

# **Belmont Town Election**

## **Voter Guide**

**Election Day is  
Tuesday, April 1, 2025**

*published by*



# VOTER GUIDE

for the

## BELMONT TOWN ELECTION

**Tuesday, April 1, 2025**

**7AM to 8PM**

This Guide is prepared by members of the League of Women Voters of Belmont to provide you with information on all of the candidates who will appear on your ballot for this election.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization. It does not endorse or oppose any candidates. The League's purpose is to promote political responsibility through the informed and active participation of all citizens.

All candidates were contacted by email and asked to respond. Town Meeting Member candidates were asked the following question: **"Belmont citizens look to our elected officials for fair and responsible solutions to the issues facing our community. Please pick an issue or two from this list, and describe what you have done recently &/or how you would deal with this in the future: capital projects, housing & zoning (e.g. MBTA Communities zoning, ADUs, affordable housing for young families & seniors), schools (e.g. public or private), financial management (e.g. taxes, overrides), traffic, and transparency."** Town-Wide candidates were asked a similar question. Responses, limited to 100 words, are printed verbatim. Contact information, if provided, is included. Candidates who did not reply to the questionnaire sent to them by the League are included in the Guide so that you will have a complete list.

**Asterisks and numbers:** An asterisk (\*) preceding the candidate's NAME denotes an incumbent. Where applicable, **attendance** at Town Meeting for the past three years, according to the Town Clerk's records, is given in parentheses. The second number indicates the **number of Town Meetings** the candidate was **eligible** to attend. If one or more Special Town Meetings are held on the same night as a regular Town Meeting, each is counted as a separate meeting. If candidates were previously elected at caucuses or moved within Belmont, they are not incumbents, but their attendance is noted. Third number is the **number of years served** as a Town Meeting Member.

*If you value receiving the Voter Guide, please help us to cover the costs of printing and distribution by making a tax-deductible donation to the Belmont Voter Education Fund. This fund covers the cost of sending the Voter Guide to every household in Belmont. Please mail your contribution to LWV Belmont, P.O. Box 426, Belmont MA 02478 or go to [BelmontLWV.org](http://BelmontLWV.org) click on **DONATE TO US** and use the link for **Voter Ed Fund**. Thank you for your support.*



**The League offers free rides to the polls for every election! Call 617-771-8500 or email [rides@BelmontLWV.org](mailto:rides@BelmontLWV.org). For more info about the League, go to our web page: [BelmontLWV.org](http://BelmontLWV.org)**

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**The League of Women Voters (LWV) is a non-partisan, multi-issue organization, established at the national, state and local levels to promote voter education and participation in government. We study and take positions on issues, but do not endorse or support candidates or political parties.**

### **What does the League of Women Voters do?**

- Conducts studies on issues and develops positions based on member consensus.
- Studies local issues such as local transportation, education, housing, open space, marijuana, and regionalization.
- Sponsors Candidates' Nights for local elections.
- Sponsors Warrant Briefings before Town Meetings.
- Hosts forums on issues including education, civil service, ballot questions and affordable housing.
- Hosts local speakers at our Winter Luncheon and regular "brown bag" lunches.
- Publishes the Belmont Voter (newsletter) for our members.
- Works with the State and National Leagues on issues of common concern.
- Publishes and mails the Belmont Voter Guide for local elections to every household in town.
- Registers voters and encourages individual participation in the political process.

We welcome new members. For more information contact:  
**info@BelmontLWV.org** or look at our website **BelmontLWV.org**

# CANDIDATES FOR TOWN-WIDE OFFICE

## MODERATOR

For One Year

Vote for not more than One

MICHAEL F. CROWLEY

119 Farnham Street

Contact: mike@crowley4belmont.com; (617) 752-2250; crowley4belmont.com

As a long-time Town Meeting member and former Warrant & School Committee member, I have advocated for effective, inclusive, and transparent town government. As Moderator, I will: (1) restore hybrid meetings to make Town Meeting welcoming to members with young children, demanding work schedules, or health/mobility issues; (2) proactively encourage more participation in Town Meeting and committees by the full spectrum of Belmont residents including newcomers, parents, renters, and under-represented Belmont communities; (3) establish a Moderator's Advisory Committee to create a transparent process for Moderator committee appointments and propose Town Meeting improvements. I would be honored to be your Moderator.

MARK A. PAOLILLO

42 Pilgrim Road

Contact: markpaolillo123@gmail.com; (617) 513-9510

The Moderator plans and conducts informed, fair, and respectful Town Meetings, and appoints residents to key Committees. This requires deep knowledge of the town – and nonpartisanship. My broad experience in Belmont Government – 12 years on the Select Board, six years on the Warrant Committee, and other Committees – uniquely qualifies me for this role. I have extensive knowledge of the complex issues Town Meeting faces and the experience chairing dozens of challenging public meetings. I will appoint qualified and diverse individuals to Committees, as I did on the Select Board. I will build on past good work and innovate where necessary.

*(Please turn page)*

## MEMBER OF THE SELECT BOARD

For Three Years

Vote for not more than One

PAUL ROBERT JOY

9 Harvard Road

Contact: joyforbelmont@gmail.com; joyforbelmont.com

This year, with record assessments and likely record abatements, Belmontonians are asking how we can ease the financial burden on residents and small businesses. As Chair of the Economic Development Committee, my work has been dedicated to fostering real economic growth—not just through zoning changes—to expand our tax base. I am committed to working towards a sustainable fiscal plan that benefits all, and to ensuring that our master planning process reflects the community's values and priorities. I will champion transparency and inclusive decision-making. For a Belmont Select Board that listens and acts for Belmont's financial future, Vote Joy!

TAYLOR YATES

85 Lawrence Lane

Contact: contact@yatesforbelmont.com

One of the most important issues facing the Select Board over the next three years is zoning reform. As chair of the Planning Board, I collaborated with people across Belmont and built consensus to pass the MBTA Communities Act with 93% of Town Meeting Members in favor, avoiding an expensive and distracting battle with the State. We have since begun an effort to grow our commercial tax base including rezoning Belmont Center and Brighton Street, and develop a 10-year comprehensive plan. These are foundational changes that will keep Belmont's best days ahead of us.

*(Please turn page)*

## **TOWN CLERK**

**For Three Years**

**Vote for not more than One**

\* ELLEN O'BRIEN CUSHMAN

38 Scott Road

Contact: (617) 484-4817

I'm proud to be Belmont's elected Town Clerk, representing fellow residents. I respectfully ask for your vote to serve another term. Three areas of responsibility: 1. Elections, Voter Registrations & Residency, 2. Town Meeting Support, 3. Town Records Creation, Management and Reporting to State/Federal agencies. I work to deliver what Belmont residents and employees deserve: consideration and respect; transparency and assistance; accurate, timely responses and information; well-considered decisions when spending our money. Four 2024 elections required enormous coordination, delivered accurate, audited results. 2024 Data: 110+ election workers/volunteers, 23,000 Vote-By-Mail Ballots sent, 12 Town Meeting sessions, 12,000 visitors, 60,000 emails.

## **BOARD OF CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS**

**For Three Years**

**Vote for not more than One**

\* WILLIAM JOSEPH CHEMELLI

11 Ripley Road

Contact: (617) 489-0416

The Cemetery Commission is using our CPA-funded Master Plan to prioritize restoration and preservation projects for Belmont Cemetery, and working with the DPW, we hope to repave roads, restore historic areas, repair historic walls and landscape features. At Highland Meadow Cemetery, creation of a maintenance plan for the landscape border is a priority. We are evaluating our current lot prices at Highland Meadow Cemetery and for all burial services at both cemeteries.

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## **BOARD OF HEALTH**

**For Three Years**

**Vote for not more than One**

\* JULIE C. LEMAY

37 Statler Road

Contact: julielemayboh@gmail.com

For the past 9 years, I have worked to protect and promote public health in Belmont as a member of the Board of Health. As an environmental health scientist with a Master of Public Health (MPH) from Boston University, I bring extensive experience addressing community-wide health issues that impact residents across Massachusetts. I believe in open discussion and thoughtful consideration of public health policies impacting our local environment to ensure a safe environment for all residents. My expertise in environmental health complements the skills of our existing board members and allows me to continue giving back to my community.

MICHAEL TODD THOMPSON

9 Jonathan Street

Contact: michaeltodd4belmont@gmail.com

Scientific and public health institutions across the entire federal apparatus have seen substantial fiscal and personnel cuts, along with tonal shifts in policy from the executive branch. Now more than ever, local institutions need to operate with unprecedented levels of preparation, agility and precision to compensate for these changes. Furthermore, institutions must be effective in efforts to serve their communities in the promotion of public health, prevention & monitoring of disease, and protecting vulnerable & at-risk communities. As a scientist with bench-to-bedside clinical experience, I'm ready and able to bring my experience to forge strong, synergistic inter-institutional partnerships.

## **MEMBER OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY**

**For Five Years**

**Vote for not more than One**

\* SARAH M. BILODEAU

203 Trapelo Road

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

NO REPLY RECEIVED

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## TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

For Three Years

Vote for not more than Two

\* MARK CARTHY

21 Stone Road

Contact: [mpcarthy@outlook.com](mailto:mpcarthy@outlook.com)

An issue for public services is whether we offer good value for money for all our citizens. Belmont Library's budget and staffing have not kept pace with inflation, yet the volume of materials and transactions have risen faster than in other towns. Working together, the Library staff and Trustees have used automation and volunteers to leverage the operating budget. For example — we installed electronic self checkout machines. I hope to continue using my financial background to review and question the financial and operating reports and move the Library to even more value for the taxpayer.

