION:** The establishment of a Capital Reserve for the maintenance of Durrell Mountain Road was part of an agreement reached in 2019 with the owners of the gravel pit located in Gilford who travel over Durrell Mountain Road to access the pit, thus creating wear and tear on the roadway due to the heavy trucks traversing. Year one we received \$2,500 and in subsequent years the pit owner is required to contribute \$5,000 to be placed in the account. If this article fails, the funds will lapse into the General Fund and cannot be used for their intended purpose.

**Article #33** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be placed in the Election Equipment Expendable Trust Fund previously established (2020). (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$3,000 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2026 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand is \$0.00 (a fraction of one penny). The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$9,243.21.**

**EXPLANATION:** This fund was originally created in anticipation of the State-mandated upgrades and replacement of the Town's ballot counting device, as well as to ensure ongoing compliance with State of New Hampshire election requirements.

In addition to the ballot counting device, the State of NH requires municipalities to provide an adequately equipped voting location. The Town's number of registered voters has increased greatly over the past couple of years with a current total of approximately 5,000 registered voters. Pursuant to RSA 658:9-V-b, the required number of voting booths is based on voter registration totals and the type of election being held. This fund will continue to be used to purchase the required number of voting booths based on these standards, as well as to replace damaged and outdated equipment, including booths, stanchions, boundary ropes, and other necessary items, to ensure the Town's voting location meets State of NH requirements.

**Article #34** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be placed in the Heritage Fund previously established (2004). (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$2,500 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**2025 Estimated Tax Impact per thousand is \$0.00 (a fraction of one penny). The balance in the Heritage Fund as of 12/31/2025 is \$45,818.**

**EXPLANATION:** The balance in the Heritage Fund is used to save for unanticipated repairs, restorations and renovations of historical buildings and landmarks. The Fund is also slated to aid in the restoration, preservation and purchase of display cases for artifacts that were handed down to the Commission and the Historical Society. This specific warrant article covers the following Heritage Commission's yearly signature programs: Community Service Awards, Fourth Grade Belmont History Program, supporting Old Home Day activities and the Senior Citizens Valentine's Day Project. In the past two years warrant article funds were also used to install the new Tioga Trail sign and new Main Street banners.

**Article #35** To see if the Town will vote to expend the income (interest) from the John M. Sargent Trust Fund for the purposes recommended by the Sargent Fund Committee. No amount to be raised by taxation.

Belknap House \$1,600

Belmont Baseball Organization \$1,000

Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 12117 \$500  
Belmont Girl Scouts Troop 65055 \$200  
Belmont Community Girl Scouts \$250  
Belmont Conservation Commission \$100  
Belmont Heritage Commission \$250  
Belmont High School PTO \$650  
Belmont Historical Society \$500  
Belmont Middle School - Fifth Grade Camp Cody \$3,900  
Belmont Middle School PTO \$650  
Belmont Public Library \$1,180  
B.E.S.T PTO \$1,000  
First Baptist Church of Belmont \$3,000  
Got Lunch! Belmont & Friends \$3,500  
Lakes Region Girls Softball \$300  
Lakes Region VNA \$1,000  
Saint Joseph Food Pantry \$2,840.91  
Visiting Nurse Association of Franklin, dba Franklin VNA & Hospice \$1,000

**No amount to be raised from taxation. Total award given out for 2026 if approved is \$23,420.91. This is the total of net earnings (Interest) in the Sargent Fund for CY2025.**

**Article #36** Shall the Town vote to establish a Police Special Detail Revolving Fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h for the purpose of police special detail wages, benefits, administrative costs, supplies, equipment, and cruisers and to raise and appropriate the sum of one dollar (\$1) to be deposited into the fund. Further, all revenues received for police special details will be deposited into the fund, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year and shall not be considered part of the Town's General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance. The Town Treasurer shall have custody of all monies in the fund and shall pay out the same only upon order of the Board of Selectmen and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. After payment of police special detail wages, benefits, administrative costs, supplies and other equipment, the fund may also be used for the purpose of purchasing and upfitting new cruisers for police special details. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$1 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**EXPLANATION:** The Article was proposed to change the way the Town accounts for Police Special Detail funds. For many years it had been included as an appropriation item with offsetting revenue (funds that come from the company or business requesting Special Detail). If this article passes it is intended to take any excess (after payment of all wages and appropriate Town expenses) and set aside those funds to be used toward the future replacement of police cruisers and equipment. This will reduce future budgeting once enough funds have been built up.

**Article #37** Shall the Town vote to establish a Concord Regional Solid Waste Resource Recovery Cooperative Non-Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to RSA 35:1-c for the purpose of funding its future financial obligations at the Concord Regional Solid Waste Resource Recovery Cooperative and to raise and appropriate \$70,821 to be deposited into the fund, with said sum to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. This amount represents the money returned to the Town after the sale of Cooperative property that the Cooperative purchased to

build a new landfill which was later determined was not needed. Further, to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. No amount to be raised by taxation. (Majority Vote Required)

(The Board of Selectmen recommends \$70,821 and the Budget Committee supports this recommendation.)

