

TOWN OF BELMONT

NOTICE OF RECOUNT PURSUANT TO RSA 40:4 c-d

March 10, 2026 Town of Belmont Election

A RECOUNT of the vote for Question 4:

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 operation 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)

Has been duly requested by 10 voters registered to vote in the Town of Belmont at the March 10, 2026 election.

Said Recount shall occur:

Date: March 21, 2026
Time: 11AM in the forenoon
Location: 4th Floor of the Mill Building – Penstock Room

CONDUCT OF RECOUNT

A Board of Recount consisting of the Town Clerk, Town Moderator, Selectboard and their assistants has been established pursuant to RSA 669:32.

The Board of Recount shall designate 5 teams made up of two (2) persons who are registered voters in the Town of Belmont who shall visually inspect each ballot and keep a tally of the **YES** and **NO** votes on each ballot to Question #4.

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR RECOUNT

1. The Town Clerk shall designate the location of the recount which shall take place at any suitable Town facility in the Town of Belmont.
2. Individual(s) requesting the recount will be informed as to how many two-person teams will be conducting the Question #4 recount and the time and place of the recount.
3. For each two-person recount team, the individuals requesting the recount may have one counsel or designee to observe the counting of ballots. Only the individuals requesting the recount, their counsel, or designee may lodge a challenge to how a ballot is counted. If the individuals requesting the recount fail to have an observer for each team they waive their opportunity to do so.
4. No individual requesting the recount, counsel, or designee may use pencil or pen while sitting at the recount table.
5. No food or drink is allowed on or near the recount tables.
6. Individuals requesting the recount; counsel, designees, and observers are prohibited from touching any ballots or election materials.
7. If there is a challenge to how a ballot is counted, it must be made immediately, and the ballot will be designated as protested by, numbered and identified as protested by a separate sheet of paper paperclipped to the ballot and the ballot will be set aside in a separate stack with similarly numbered and identified as protested ballots. At the conclusion of the recount, and prior to tallying ballots by the team(s), the Board of Recount shall review each protested ballot and determine, by a majority, the voter's intent as to whether the voter intended a **YES** vote or a **NO** vote. Such determination shall be final even though subject to further protest. The Board of Recount shall make a record of the grounds for such determination, shall attach a statement of fact to the challenged ballot and said record shall be kept by the Town Clerk until all appeals have been exhausted.
8. The individuals requesting the recount may cancel the recount at any time during the procedure, at which time the Board of Recount will publicly announce the individuals' request to cancel the recount. That recount will cease at once. The Board of Recount shall declare the passing of Question #4 as originally declared prior to the recount.
9. The Board of Recount will maintain a tally sheet showing the original and recounted numbers. At the completion of the recount, the Board of Recount will announce the official results for Question #4 based on the recounted ballots.
10. Following the recount, if the individual(s) requesting the recount wish to appeal the way a ballot was or was not counted, he or she may do so to the Ballot Law Commission under the terms of RSA 665:6.