EDWARD P. BARKER, JR.

21 Garfield Road

Contact: [edbarkerforbelmont@gmail.com](mailto:edbarkerforbelmont@gmail.com)

The new library building represents a unique opportunity for Belmont – and I want to help shape the library's future. As president of the Library Foundation, I've helped raise over \$5.2 million to reduce the tax impact to citizens. In 2022, I was instrumental in canvassing efforts for the successful library campaign. I'm excited to apply my experience as a board director, a nonprofit executive, and a professional fundraiser to help create a dynamic nexus for community information sharing – one that engages all of Belmont's residents with relevant, compelling, and cost-effective programs and services. I ask for your vote!

TARA DONNER

47 Payson Road

Contact: [taraforbeltmont@gmail.com](mailto:taraforbeltmont@gmail.com)

As a mom, an English teacher, and a 24-year Belmont resident, I know that having an accessible gathering space where residents of all ages, backgrounds, and interests can come together and access the breadth of resources the library offers makes Belmont better for everyone. Residents deserve the library we voted for, and that includes funding for appropriate staffing and programming. Moving forward in a tight budget environment, I'll bring my experience from nearly twenty years of service in town government to add fresh perspective to the Board and to fight for resources the library needs to continue to thrive.

*(Please turn page)*

## MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD

For Three Years

Vote for not more than Two

\* DAVID BEAVERS

316 Trapelo Road

Contact: [dbeavers.lbac@gmail.com](mailto:dbeavers.lbac@gmail.com)

One challenge that Belmont Light will face is higher transmission prices. Transmission lines connect power plants to our substation and currently account for about 20% of the total budget. Price increases, like the 30% seen this year, will continue for the foreseeable future. Working with the General Manager, the Board should implement policies to manage these costs and protect customers from price shocks. Advanced Ratemaking, that provides customers with an incentive to shift loads away from costly peak transmission hours, is a start. Local generation and energy storage projects, such as planned for the old incinerator site, will also help.

JESSICA KIT HARRISON

29 Willow Street

Contact: [jessicaharrison.belmont@gmail.com](mailto:jessicaharrison.belmont@gmail.com)

Electricity affordability, reliability, and sustainability are key issues for electricity providers. I look forward to building on Belmont Light's successes in these areas and will look for ways to advance all three. Prudent investments can keep electricity prices affordable and maintain high reliability, both of which enable electrification and support our local economy and community. Although I will be new to this position, I have worked in the electric utility sector my whole career. I will draw on that experience and my understanding of power use, the grid and electricity markets to help inform key decisions.

*(Please turn page)*

## MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

For Three Years

Vote for not more than Two

ZEHRA ABID-WOOD

306 Pleasant Street

Contact: [zabidwoodbelmont@gmail.com](mailto:zabidwoodbelmont@gmail.com); [zehraforbelmont.com](http://zehraforbelmont.com)

As a Belmont mom and a volunteer on the BPS Strategic Advisory Council, I've seen firsthand our schools' strengths and challenges. On the School Committee, I'll prioritize classroom excellence, student well-being and teacher support while ensuring resources are used effectively to sustain Belmont's strong schools. I'll also strengthen partnerships and deepen trust among families, educators, and the broader community. I lead Lasell Village, a university-based retirement community that blends lifelong learning with community focus. At MIT, I led a university-wide technology transformation. In managing multi-million-dollar budgets, I have consistently aligned resources with priorities, made data-driven decisions, and delivered people-focused outcomes.

BRIAN L. PALMER

210 Clifton Street

Contact: [bpalmer.belmontma@gmail.com](mailto:bpalmer.belmontma@gmail.com); [palmerforbelmont.com](http://palmerforbelmont.com)

The Belmont Public Schools have been a tremendous benefit to our family. We have had a student attend every one of the Belmont schools, and we currently have grandchildren in every level from pre-kindergarten through high school. I want to keep the tradition of excellence going forward. Being on the warrant committee, I have examined the school's budget and know the fiscal pressures facing our town and our schools. We need to utilize available resources to support all students in the best possible way, focusing funds where they will have the greatest impact now and into the future.

MICHAEL TODD THOMPSON

9 Jonathan Street

Contact: [michaeltodd4belmont@gmail.com](mailto:michaeltodd4belmont@gmail.com)

I'm running for the School Committee because Belmont Schools continue to need strong advocates who will center and prioritize students and teaching staff, push for greater transparency in budgetary decisions and processes, push for a living wage for our educators, and demand we provide adequate mental health and social and emotional health support for our children. I am a parent of four children, with experience raising a child on the spectrum. I have had the privilege to teach, to mentor youth of all age levels, and I hope to utilize that experience in bringing excellence to our schools.

# Belmont Town Meeting

**Town Meeting** is the legislative branch of town government, used to enact local laws, pass budgets and authorize spending of town money. The Town Meeting form of local government is only used in New England. The Town of Belmont is currently governed by a **Representative Town Meeting**. Voters in town elect **Town Meeting Members (TMMs)**. Only Town Meeting Members may cast votes on the articles.

**Belmont Town Meeting** has 288 elected members (36 for each precinct) and several at-large members. One third of the members from precincts are elected each spring (12 per precinct). At large TMMs are: Select Board; Moderator; Town Clerk; Treasurer, State Senator; State Representative; and Chairs from: Warrant Committee, Library Trustees, School Committee, Board of Health, Board of Assessors, and Planning Board, unless already elected as Town Meeting Members.

A **Warrant** is published for each Town Meeting, including the date and time of the meeting. Each item of business is called a **Warrant Article**, and Town Meeting can only discuss and vote on articles contained in the Warrant. Articles may be placed on the Warrant by the **Select Board** or by citizen petition.

**Annual Town Meeting** takes place in the spring, and typically lasts for six evenings (typically Monday and Wednesday). Special Town Meetings are occasionally called at other times of the year. The **Town Moderator** facilitates all Town Meeting sessions and preserves order and decorum.

## Upcoming Town Meetings:

**All Town Meeting Sessions are expected to begin at 7:00 PM**

Annual Town Meeting	
Monday, May 5, 2025	Wednesday, May 7, 2025
Monday, May 12, 2025	Wednesday, May 14, 2025
Monday, May 19, 2025	Wednesday, May 21, 2025

**All Town Meeting Sessions are on Mondays & Wednesdays in May this year.**

**Town Meeting** can be watched on **Belmont Media**, cablecast live on **Channel 8 (Comcast)** and **Channel 28 & 2130 (Verizon)**; and livestreamed or on-demand at: [belmontmedia.org/govtv](http://belmontmedia.org/govtv)

## Deadlines for submitting Amendments to Articles on the Town Meeting Warrant

Deadline to file amendments to motions for Town Meeting sessions is the close of business on the third business day before that session of Town Meeting. Amendments **must be submitted in writing** (Word preferred) emailed to [ecushman@belmont-ma.gov](mailto:ecushman@belmont-ma.gov) and [townclerk@belmont-ma.gov](mailto:townclerk@belmont-ma.gov). All amendments must contain the NAME and contact EMAIL of the Town Meeting Member proposing the amendment.

## Documents & Roll Call Votes for Completed Sessions of Town Meeting:

For past Warrant documents, videos of Town Meetings, and past Roll Call Votes taken at Town Meeting, start here:

<https://www.belmont-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/Index/331>

# PRECINCT I

## CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For Three Years**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* JENNIFER G. AUSROTAS

(31 of 34; 6)

65 Richardson Road

Contact: jglassdc@yahoo.com

I was proud to provide my support as a Town Meeting member, and equally proud of the body's overwhelming approval, to implement the MBTA Communities Act, and will continue to prioritize making affordable housing available in Belmont while being mindful of the impact of an increased population on our schools, roads and town services. I will also continue to support actions that expand our commercial base, thereby reducing the tax burden on our residents. Finally, I believe it is imperative that Town Meeting continue to demand excellence from our school department and town officials generally.

\* REED F. BUNDY

(20 of 34; 8)

259 School Street

Contact: reed.bundy@gmail.com

To ensure that Belmont remains a thriving community, I will continue to focus on our schools, safer roads that reduce the impact of cut-through commuters, a thriving small business environment, and a more transparent town government. First elected in 2017, I have advocated for a safe and walkable Belmont with thriving town resources backed by revenues brought on by a small business-friendly environment. Proud father of two daughters (15 & 12), community volunteer, and longtime Belmont youth soccer and basketball coach. Thank you for your support and for taking the time to vote on April 1st.

\* PETER J. DIZIKES

(31 of 34; 10)

34 Randolph Street

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

I am firmly committed to supporting the public interest in Belmont on multiple fronts. I have been a strong supporter of education in our town and served on the campaign committee for the 2018 high school and middle school vote, as well as the 2024 Override, both of which have strengthened our schools and community. Additionally I now serve on the town Energy Committee, to help drive Belmont towards a fully sustainable infrastructure and operations. As a 10-year Town Meeting Member, I will continue to engage with residents and work on their behalf.