**EXPLANATION:** The Concord Regional Solid Waste Resource/Recovery Cooperative was established in the 1980s. The membership included 24 municipalities including Belmont. The Cooperative purchased land in 2009 to construct a single stream recycling processing center to support the recycling programs of the Cooperative's members. After the purchase, commercial companies such as Waste Management and Casella began operating single stream recycling processing centers. Member communities contracted with these companies to process their single stream recycling. This alleviated the need for the Cooperative to construct a recycling processing center. The member communities voted in February of 2020 to enter into a purchase and sale agreement to sell the land for the proposed center. The land was sold to a developer in 2025 for \$1.5 million. The proceeds from the sale were returned to member communities. Belmont's share was \$70,821.39. For many years the Cooperative's trash was burned at a waste to electricity facility to generate electricity. Ash from incinerator was deposited in an ash landfill owned by the Cooperative. The ash landfill was closed in 2015. The Cooperative will continue to have annual costs for maintaining and monitoring the closed landfill. The Cooperative's reserves for the annual costs will run out in approximately eight years. At that time, member communities will be assessed their share of the Cooperative's annual operating costs. The funds from the sale placed in reserve will be used to pay for Belmont's share of the annual costs for maintaining and monitoring the closed landfill when the Cooperative's reserves run out.

**Article #38** Shall the Town vote in accordance with RSA 72:27-a to increase the optional tax credit for a Veterans Service-Connected Total and Permanent Disability (RSA 72:35) from \$1,400 to \$2,000? If approved, this article shall take effect for the final property tax bill of the 2026 property tax year. As of April 1, 2026, veterans who receive this tax credit are no longer eligible to receive other veterans' property tax credits. (Majority Vote Required)

(This article recommended by the Board of Selectmen.)

**EXPLANATION:** New State legislation changed Veterans' eligibility for "stacking" multiple tax credits in 2026. Currently under RSA 72:35 Belmont's disabled veterans receive the regular veterans credit of \$500 plus the disabled veterans credit of \$1,400 for a total of \$1,900. If this warrant article #38 fails, Belmont veterans will lose \$500 in tax credits they have been receiving for many years. This article will restore the \$500 credit to our disabled veterans and increase their credit by \$100 per year.

Belmont currently has 40 disabled veterans receiving credits. Using this number of applicants, there would be an increased tax impact of \$4,000.

**Article #39** Shall the Town modify the Veteran's Tax Credit and the All-Veteran's Tax Credit in accordance with RSA 72:28 II, from its current tax credit of \$500 per year to an amount not to exceed \$600? (Majority Vote Required)

(This article recommended by the Board of Selectmen.)

**EXPLANATION:** The Board of Selectmen reviewed tax credit amounts for Belmont veterans and recommended a \$100 per year increase after many years with no increases. This will increase the veterans credit under RSA 72:28 and 72:28-b from \$500 per year to \$600 per year.

Belmont currently has 343 veterans receiving regular credits. Using this number of applicants, there would be an increased tax impact of \$34,300.

**Article #40** Shall we permit the public library to retain all money it receives from its income-generating equipment to be used for general repairs and upgrading and for the purchase of books, supplies and income-generating equipment?

(This article recommended by the Board of Selectmen.)

**EXPLANATION:** NH public libraries are authorized under RSA 202A:11-a to hold funds from fines, lost books, photocopies, faxes, and services in a separate, non-lapsing account. Those funds can be used for general repairs and upgrading and for the purchase of books, supplies and income-generating equipment. These funds will be under the care and oversight of the Library Trustees.