*(Please turn page)*

\* MARY DEWHURST LEWIS

(31 of 34; 3)

34 Randolph Street

Contact: marydewhurstlewis@earthlink.net

In the last decade I have built a strong record of advocating for Belmont's future, while serving on Town Meeting since 2022. I support a Belmont that is commercially vibrant with sustainable revenues, while being walkable and bicycle-friendly. A thoughtful increase in housing density will help our commercial areas. I have committed my time to important town projects, including fundraising for the Underwood Pool, serving on the steering committee for the 7-12 School campaign in 2018, and serving on the 2024 Override campaign steering committee. I take care to inform myself thoroughly for every Town Meeting vote.

\* ANNE MARIE S. MAHONEY

(34 of 34; 31)

24 Goden Street

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

Through long service on Capital Budget and Building Committees I know capital projects must be planned and spaced for financial feasibility. Scope of Rink reduced to fit available funds. DPW/Police Station project completed without a debt exclusion. DPW full rebuild due by 2030. Reserve Free Cash and one-time funds for capital projects not operating expenses. Seniors need relief from tax strain of overrides. It's irresponsible to grow department budgets beyond available revenue. Concerned about impact of zoning changes; urbanization of Belmont; future of Hill Estates; dangerous cut-through and school traffic and parking, especially surrounding the new Middle – High School.

\* ROBERT EDWARD MCGAW

(31 of 34; 18)

23 Louise Road

Contact: robert.mcgaw.belmont@gmail.com

We must prepare for change. Town Meeting Members and our elected and appointed leaders must heed their oath to uphold the U.S. and Massachusetts Constitutions, as Belmont is buffeted by dismantlement of essential governmental programs and by Presidential demands to change/terminate programs that we hold dear. The Town's strained finances will be further strained by Federal subsidy reductions. Schools, elderly services, and fire and police protection must be maintained. We must be united and must trust, support, and defend each other. We must care for those who need it.

(Please turn page)

\* CORINNE MCCUE OLMSTED

(34 of 34; 8)

28 Stone Road

Contact: cmobelmont@gmail.com

I have served as a Town Meeting Member for 8 years. I also serve as a Library Trustee and a member of the Warrant Committee. In these roles I am acutely aware of the need for responsible fiscal management and transparent decision making that not only solicits but incorporates public input. Maintaining and supporting Belmont's public school system, seniors, and town infrastructure are important to Belmont's future. I support thoughtful commercial development that incorporates public input. An informed and active TMM, I will continue to support solutions that are effective, sustainable, and fiscally responsible.

\* ADRIANA POOLE

(32 of 34; 15)

53 Louise Road

Contact: apoole@pooleweb.com

Maintaining our schools' excellence and town services for all Belmont residents remain my two main priorities which I have worked towards as your representative since joining Town Meeting in 2010. I pledge to continue to do so if re-elected. Another area of interest to me is to support the increase in affordable housing in a responsible manner that respects our town's needs and character to allow our aging population to remain part of our community. To further discuss any town issues or to share your ideas and concerns with me, please free to contact me at apoole@pooleweb.com.

\* YVETTE J. TENNEY

(33 of 34; 14)

70 Bow Road

Contact: ytenney@gmail.com; (617) 484-1055

I am excited about completion of the list of buildings needing renovation. I participated in public design meetings for the high school, library, rink, and Chenery playground and advocated for solar panels on the high school and library. I support the schools, and overrides when necessary. I am looking forward to increased commerce in town through business-friendly zoning changes. Greater density and foot traffic from the MBTA Communities Act and the Community Path will also help businesses and will reduce the tax burden.

*(Please turn page)*

\* JOHN J. WEIS

(34 of 34; 16)

30 Chenery Terrace

Contact: (617) 489-1901

I have been a Town Meeting member since 2009 and have frequently and actively advocated at Town Meeting for the interests of Belmont residents on a wide variety of issues, most recently, as but one example, for approval of the MBTA Communities Act zoning. Additionally, as a member of the Warrant Committee, and chair of its Education Subcommittee, I have worked diligently to ensure that the Town budget provides the essential services that our residents value and that are critical for maintaining the Town's quality of life, but that it does so in a fiscally-responsible manner.

ROGER DIEBOLD

(4 of 4; <1)

56 Fairmont Street

Contact: rdieboldbelmont@gmail.com

I am relatively new to town with young children in the public schools, and intend to stay long-term. My focus will be on supporting the school system, and moving Belmont towards a permanently stable financial situation. Belmont schools have an excellent reputation. However, reputations are built over decades and lost overnight without proper support. I voted for the 2024 override to give our schools the chance to continue their excellence and ensure the community benefits from the numerous positive knock-on effects. Secondly, I will make decisions to prioritize growing the commercial tax base with a goal of minimizing future overrides.

**For One Year**

**Vote for not more than One**

NO CANDIDATE PAPERS FILED — WRITE-IN ONLY



## PRECINCT 2

### CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For Three Years**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* MARTY BITNER

(32 of 34; 8)

207 Claflin Street

Contact: mbitner.belmont@gmail.com

I have served Belmont in many capacities during my 10 years in Belmont: Town Meeting Member, Energy Committee Chair, Library Building Committee Member, Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee Member, and youth basketball coach. Our most pressing issue is getting our financial house in order. I will support policies that increase our commercial tax base to help ease the burden placed on residents while preserving our excellent schools.

\* SUSAN E. BURGESS-COX

(34 of 34; 11)

135 Radcliffe Road

Contact: sburgesscox@gmail.com

Belmont needs to invest in our capital assets. While serving on the Capital Budget Committee, I worked diligently to approve capital projects on a limited budget. The town needs to allocate additional funds to the discretionary capital budget to protect town assets. Belmont operates on a lean budget. As a member of the School Committee, I worked to address town needs while facing budgetary constraints. I intend to continue to address similar issues as a town meeting member.

\* ROSEMARY B. BURKE

(previously served 9 years; 10 of 12; 1)

216 Prospect Street

Contact: burknett@gmail.com

We passed significant zoning amendments making us a more attractive market for thoughtful and equitable development. Still, large lots and town centers need zoning attention to be sure we maximize profit for both developers and the Town. Stronger commitment to the recommendations in the Collins Report is needed along with looking to regionalization and consolidation of services where it makes sense. The property tax burden on Belmont homeowners has reached its limit. Structural changes are needed and committee appointments need to reflect people with new and innovative approaches for significant impact. I'd appreciate your vote.

*(Please turn page)*

\* THOMAS CAPUTO

(32 of 34; 10)

63 Richmond Road

Contact: (617) 932-1722

In my time serving on the Select Board, School Committee, and Warrant Committee, I have worked to develop and promote thoughtful strategic and financial planning for Belmont. We have made progress in this regard, but we continue to face a structural budget deficit that we must address. We need to grow revenue through economic development, manage costs, and identify innovative ways to deliver Town and School services. I've recently been appointed to the Town's Multi-Year Budget Forecasting Committee, and I'm committed to ensuring Belmont remains a great community in which to live, work, and attend school.

\* JULIA FOSTER CORBETT

(20 of 34; 12)

48 Stella Road

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

NO REPLY RECEIVED

\* JOSEPH G. DESTEFANO

(12 of 34; 15)

3 Sumner Lane

Contact: descoddevelopers@verizon.net

I am a life long resident and father of 2 children with my wife Sarah. The town of Belmont is a unique and special community. I am a local Real Estate Developer in Town and feel that all future development must be thoughtfully and carefully planned, ensuring that our community continues to offer excellent schools and services. In past years I have served on various boards and committees including the Zoning and Planning Boards. I respectfully ask for your vote.

\* KAREN BARMAKIAN HEROSIAN

(31 of 34; 9)

585 Pleasant Street

Contact: karenrbh585@gmail.com; (617) 484-2045

Belmont is considered one of the most desirable places to live, however some important issues facing it's residents today include inefficient fiscal management, high taxes, and inadequate affordable housing. Our town needs a balanced approach, one that ensures essential services are funded while keeping taxes in check. We must prioritize efficiency, eliminate wasteful spending and implement alternative revenue sources including commercial and industrial development. A strong community is built on diversity and that includes housing options for all income levels. Thoughtful planning, smart zoning and responsible budgeting can create opportunities while maintaining the quality of life we all value.

*(Please turn page)*

\* KATHLEEN KEOHANE

(33 of 34; 15)

19 Rutledge Road

Contact: kkeohane722@yahoo.com

As your representative, I will continue to seek balanced solutions for all members of our community. I serve on the Senior Tax Relief Working Group that is tasked with identifying and evaluating property tax relief programs for Belmont residents, particularly seniors, veterans, and residents with disabilities. As Chair of the Library Board of Trustees, I have been an integral part of bringing the library project to fruition and a key participant in the fundraising efforts to lessen the impact to our residents. That project is on track and on budget with a strong team. I respectfully ask for your vote.

\* LINDA LEVIN-SCHERZ

(34 of 34; 15)

75 Woodbine Road

Contact: llevinscherz@gmail.com

I'm a proud mom of two BHS graduates. I served on the School Committee and on the executive board of the Foundation for Belmont Education and my top priority remains educational excellence. I am also committed to protecting our environment. I'm grateful Belmont is working towards denser zoning near public transit as well as smarter ways to encourage development. As chair of the Belmont Democratic Town Committee, I work with our community to support democratic causes and candidates locally and nationally.

\* MEGHAN A. MORIARTY

(34 of 34; 7)

22 Garfield Road

Contact: megmorcol@gmail.com

As an experienced member of the School Committee, I understand fair and responsible governing means listening to a variety of viewpoints and community engagement. I spend hours every week speaking with members of the community because I believe we achieve better solutions by working together and building strong community partnerships. I have taken an active role in communicating about key school and town issues so the community is informed. I also feel strongly about sustainable budgeting to support teaching, learning, and a variety of opportunities for students that meet the high expectations of our Belmont residents for the long-term.

*(Please turn page)*

\* MARYANN L. SCALI

(32 of 34; 55)

19 Prospect Street

Contact: motherscaliz@gmail.com

As a longtime member of Precinct 2, I have kept up with the concerns of our Precinct. The effects of the new zoning and seniors needs are two areas I am interested in.. I have been an advocate for Seniors as a member of the Council on Aging for over 5 years. I am concerned about taxes in our Precinct and the effects when the zoning changes across the Town. If you have an issue please contact me.

\* JULIA H. WEEKS

(30 of 34; 28)

585 Concord Avenue

Contact: julia.hinman.weeks@gmail.com

Attract commercial development: Expanding these opportunities will improve Belmont's fiscal health and ease the burden on residential tax payers. Streamlining the process of opening a business in Belmont will help. Increase housing: Creating more housing options in Belmont will encourage young families to move here and help our seniors to stay here and age in place. Allowing for denser zoning near our retail districts and adopting the proposed ADU by-law are good first steps. Fund Belmont Public Schools: Continuing adequate funding to maintain our excellent school system remains an important priority for me.

ANDREW JOSEPH POULSEN

1105 Concord Avenue

Contact: poulsen@alum.mit.edu

I would appreciate your vote to serve as precinct two town meeting member. I am determined to advocate for an excellent quality of life for all in Belmont with a fiscally responsible approach. We need to find creative ways to meet the town's financial obligations and sustainable future while striving to reduce residential property tax burdens. Having raised our children in Belmont, I am committed to maintain access to a high-quality public education for Belmont children. I am chair of the Disability Access Commission and member of both the Transportation Advisory Committee and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Implementation Committee.

# PRECINCT 3

## CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For Three Years**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* JOHN T. DIECKMANN

(32 of 34; 40)

47 Lorimer Road

Contact: dieckmannj@comcast.net

I supported debt exclusion overrides for both the library and the hockey rink. I hope this is it for major capital projects, at least until the bonds financing previous projects have been substantially paid off. In the meantime, timely maintenance of town facilities is essential to the long term fiscal health of the town. The population density of Belmont is among the highest in the state, I disagree with state government imposition of higher density zoning requirements and proposals to eliminate single family zoning.

\* RAFFI M. MANJIKIAN

(28 of 34; 21)

35 Summit Road

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

As a lifelong resident and parent of four students that have attended our school system, financial management of our budget has been a focus of mine since 2005 as TMM. Central to that will be the MBTA zoning — the critical issue for all residents to live with for decades. How we decide is as important as what we decide, as the implications will have fiscal impact. Listening to all perspectives will inform my deliberations on these crucial votes. I thank you in advance for your vote.

\* CHRISTINA ANITA MARSH

(33 of 34; 3)

218 Orchard Street

Contact: cmarshbelmont@gmail.com

Thoughtfully planning for our Town's future is a priority. Over the years, I have been a part of various capital project efforts, including the Belmont Middle and High School project and the Belmont Library project. I currently serve on the Belmont Public Library Building Committee for the new library building. As an architect, I see the updating of our town's zoning by-laws over the next few years to be an essential component of planning Belmont's future. I am a parent of a BHS ninth grader, and I hope to represent you at Town Meeting.

*(Please turn page)*

\* LISA A. OTERI

(24 of 34; 15)

31 Waverley Terrace

Contact: (617) 283-5161

It's a privilege to run for Town Meeting Member representing Precinct 3 and Belmont! Using Town Meeting legislative responsibilities, I look for spending appropriations that best meet the needs and vision of the town. Not all actions impact equally, and I work to think beyond single issues. For Precinct 3, I look for opportunities to expand our commercial tax base, promote continuous improvement of schools especially literacy and math curriculum, provide safe crossings, housing equity, and access to transportation. I support measures to expand access to Senior Center services and means to maintain Belmont as a generational town.

\* JUDITH ANANIAN SARNO

(31 of 34; 22)

30 Waverley Terrace

Contact: judithas30@comcast.net; (617) 484-2553

As a Town Meeting Member since 2004, I have consistently worked to represent our common interests and to protect our neighborhoods and quality of life. Given the recently passed MBTA multifamily zoning, as well as the proposed zoning for Accessory Dwelling Units, we will need to ensure that new developments respect neighborhood concerns and are consistent with the character of our town. As always, I will maintain open communication with you regarding any important town plans or initiatives. Please vote for me, Judith Ananian SARNO, either on your mail-in ballot or in person on April 1. Thank you.

\* KATE B. VIGOUR

(7 of 12; 1)

3 Thomas Street

Contact: kate.vigour@gmail.com

I have been a Town Meeting Member for 1 year. I have enjoyed learning more how our town is run and voting on important topics. I have supported the MBTA Community zoning changes; I supported the override for our schools. I'm excited to be a part of the good changes on the horizon to make Belmont a more welcoming community to businesses and to people of all income levels with more affordable housing.

(Please turn page)

JEFFREY M. BRODERICK  
213 Orchard Street  
Contact: brodjeffi8@gmail.com

I am a member of the Economic Development Committee, focused on helping improve the business culture in Belmont. I am passionate about reducing friction for businesses coming into Belmont, which I have experience with. Top areas for me include improved zoning efficiency & parking, pushing for an Economic Development Coordinator, or similar role, in Belmont, and helping close the gaps that would be served through a traditional Chamber of Commerce. As a tax payer, I have found overrides to be excessive and I recognize that we need to heavily scrutinize projects that don't directly contribute towards improving the tax ratio.

JUSTIIN ST'GERMAIN REBOLO  
8 Pearl Street  
Contact: jrebolo92@gmail.com

For capital projects, I would want to see a focus on maintaining and improving essential public infrastructure like roads, ensuring that all projects are cost-effective and align with community needs. Transparency in budgeting and timelines would be a priority. For financial management, I would like to see more focus on maintaining a balanced budget while being mindful of taxpayers. Minimizing tax increases and avoiding overrides by finding efficiencies and different revenue sources.

ANN E. VELIE (1 of 1; <1)  
16 Pinehurst Road  
Contact: a\_velie@yahoo.com

I am a 22-year resident of Belmont and a semi-retired pediatrician. Our 3 children attended Belmont schools. My interests include Belmont schools, affordable housing for young families and seniors, safe walking paths, streets and sidewalks, and public health. I seek to represent the citizens of precinct 3 with a steady and reasonable voice on the varied and important decisions our community faces each year.

**For Two Years**

**Vote for not more than One**

NO CANDIDATE PAPERS FILED — WRITE-IN ONLY

# POLLING PLACES

7AM to 8PM

**“Vote By Mail” or In-Person for this Local Election; no “Early Voting” at Town Hall**

Precinct 1 •	Beth El Temple 2 Concord Ave Zonis Auditorium
Precinct 2	Belmont Town Hall 455 Concord Avenue
Precinct 3 ♦	Beech Street Center 266 Beech Street
Precinct 4	Butler School Gymnasium Enter from White Street
Precinct 5 ♦	Beech Street Center 266 Beech Street
Precinct 6	Fire Station Headquarters 299 Trapelo Road
Precinct 7	Burbank School Gymnasium Enter from driveway
Precinct 8	Winn Brook School Enter from Cross Street

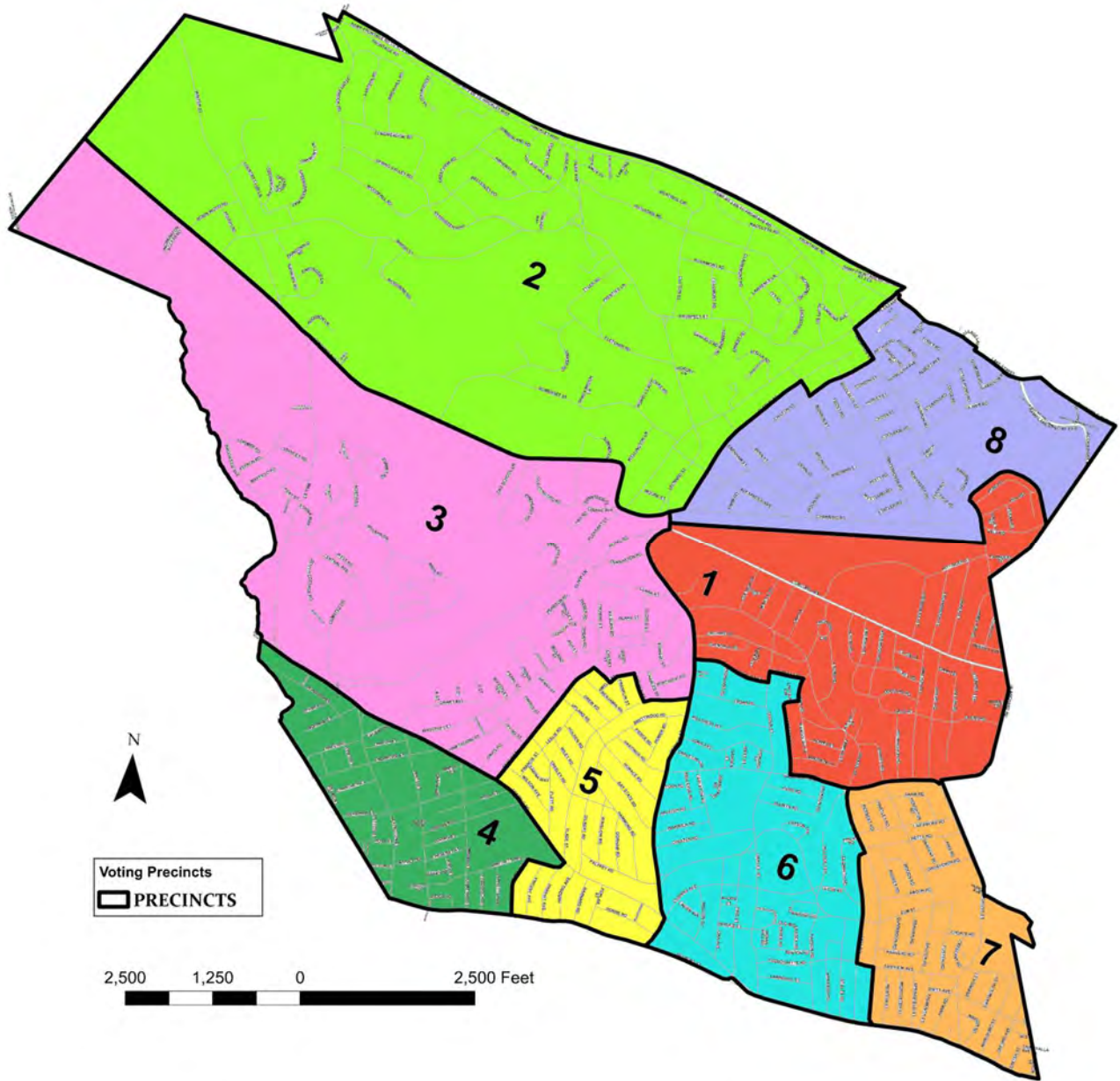
Notes: • Precinct 1 location changed due to library construction  
♦ Precincts 3 and 5 both vote at the Beech Street Center.

## WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate’s name on the line provided on the ballot. Completely fill in the oval to the right of that line. It is helpful, but not required, to list the street address of the candidate as well.



# PRECINCT MAP



For more information about Precincts, including detailed Precinct Maps, go to the Town Clerk's website:

<https://www.belmont-ma.gov/398/Elections-General-Information-Voter-Regi>

<https://www.mapsonline.net/belmontma/voting.html>



*Presents:*

## **CANDIDATES' NIGHT**

**Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7<sup>PM</sup>**

*Viewing Options:*

**Zoom meeting webinar: 859 3935 6655**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85939356655>**

**Live broadcast: Belmont Ch 8 (Comcast); Ch 28 (Verizon)**

**Livestream or on-demand: [belmontmedia.org/watch/govtv](http://belmontmedia.org/watch/govtv)**

*We'll start with:*

**Town Meeting Member Video "Parade"**

*Followed by:*

**Short Speeches and Question & Answer with**

**All Town-Wide Candidates**

***Remember:* Town Election Day is Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

# PRECINCT 4

## CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For Three Years**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* KATHRYN BOUNDY AUFFINGER

(34 of 34; 3)

211 Lexington Street

Contact: katie.auffinger.p4@gmail.com

Belmont should prioritize fully funding our public school system to allow our district to address the diverse needs of our students. I support more housing and additional commercial development in Belmont to expand our town's tax base, allowing the town to provide services for all residents while making our neighborhoods more inclusive, vibrant, and livable. Thoughtful strategic planning for Belmont's future should include mixed-use development, increased accessibility, safer streets, and revitalized commercial centers that are more inviting for Belmont residents as well as residents of neighboring towns and cities.

\* HELEN E. BAKEMAN

(31 of 34; 12)

92 Lexington Street

Contact: hebakeman@yahoo.com

Housing and Zoning—I previously served as a member and chair of the Housing Trust. I was actively involved (as a community member) in our MBTA Communities planning both with the 3A committee and Planning Board. I voted for the Board's plan, although I felt that it was inferior to the Committee's recommendations in achieving housing goals. I will continue to actively support more housing, more affordable housing, and more mixed-use zoning. I am currently interviewing affordable housing groups in nearby towns to learn about their zoning and housing programs that we might also be able to implement in Belmont.

\* KEVIN M. CUNNINGHAM

(34 of 34; 19)

20 Chandler Street

Contact: kcunning@alum.mit.edu

When I was a School Committee member, I helped create the Finance Subcommittee and worked diligently to ensure transparency and efficiency around school costs. As a Town Meeting member, I weigh the impact of each legislative proposal on multiple dimensions: does it forward our town goals? is it a priority now? is future maintenance taken into account? does it have unintended side effects? is it someone's pet project or does it serve all of Belmont? can we afford it? can we afford to NOT do it? I'm especially interested in really addressing the structural deficit, which I believe is misunderstood.

*(Please turn page)*

\* SHEILA M. FLEWELLING

(33 of 34; 24)

36 Sycamore Street

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

I support right sized development that will both benefit the Town and complement abutting neighborhoods. Zoning that encourages new business while respecting the character of the Town will be important as the Town develops its Comprehensive Plan. As Belmont remains a desirable place to live, strong financial oversight of taxpayers money needs to be a high priority. As a Town Meeting Member I will listen, stay informed and commit to being a thoughtful representative.

\* JOHN B. OCCHINO

(33 of 34; 23)

18 Hull Street

Contact: (617) 484-5593

I believe the town doesn't do enough for seniors, namely in offering housing and tax relief. The school budget is much more than the other town costs and we need to strike a balance.

\* SANDRA M. OCCHINO

(33 of 34; 23)

18 Hull Street

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

NO REPLY RECEIVED

\* ERIC JAMES PERKINS

(33 of 34; 3)

32 Thayer Road

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

I have been a homeowner in the Waverly Square area for over sixteen years and I'm committed to working on projects that impact this part of Belmont. As the school committee liaison for the Community Path Project Committee, I want to see Phase II of the community path connect our corner of the town to Belmont Center and the resources on Concord Ave. As an abutter to Sherman Gardens, I would like to see this property developed into a safer, more accessible property for our seniors. With thoughtful planning, Waverly Square has tremendous potential!

(Please turn page)

\* LAURA VANDERHART

(32 of 34; 9)

96 Agassiz Avenue

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

It is an honor to serve the town of Belmont, specifically Precinct 4 and the Waverley Square area, where potential changes should be approached with both courage and care, especially regarding traffic and safety. A resident since 2010, I am a past PTA president and a supporter of our public schools. I am a fan of projects that make use of outside funding, like the long-awaited Community Path—coming soon we hope!

SAMUEL M. LASSER

(4 of 4; <1)

16 Chandler Street

Contact: sam.lasser.p4@gmail.com; (617) 850-5542

I want Belmont to remain a livable community for people of different ages and income levels. Providing a wider range of housing options is a step toward this goal, which is why I voted for the town's multifamily zoning.

MICHAEL TODD THOMPSON

9 Jonathan Street

Contact: michaeltodd4belmont@gmail.com

Belmont, like many towns across the state faces substantial challenges: in meeting the demands of increasing budgetary requirements; an infrastructure in need of modernization; shortfalls in commercial attraction and business development; and citizens increasingly straining under that pressure. Town meeting must promote an environment that is friendly to business; welcoming to families and households of diverse backgrounds, as well as protective of vulnerable and at-risk groups; all while searching for bold, innovative approaches to strengthen its municipal institutions, and rally our community around our shared values and goals. I believe we're fully capable of meeting this challenge.

### **For One Year**

### **Vote for not more than One**

KATHERINE R. JEWELL

91 White Street

Contact: katejewell@gmail.com

I've been a Belmont and Precinct 4 resident since 2009. My three children are students in Belmont Public Schools. As a historian specializing in 20th-century US political and economic history, I bring that knowledge to my involvement in town matters, particularly responsible housing and zoning policies to enable smart growth and vibrant community. I'm a professor of history at Fitchburg State University, where I have developed an appreciation for transparent management of public funds as well as accountability. I look forward to using my skills in critical reading, thinking, and history to discussions about our town's future planning and management.

# PRECINCT 5

## CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For Three Years**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* ARTO ASADOORIAN

(21 of 34; 12)

40 Slade Street

Contact: arto.asadoorian@gmail.com

The town of Belmont has not been adequately funded for decades. Other communities throughout the state, while facing similar challenges to Belmont, have found ways to not only maintain their town services but to expand them to meet the needs of their residents. Belmont can make the same investment in our community if we choose. Making our town more friendly and attractive to businesses would be a great start.

\* KRISTEN R. BELL

(34 of 34; 7)

121 Slade Street

Contact: kristen.rose.bell@gmail.com

As an educator in the public school system, a parent, and a resident of Belmont I have the privilege of fulfilling my duties as a town meeting member with a unique perspective. Throughout my previous term I have had the opportunity to have conversations with neighbors and fellow town meeting members about improvements and changes to be made. Most recently these conversations have centered around housing and zoning, and economic development. I look forward to continuing this dialogue so I can best represent the interests of individuals and families within our precinct.

\* JUDITH D. FEINS

(31 of 34; 23)

71 Bay State Road

Contact: bell.feins@verizon.net; (617)484-6302

The issues I have worked on the most concern affordable housing and zoning. As a Housing Trust member, I was active in adoption of Belmont's 2023 Housing Production Plan and in strengthening the inclusionary housing by-law. As Trust co-chair, I recruited new members to support efforts to enable ADUs and to expand the affordable stock for seniors and families. I also actively supported the campaign for our new library. Going forward, I will continue these efforts and also work toward greater transparency in Town Meeting (especially around the Moderator's appointments) and greater communication among Town Meeting members.