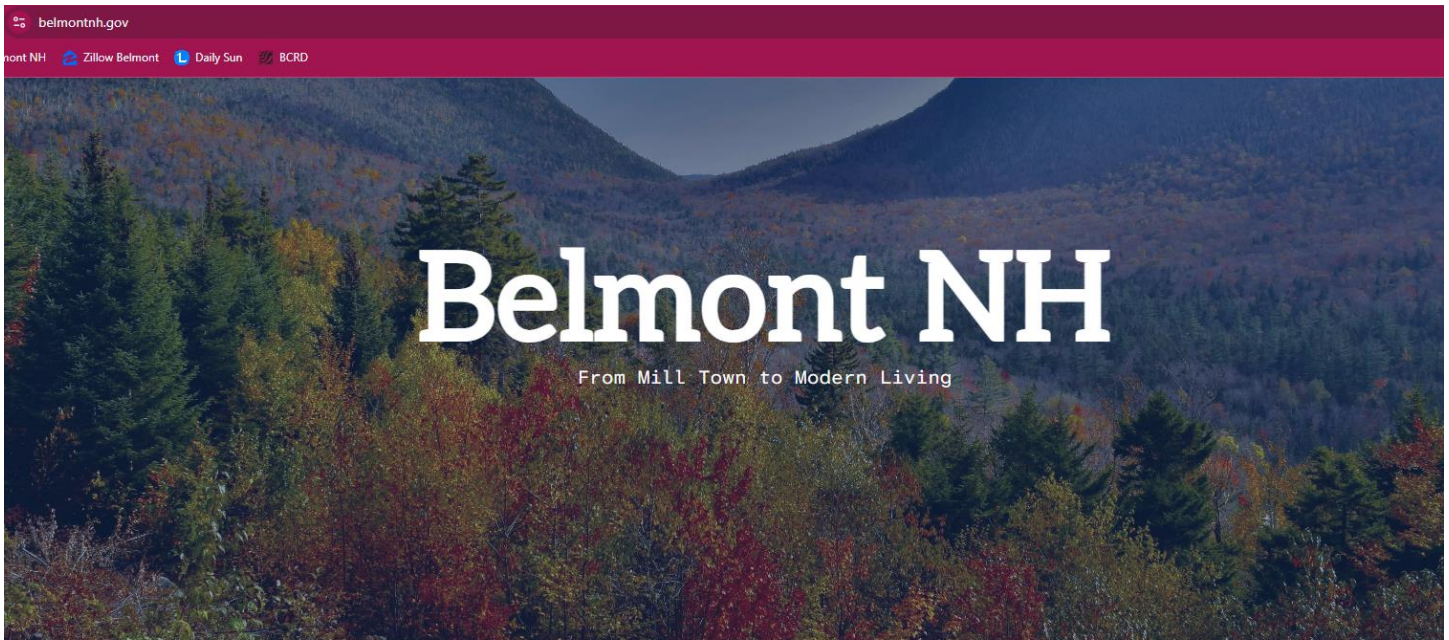
**Article #41** To see if the Town of Belmont, NH will sell the Mill Building.

(This article submitted by Petition and not supported by the Board of Selectmen.)

**EXPLANATION:** In response to this petition, it is the Town's point of view that the sale of the Mill building would create immediate and costly challenges for the Town. Most pressing would be the need to quickly and expensively relocate staff currently working in the building and to secure suitable spaces for legally required public meetings of the Town's Boards and Commissions, as well as for other community organizations. In addition, taxpayer funds already invested to make the Mill suitable for Town offices would be effectively wasted. The Town would then face significant new expenses to rent or construct facilities capable of meeting the functions the Mill building currently serves. Such a disruption to Town operations would also deprive the community of a central gathering place at a time when stability and responsible stewardship are especially important.

Selling the historic Mill building—particularly when it is slated to become the new Town Hall—would be a short-sighted decision that undermines both the Town's heritage and its future. After a devastating fire in 1992, the building was saved and restored through a broad community effort, and it was recently renovated specifically to accommodate Town Hall offices. Proceeding with a sale now would discard a substantial investment of public funds, volunteer effort, and community goodwill. The Mill stands as a powerful symbol of civic pride and shared history, and its continued public use honors the purpose behind its restoration. Letting it go would erase that vision and send the message that long-term planning and community contributions can be easily set aside.

Please be sure to visit the  
Town of Belmont's  
website at  
[belmontnh.gov](http://belmontnh.gov)



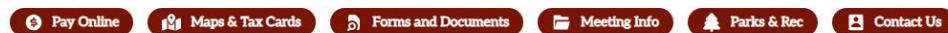
## Welcome to Belmont NH!

The Town of Belmont is located in the southern portion of New Hampshire's Lakes Region in Belknap County. The Village Area, located at the intersections of Laconia (State Route 106) and Gilmanton Roads (State Route 140) is four miles from Exit 20 Interstate I-93, seven miles south of Laconia and twenty-four miles north of Concord.

### Belmont Town Offices

143 Main Street, PO Box 310, Belmont, NH 03220 –  
(603) 267-8300

**Town Hall Business Hours**  
Monday – Friday – 7:30am to 4pm



Check our home page for important notices, calendar of meetings, quick links for registrations and utility payments and more.

Sign up for our town newsletter and by emailing  
[assessing@belmotnnh.gov](mailto:assessing@belmotnnh.gov)

Each Department, Board and Committee, has their own webpage and we have a Forms & Documents section where you can find applications and ordinances.



**TOWN OF BELMONT  
SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ELECTION AND BALLOT VOTING**

**BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL GYM  
255 SEAVEY ROAD**

**TUESDAY MARCH 10, 2026**

**POLLS OPEN AT 7:00 A.M.  
AND CLOSE AT 7:00 P.M.**