*(Please turn page)*

\* TRAVIS R. FRANCK (31 of 34; 6)  
45 Horace Road  
Contact: NONE PROVIDED

REPLY RECEIVED AFTER DEADLINE

\* BARRY GAIMAN (12 of 34; 3)  
53 Winslow Road  
Contact: NONE PROVIDED

As promised, I spent hours making sure Gorham Rd was regraded correctly. Now my neighbors are no longer flooded due to storm drain failure. I support reasonable expenditures on infrastructure and schools and assistance for Seniors so we can remain in Belmont. I will not support future unnecessary overrides. Attendance: avoided most in-person meetings because of five-way bypass, pacemaker, Covid and hearing aids — in the future I can attend hybrid meetings safely.

\* AZRA NELSON (26 of 34; 9)  
26 Vincent Avenue  
Contact: azrabart@yahoo.com

I am a long-standing advocate for accountability, transparency, and traffic safety in Belmont. I believe transparency and accountability are cornerstones of good governance. While Belmont has made progress, our slow modernization has been costly for residents. I've consistently championed initiatives to improve road safety and pedestrian measures. My 2018 run focused on increasing commercial tax and innovative economic growth. To become a more attractive community for investment, we need better services, vision, and know-how. I'm committed to accelerating Belmont's progress in these areas, ensuring a safer, more transparent town responsive to all citizens' needs.

\* JOHN WALTER POLLOCK (30 of 34; 24)  
383 Common Street  
Contact: jpollock2727@gmail.com

Belmont has resource problems in maintaining school standards, infrastructure, and services. Within our power, we can seek additional resources and improve performance. Simple solutions to complex problems are suspect. Decisions should be based on facts — not wishes or fantasy. Innovation is essential. I work in developing countries improving public health service and finance systems. I hope to continue to help here in Belmont and ask for your vote.

(Please turn page)

\* ANDRES T. ROJAS

(14 of 34; 18)

72 Drew Road

Contact: andy@rojasdesigninc.com; (617) 281-4647

Managing Growth — Increased density and housing development are on the horizon. I will work to integrate these projects with our current physical and economic environment without endangering our small-town feel. My goal is to help manage this growth closely with our tax rates, school facilities, neighborhoods, infrastructure, and transportation facilities. Retail & Commercial Expansion — Making Belmont's centers more attractive to new retail/commercial tenants is vitally important. Creating attractive shopping and business environments for shoppers is necessary for increasing tax revenue and adding vibrancy to our centers. I will work to revitalize our centers and increase our tax revenue.

\* CATHERINE ANN SCOTT

(19 of 23; 2)

36 Brettwood Road

Contact: catherine.rockwood@gmail.com

In my first term on Town Meeting I voted in support of recent changes to town zoning, which will allow for more (and more affordable) housing stock in Belmont as we try to meet the housing crisis in the state. I also voted to protect and support the provision of special services in our public schools.

\* CATHERINE A. UMINA

(34 of 34; 4)

14 Benjamin Road

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

NO REPLY RECEIVED

SARAH M. BILODEAU

203 Trapelo Road

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

NO REPLY RECEIVED

(Please turn page)



ANDREW C. FLAMANG  
39 Poplar Street  
Contact: aflamang@gmail.com

I'm a BHS grad and 14-year town resident, with both public school kids and retired parents in Belmont. I have an MBA from MIT and have worked in K12 education and strategy. I see fiscal sustainability as top priority: balancing needed housing and commercial development with preserving Belmont's character is our biggest challenge. I serve on Belmont's Vision 21 Implementation Committee. I view this year's Comprehensive Plan development as pivotal for moving past patchwork solutions and ensuring that all precincts share the benefits of this plan. Finally, further traffic study is sorely needed to address cut-through traffic and ease congestion.

KATHERINE E. SIGEL  
181 Slade Street  
Contact: katherine.sigel@gmail.com

As a Belmont resident and mother of two, I care deeply about our schools and was actively involved in the override to secure funding for both our schools and essential town services. I also believe in thoughtful rezoning to support local businesses and generate much-needed revenue for our community. By working collaboratively with residents, we can create a balanced approach that fosters economic growth while preserving Belmont's unique character.

JOHN UMINA  
14 Benjamin Road  
Contact: NONE PROVIDED

(12 of 12; <1)

NO REPLY RECEIVED

**For Two Years**

**Vote for not more than One**

BRITTANY MICHELLE CHARLTON  
39 Poplar Street  
Contact: brittanycharlton.belmont@gmail.com; (617) 466-9262

I am a Belmont Public Schools parent to three young daughters, homeowner, Harvard Medical School professor, epidemiologist, and Belmont Women's Hockey team member. My partner is a Belmont High School graduate, and my retired in-laws are active throughout town. I'm deeply invested in continuing to improve things that make our town great: excellent schools, engaged senior services, and residential character. I've heard neighbors' concerns about cost of living and traffic calming. Finding ways to build our commercial tax base to lessen the burden on residents while developing affordable housing will be critical. I ask for your vote on election day.

# PRECINCT 6

## CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For Three Years**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* DANIEL PATRICK BARRY

(33 of 34; 11)

129 Goden Street

Contact: danbarbarai@verizon.net, (617) 489-5144

As a very strong supporter of our schools who wants Belmont to remain affordable, I'm concerned that we only get 5% of our property taxes from commercial uses (comparable communities average 15%). That's why I've been working across the political spectrum to urge our leaders to pursue responsible economic development that will bring in much-needed revenue at very little expense. Belmont currently faces a multi-million-dollar structural budget deficit that threatens the educational, public safety and senior services upon which we rely. Encouraging commercial development could generate substantial funds that can stabilize our finances, reduce override frequency, and secure our future.

\* KATHRYN M. BONFIGLIO

(30 of 34; 6)

84 Long Avenue

Contact: kmbonfiglio@gmail.com

I am looking forward to participating in community discussions regarding Belmont Center planning and would like to see an invigorated commercial center. I supported the MBTA Communities zoning, attended meetings, and applaud all of those who worked to make this happen. I support the Housing Trust's efforts to get Belmont to the 10% safe harbor from 40 B projects and support the new law allowing ADU's by right. I would like to see the Belmont Community Path constructed and that we make strides in our Climate Action Plan. I continue to support our excellent schools, including the METCO program.

\* MARY ANGELA CARINI

(10 of 12; 1)

39 Benton Road

Contact: angela\_carini@hotmail.com; (617) 957-4421

After having to miss two nights of TM meetings this past Fall due to a family member's serious illness, I look forward to fully engaging in town meeting with the following priorities; 1) support efforts to increase commercial revenue and the viability of businesses that contribute to the town while 2) supporting efforts to clarify zoning, allowing for more flexible housing, including ADUs, and 3) not least, support Belmont Public Schools in providing the needed curriculum updates, programming options, and staffing levels required for all of our children to learn.

*(Please turn page)*

\* AMY E. CHECKOWAY

(33 of 34; 5)

26 Pequossette Road

Contact: amy.checkoway@gmail.com; (617) 970-1097

For the past six years, I have served on the Belmont School Committee and gained deep insight into many issues that face our town and involve our schools, capital infrastructure, and constrained financial resources. I always strive to listen to diverse perspectives, make strategic and informed decisions about resources, and collaborate on impactful and responsible solutions with local leaders, town employees, other committees, community organizations, and residents. I look forward to continuing to serve our community on the new Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee and with your vote, representing Precinct 6 as a Town Meeting member for another term.

\* TARA DONNER

(34 of 34; 18)

47 Payson Road, #2

Contact: taraforbelmont@gmail.com

The burden of property taxes coupled with desire to maintain excellent quality town services is challenging. We must work together to maintain Belmont's major assets—superb schools, a dynamic library, high-quality safety services—as well as to improve the walking/biking infrastructure, affordable housing stock, and carbon footprint of the town. As a former School Committee member and 18-year TMM, I believe that we need to aggressively pursue development of neighborhood-friendly business, lobby state / national representatives for funding, and seek out creative funding sources to expand our revenue stream to reduce the need for frequent overrides while fully funding our town's needs.

\* STEPHEN KLIONSKY

(29 of 34; 25)

196 Payson Road

Contact: sklionsky@gmail.com

Belmont has managed to work together to see to completion or near completion a number of long-sought-after capital projects, including our middle/high school, our library and our skating rink. While welcoming what these buildings bring to our community, we must continue to work in a collaborative way to maintain our high-quality schools and town services, while encouraging needed additional housing through zoning reform, and while striving to increase our commercial tax base to ten percent to mitigate the property tax burden on homeowners. I'd appreciate your vote on April 1.

*(Please turn page)*

\* JEANNE R. MOONEY

(34 of 34; 27)

60 Oak Avenue

Contact: jeannemooney@gmail.com

I bring to Town Meeting my active participation in town affairs and a deep concern for Belmont's future. We have critical decisions before us on zoning and long-range financial sustainability. I support well-planned mix-used (residential/commercial) development that is right-sized, environmentally sound, and creates welcoming centers that broaden our tax base and help to alleviate taxpayer burden to deliver quality town services and support excellent schools. I applaud the improved town website and support our local non-profit newspaper The Belmont Voice — both which increase transparency and accessibility to important information. I support hybrid Town Meeting. I ask for your vote.

\* MARIE VIRGINIA WARNER

(21 of 23; 3)

39 Hillside Terrace

Contact: warner4precinct6@gmail.com; www.warnerforprecinct6.com

Member of the Warrant and Vice-Chair of the Economic Development Committee, I am committed to fiscally sustaining Belmont schools and town services. I advocate for intelligent commercial development plus restraint in spending — critical to ensure schools and town flourish while lessening the residential tax burden. Belmont is evolving, driven by housing mandates, zoning reforms and new Belmont Master Plan. Resultant fiscal and quality-of-life impacts must be studied and transparently shared with residents before decisions are made by town officials. I support the voices of Precinct Six and all town residents as we work together for Belmont's future.

\* JULIE WU

(33 of 34; 6)

66 Hillside Terrace

Contact: jwusauk@aol.com

As President of the Belmont Pan-Asian Coalition and Co-Chair of the DEI Implementation Committee, I served on the MBTA Communities Advisory Committee. Representing Belmont Composts!, I facilitated BHS kitchen composting on the existing Nutrition budget and raised funds to reinstate Chenery Upper Elementary's cafeteria composting program.

*(Please turn page)*

CASSANDRA RITTENBURG BIETTE

53 Chester Road

Contact: [crbiette@gmail.com](mailto:crbiette@gmail.com)

As a public school teacher, I have a valuable lens into how school funding decisions directly affect student experience. As a Town Meeting Member, I will advocate for maintaining school counselors, in-district special education programming, and retaining teachers, because teacher working conditions are student learning conditions. As a renter, I will provide perspective on affordable housing and give a voice to other young families in town like mine.

CABELL T. EAMES

26 Lewis Road

Contact: [eamesme@gmail.com](mailto:eamesme@gmail.com); (978) 994.9014

We must diligently work to shape Belmont's financial future in these uncertain times. A thoughtful approach to zoning will attract new businesses that enhance our community and further bolster our tax base. Still, we must continue supporting existing businesses that have significantly contributed to Belmont's charming character and community. Collaboration with appointed committees and residents is essential for successfully developing our commercial and affordable housing needs while respecting the boundaries of our shared vision. With an adaptive mindset and resourceful thinking, we can instill fiscal responsibility to ensure economic stability, fostering a thriving and inclusive community for everyone.

MICHELLE M. RULE

202 Goden Street

Contact: [michelle.m.rule@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.m.rule@gmail.com)

My family and I have been Belmont residents for 15 years. We chose to call Belmont home because of its strong community and commitment to education. However, this commitment has been challenged recently by limited funding. If elected to Town Meeting, I will advocate for streamlining the process for opening new businesses by simplifying regulations and providing clear guidelines. These reforms will enable local entrepreneurs to launch ventures faster—attracting investment, creating jobs, and boosting tax revenue. I am committed to reinvesting funds in our community, especially to strengthen our schools. I believe this approach will ensure long-term prosperity for Belmont.

*(Please turn page)*

BRIAN S. SAPER

(previously served 17 years)

16 Old Middlesex Road

Contact: briansaper@yahoo.com

I will strongly continue the momentum that is building now with the passage of the MBTA Community Zoning and the Accessory Dwelling Unit Zoning. This opens up areas in Belmont that can allow multiple residences on lots zoned for commercial or single family. This will allow owners of large properties to divide them into multiple apartments to share taxes which will encourage new development and lower prices. I see this as a new option for downsizing which will prevent seniors and young families from moving out due to their taxes.

# PRECINCT 7

## CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For Three Years**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* KATHRYN A. BOWERS

(30 of 34; 3)

14 Marion Road

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

It has truly been an honor to represent Precinct 7 in Town Meeting. I have gained a deep appreciation for the thoughtful, forward-thinking, and pragmatic approach that Belmont residents take when it comes to addressing the needs of our community. Our collective response to the MBTA Communities zoning issue was a powerful example of this. I am proud of how Belmont came together to pass a local bylaw with overwhelming support. Moving forward, I committed to supporting town services that ensure the continued well-being and bright future of Belmont and its residents.

\* HEATHER C. BRENHOUSE

(26 of 34; 3)

42 Bacon Road

Contact: hcbrenhouse@gmail.com

REPLY RECEIVED AFTER DEADLINE

\* PAUL J. GRIFFIN

(22 of 34; 3)

9 Anis Road

Contact: pjgriffin9@gmail.com; (617) 480-9805

I believe for Belmont to continue to grow into the vibrant and welcoming community that we would like we will need to increase the number of businesses and people / housing. The goal of growing business revenues to 10% of the total of Belmont's is critical as is doing this in a thoughtful way. More housing for young and old and everyone in between is needed now. Great schools is what originally brought us here and is another key to keeping Belmont desirable and the community we want it to be now and in the future.

*(Please turn page)*

\* SUSAN C. GRIFFIN

(22 of 34; 3)

9 Anis Road

Contact: scgriffin9@gmail.com

Bringing people together to discuss issues facing Belmont and our families are important to me. Whether it be by gathering in our living room or by email or phone, I want to hear from my precinct neighbors. I welcome input on the complex issues facing us. I supported the library and rink and believe in investing in projects we value. I support more affordable housing and maintaining strong schools. We must find ways to expand our tax base and be more welcoming to business. I respectfully ask for your vote.

\* PAUL ROBERT JOY

(29 of 34; 3)

9 Harvard Road

Contact: joyforbelmont@gmail.com; joyforbelmont.com

As a leader in financial management and economic development, I've worked to ease the burden of rising assessments through real growth in Precinct 7 and beyond. As a Town Meeting Member, Economic Development Committee Chair, and MBTA Advisory Committee Member, my approach prioritizes sustainable growth that supports our community's fiscal health while respecting our neighborhoods. I'm proud that the 3A zoning plan will bring more mixed-use opportunities to Precinct 7. I pledge to continue this work for a Belmont where everyone can afford to stay and thrive—a community with strong schools, supported educators, and valued municipal employees. Vote Joy!

\* SARAH E. KIRSHNER

(33 of 34; 3)

16 Marion Rd, #3

Contact: esseekay@yahoo.com

As a Town Meeting member representing Precinct 7, I have kept the needs of our neighborhood in mind when considering town-wide issues, particularly those that relate to our mix of housing, commercial use, high traffic streets and access to green space. Coming together in Town Meeting allows issues to be considered thoughtfully from a variety of perspectives, from the residents themselves. It's critical that we listen and act practically and with fairness to maintain strong public schools, supporting teachers and students, and commit to bringing Belmont into the future, together.

*(Please turn page)*



\* MICHAEL MCNAMARA

(32 of 34; 9)

41 Marlboro Street

Contact: mcnamara.michaelio@gmail.com

As a member of the Belmont Housing Trust, I have worked to improve housing options and affordability for our seniors, younger residents, and families in Belmont. We have implemented rezoning and a Massachusetts law that will provide for more opportunities for housing to be built in our town, at different price points. We have also pushed for ADU (Accessory Dwelling Units) that allow for seniors to stay in Belmont and young adults to stay near their parents. As a town meeting member, I have also worked to reduce red tape and the special permit process for new businesses in Belmont.

\* KIMBERLEY KELSEA SELNESS

(31 of 34; 6)

48 Unity Avenue

Contact: (617) 800-3397

As a committed Town Meeting Member, I stay informed on the town budget, services, and resident concerns. Serving on the Belmont Website Committee, I helped define platform requirements to enhance online citizen services and promote community events. I would be honored to continue representing Precinct 7 and respectfully ask for your vote!

\* KENNETH M. SISKIND

(32 of 34; 3)

27 Skahan Street

Contact: kensiskind@gmail.com

I have lived in Belmont for over 30 years and recently joined Town Meeting to become more active in town government. I would like to see Belmont become more affordable for young families and others so we can maintain a vibrant, diverse community and I would also like to see more local businesses move here. I support zoning efforts that encourage this, including the MBTA Communities zoning and the ADU bylaw. I urge citizens to support the Belmont Voice newspaper as it helps foster a sense of community, promotes our local businesses, and holds our town government accountable.

*(Please turn page)*

WILLIAM TRABILCY

70 Marlboro Street

Contact: ehsworks@verizon.net

A decades-long career in environmental and occupational health and safety, involving complex compliance and engineering issues. Since 2018, I've been in Wellington School on a regular basis as a sub teacher and enrichment instructor, as well as mentor in child and adolescent support organizations. As custodian of all citizens' interests, decision making processes should strive to include all voices and inputs. While increasing our commercial property base is always a priority, we must realize the circumstantial inherent limitations, as a fiscal remedy. Our town has a unique character that we should strive to preserve in all strategic decision making.

**For Two Years**

**Vote for not more than One**

NO CANDIDATE PAPERS FILED — WRITE-IN ONLY

**For One Year**

**Vote for not more than One**

AISHA SARAH TRAISH

50 Harvard Road

Contact: NONE PROVIDED

I grew up in Belmont and returned to raise my family because I love the neighborhood and schools! Last year I volunteered for the Invest in Belmont campaign because we needed to fund critical town services (e.g. schools, safety). Now we need to work collaboratively on sustainable solutions to promote our town's financial health. We need to prioritize recruiting responsible businesses to expand our commercial tax base and ease the homeowner burden while still ensuring our town thrives. I will maintain an open dialogue with neighbors in Precinct 7 so my voice in town meeting reflects that of our community.

# PRECINCT 8

## CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

**For Three Years**

**Vote for not more than Twelve**

\* JULIE MONAHAN BRADY

(20 of 34; 3)

219 Cross Street

Contact: juliembrady@hotmail.com

As a Town Meeting member, I have consistently supported efforts conserve the limited financial resources. We must support our businesses and work hard to expand commercial development in order to address the current fiscal constraints and prepare for potential shortfalls in Local Aid. We need common sense approaches to budgeting so we can maintain high quality schools and excellent town services. Overburdening residents, who already pay high property taxes, with overrides and debt exclusions is unfair. We also need to address systemic problems that have resulted in an exploding Special Education budget.

\* BRIAN C. CAPUTO

(31 of 34; 6)

75 Oliver Road

Contact: bccaputo@gmail.com

Belmont needs pragmatic solutions to address the structural deficits inevitably created by Prop 2-1/2. I will support efforts to expand the commercial tax base by making Belmont a welcoming place for businesses. I believe proactive maintenance of town infrastructure and equipment will cost us less in the long run. I support compliance with the MBTA Communities act both because it is the law, and it is the right thing to do to begin to address the critical housing shortage in our town and our state.

\* LAURA S. CAPUTO

(34 of 34; 7)

75 Oliver Road

Contact: lscaputo@gmail.com

Belmont has made progress toward increasing our affordable housing stock but we need to continue that progress both because it is the right thing to do and because it earns us Safe Harbor status for 40B. We must continue to work creatively to update our zoning to allow for more of the types of housing that we are currently missing: places for seniors to move when they want to downsize, and less expensive options for those just entering the housing market. I hope to continue to take an active role in these discussions as one of your Town Meeting representatives.

*(Please turn page)*

\* KATHLEEN “FITZIE” COWING

(33 of 34; 16)

278 Cross Street, #1

Contact: [mrs.cowing@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.cowing@gmail.com)

On the DPW/BPD Building Committee, as well the Warrant Committee and Town Fields Working group, in addition to Town Meeting I worked to ensure that we utilize our limited resources as effectively and fairly as we can across town needs. Our town infrastructure, particularly resources used by all residents, need maintenance and care, which is why I have moved my efforts towards fields the past year. I advocated for a fiscal compact on the Warrant Committee, and will continue to advocate for utilizing our available funds to ensure all residents are able to see benefits from their tax burden.

\* RADHA IYENGAR

(34 of 34; 5)

76 Dean Street

Contact: [riyengartmm8@gmail.com](mailto:riyengartmm8@gmail.com)

My priorities are working towards affordable housing and MBTA Communities zoning in a fiscally responsible manner while maintaining Belmont’s small-town atmosphere and excellent schools. Belmont needs improved traffic management with increased public transit, maintained sidewalks, separated bike lanes and construction of the off-road Community Path as soon as possible. Additionally, we need creative, innovative ways to meet the Town’s financial obligations while striving to reduce the residential property tax burden. My experience includes being the current co-chair of the Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill, Belmont Citizens Forum Treasurer, Town Meeting member since 2020, and a Belmont Helps volunteer.

\* AMY COHEN KIRSCH

(31 of 34; 3)

8 Jason Road

Contact: [amykirsch.realtor@gmail.com](mailto:amykirsch.realtor@gmail.com); (617) 306-9279; [amykirschre.com](http://amykirschre.com)

I’m a Belmont resident with children growing up in the public schools. I work as a Realtor, my office based in Belmont Center. I continue to serve as a devoted community volunteer. I’m a leader, a past PTA Co-President, co-founding the Belmont Parents Facebook Group, and co-created Belmont Helps to support neighbors in need. With my business smarts and community service heart, I will continue to support our excellent schools and town resources while helping Belmont thoughtfully embrace the future. I support building a more dynamic tax base. I’d be honored to continue serving you in Town Meeting.

*(Please turn page)*

\* LYNN PETERSON READ

(33 of 34; 16)

62 Munroe Street

Contact: lpetersonread@gmail.com

In Town Meeting and on the Warrant Committee, I work to expand our commercial tax base creatively and with respect for Belmont's neighborhoods. I examine the proposed budgets for all departments, with focus on Human Services and Public Safety. When the new Library and Rink buildings open, I will look for savings in their operating budgets. I support continued investment in our seniors and in our schools, including expanding in-town services for special needs students to save on out-of-district placements. I ask for your vote so I can continue to work for Belmont's quality of life and fiscal responsibility.

\* PAUL F. ROBERTS

(32 of 34; 18)

54 Cross Street

Contact: paulroberts+tmp8@gmail.com

In 18 years on Town Meeting, I have been an advocate for Precinct 8 and greater public investment in Belmont. That includes increased funding for our public schools and vital town infrastructure like our library and skating rink. As a member of the IT Advisory Committee (ITAC) I have worked to engage our Town's leadership on critical issues such as cybersecurity and cyber incident response. If re-elected, I will push for Belmont to diversify its revenue: promoting commercial development, and - more immediately - securing robust PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreements with Belmont's affluent non-profits. I ask for your vote!

\* ELLEN SCHREIBER

(29 of 34; 14)

49 Sandrick Road

Contact: elleno2478@gmail.com

My priority is to be a good steward of taxpayer investments in facilities, town and school services, and I've dedicated 10 years on town committees to make this happen. I have seen first-hand the transformative impact of the new high school for our children. Our new library and rink will redefine the informational, communal, and athletic opportunities for residents. We provided funding to preserve the town and school services we rely on. Now we must continue to make sure these dollars are well spent and focus on expanding our commercial tax base to reduce the burden on residents.

*(Please turn page)*

\* ELLEN J. SUGARMAN

(34 of 34; 10)

119 Cross Street

Contact: ejsugarman@yahoo.com

Building a fiscally responsible community is important to me. As a member of the Community Path Project Committee I help design and fund a path that will bring customers to town. For 7 years I served on the Belmont Library Foundation raising private funds that are helping build our new library. I voted for the MBTA Communities Act, and I support the Belmont Center and ADU rezoning efforts. I worked on the 'yes' campaign for the new middle-high school that made accepting a state construction grant possible. Re-elect me to Town Meeting and I will continue working for a better Belmont.

\* GI YOON-HUANG

(33 of 34; 9)

107 Winn Street

Contact: threehyacinths@gmail.com

I seek for Belmont to be a green, walkable community where residents feel welcome and safe. In 2023, I proposed a bill to Town meeting for better clearance of sidewalks from cars and shrubbery to help improve accessibility and safety to all pedestrians as well as for law-enforcement to provide communication of such regulations. It was enthusiastically passed. I am co-chair of Belmont Celebrates AAPI Heritage. We have donated hundreds of books to Belmont schools over the years and provide a speaker series during AAPI Heritage month. Let's work together to continue to support our schools, local businesses, and environment.

PAUL JOSEPH COWING

278 Cross Street, #1

Contact: paul.cowing@gmail.com

Residents of Belmont are entitled to a government that balances the provision of services with cost efficiency, while fostering communication, transparent processes, and active participation. The most accountable government is one that remains connected to its community. As a member of the Recreation Commission, I have worked diligently to ensure that all voices are heard and that community members are engaged in decision-making. Additionally, I have supported grassroots organizations in developing community-focused initiatives. In collaboration with my fellow Commission members, we have prioritized cost containment without compromising service. I am committed to continuing this work as a Town Meeting Member.

# LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS<sup>®</sup> OF BELMONT

## 2025 Membership Form

We welcome your participation in and support of the Belmont League! When you pay your LWV Belmont dues, you are also automatically a member of the State (LWVMA.org) and National (LWV.org) Leagues.

To conserve volunteer resources, speed communication, and save money, the Belmont League uses email whenever possible. Our monthly newsletter, **The Voter**, is now sent by email to all members. **If you use email, please provide your current email address below.** *If you do not have an email account:* please contact the League at (617) 771-8500 to arrange to have The Voter mailed to you.

Name _____	<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	
2nd Name _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Suggested Individual Membership	\$ 75
Address _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Suggested Couple membership	\$ 150
Cell/Work phone(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Student or low-income Membership	\$ 20
Email _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Contribution*	\$ _____
2nd Email _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dues Assistance Fund*	\$ _____
		Total amount	\$ _____

*New LWV online system.*

Please go to [BelmontLWV.org](http://BelmontLWV.org) and click on **JOIN**  
Scroll down and click **JOIN NOW** or use QR-code

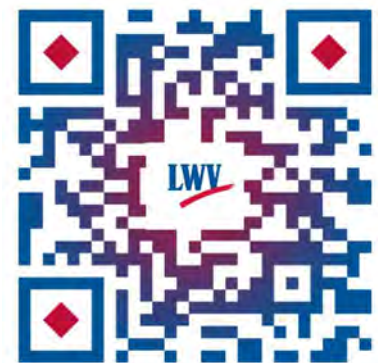
*Going forward, membership will be for one year.*

Dues also accepted by check (payable to Belmont LWV)

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK**

Donations to Belmont LWV can also be made on our website.

\* Because the Belmont LWV advocates on policy issues, contributions of any amount, while gratefully accepted, are *not* tax deductible.



**Questions:** Contact the Membership Chair: [diane.palmer@verizon.net](mailto:diane.palmer@verizon.net)

**Thank you for your support of the Belmont League of Women Voters**

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# **Voter Guide**

**Including**

**All Candidates for Town-Wide offices**

**& Town Meeting Member**

**for**

**Belmont Town Election**

**on**

**Tuesday, April 1, 2025**