Belmont Town Election

Voter Guide

Election Day is Tuesday, April 6, 2021

published by



VOTER GUIDE

for the

BELMONT TOWN ELECTION

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

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 to 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 (e.g. library, skating rink), housing (e.g. McLean, Beatrice Circle), schools, financial management (e.g. taxes, overrides), traffic, and transparency." Responses, limited to 100 words, is printed verbatim. Contact information, if provided by the candidates, 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 of candidates.

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.

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 <u>every</u> household in Belmont. Please mail your contribution to LWV Belmont, P.O. Box 426, Belmont MA 02478 or go to **BelmontLWV.org** click on **DONATE TO US** and use the link for **Voter Ed Fund**. Thank you for your support.



2

The League usually offers free rides to the polls for every election, but not during this COVID-19 time. The LWV encourages all voters to vote Absentee! For more information about the League, go to our web page: Belmont LWV.org

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN-WIDE OFFICE

MODERATOR

For One Year

Vote for not more than One

* MICHAEL J. WIDMER 126 Gilbert Road Contact: mike.j.widmer@gmail.com

In order to have an informed and fair debate at Town Meeting, I and other Town leaders always put in countless hours of preparation. For the safety of Town Meeting Members, in 2020 we were one of the first towns to conduct our Annual and Special Town Meetings remotely. Our success depended on the combined efforts of the Moderator, Town Clerk's office, IT department, Town Administrator's office and others. We will hold our upcoming Annual Town Meeting remotely but I hope we can return to in-person meetings in the fall. My thanks to the voters for their confidence in me.

MEMBER OF THE SELECT BOARD

For Three Years

Vote for not more than One

MARK A. PAOLILLO 42 Pilgrim Road Contact: (617) 513-9510

Preserving and enhancing Belmont's quality of life must begin with making town finances stable and sustainable. This will require a more in-depth approach to long term structural reform. Belmont should consider the use of performance management budgeting which measures resource input against the resulting output of services for each department. That will help us measure the rate of return Belmont gets on its investments. Additionally, a serious five to ten-year financial plan must be developed. These steps will let us maintain the level of town services on which our residents depend, invest in our aging infrastructure, and increase school investment.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS For Three Years

Vote for not more than One

CHARLES L. CLARK 150 White Street Contact: cclark.belmont@gmail.com

The town is at a financial cross-roads with the effects of the pandemic coupled with increased capital costs and the potential debt exclusion. As the former chair of the planning board

(Please turn page)

3

and member of the first financial task force, I worked to expand both housing opportunities and economic development in the town. Housing values in Belmont are rising and taxes will increase. In this context, it is important that the Board of Assessors continue to provide full, fair and transparent assessments. I am an MAI member of the appraisal institute with over 30 years of real estate appraisal experience that I will bring to the board.

BOARD OF CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

For Three Years

Vote for not more than One

* ELLEN O'BRIEN CUSHMAN
38 Scott Road
Contact: (617) 484-4817; jpc01@aol.com

Since 1998, all Belmont cemetery records have been maintained in a customized cemetery data management tool, called Cemetech. It has served us well but unfortunately, system support will no longer be offered in 2022 requiring transfer to another system. The Cemetery Commission and staff will oversee this project utilizing cemetery-dedicated funds. The system will have expanded features such as public search capability for cemetery interment records, usable at home or on a mobile device while visiting the cemetery, accessible via your GPS.

BOARD OF HEALTH For Three Years

Vote for not more than One

* STEPHEN M. FIORE 34 Van Ness Road Contact: (617) 489-5189; smfiore@aol.com

If re-elected to the Board of Health for a second term, I will continue to prioritize making Belmont safe for the public and business community during the ongoing COVID pandemic. I will build upon momentum by deepening trust and maintaining strong relationships across the Town. I will communicate with community members, educating them with updates, stressing the importance of safety precautions to avoid spread and assist those who seek vaccination. It is important to demonstrate responsible allocation of financial resources as we help facilitate safe practices to visit with friends and family, return to in-person learning, and support local businesses.

ADRIENNE S. ALLEN 14 Harris Street Contact: adriennesallen@gmail.com

Nothing has been more important this past year than COVID-19 and HEALTH. Let's emerge stronger than before – that means inclusive health programs, relevant and ongoing

(Please turn page)

monitoring of community health, and policies with equity and environment at the forefront. As the medical director at North Shore Physicians Group, I have led our collaborative population health programs to address equity. Serving for the Town of Belmont on the energy committee, I have supported our climate action roadmap to promote a healthy environment. I have the experience and collaboration skills to ensure these are prioritized as a member of the Board of Health. [LWV truncated at 100]

MEMBER OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY For Five Years

Vote for not more than One

* ANNE B. MAHON

19 Alma Avenue

Contact: annemahon.realtor@gmail.com

As a current Commissioner of the HA for the last 5 years, I'd acknowledge that our team has accomplished tremendous strategic improvements, but there's more work to be done and we need to keep the fabric of the current team to continue our work on increasing the unit numbers so we can expand our population while improving our current properties so that when folks in Belmont come into trouble, they aren't put on a long waiting list. Allowing folks that struggle to get back on their feet so they can move forward is very rewarding. I'd appreciate your vote.

TOMMASINA ANNE OLSON 10 Bay State Road Contact: (617) 489-2828

I am running for Belmont Housing Authority because there is work that needs to be done. I previously completed a 3-year term and would like additional time to work on infrastructure issues, especially plumbing upgrades and mold elimination at the 3 sites. I am committed to proactively pursuing grants and creative solutions to pay for these improvements. I look forward to collaboratively working with the Tenants Association to hire a new Director. I believe my experience serving on the Belmont Housing Trust & Council on Aging will be beneficial when addressing residents needs and concerns.

For Four Years

Vote for not more than One

SARAH M. BILODEAU 203 Trapelo Road Contact: bilodeausarahm@gmail.com

I am a professional, an educator & a parent of children attending Belmont Public Schools. I believe it is important that all residents and visitors to Belmont feel welcome and belonging

(Please turn page)

5

when they are in town, whether they are passing through on a daily commute, attending school, raising a family or residing in Belmont Housing Authority residences. As an elected official in Belmont, I want to spend time talking with people about how they feel as they go about their lives in Belmont. I want to learn from them what they need and how they hope to see their town [LWV truncated at 100]

TRUSTEES OF BELMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY

For Three Years

Vote for not more than Two

* ELAINE ALLIGOOD 265 Beech Street Contact: (617) 957-3756

As Library Trustee 15 yrs., a medical librarian 46 yrs., I'm acutely aware of the 56 yr. old BPL building & all its issues. In 1868 the first BPL opened in the new 1868 High School. Thru 156 yrs., BPL endures even in COVID year! BPL is open for service! Undaunted, BPL's terrific staff re-imagined & re-worked how BPL delivers services: more online programs, Tai Chi, knitting, book clubs, homework help, print, DVD pickup via our window! More eBooks, Audio Books & access to Ancestry from home added; usage is up! Your vote allows me to continue my service.

* CORINNE McCUE OLMSTED

28 Stone Road

Contact: corinneolmsted@gmail.com

As a Library Trustee, I seek to balance addressing short term needs with longer term goals, with a focus on ensuring that the library continues to successfully serve the evolving needs of our community. My finance and consulting background allows me to seek creative solutions. As a parent of school age children, I am also able to provide a needed perspective on programming and services for students and families. I look forward to continuing to work to support and improve the library for Belmont's residents, in both the near and long term, and ask for your vote.

MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE For Three Years

Vote for not more than Two

* TARA DONNER
 47 Payson Road, Unit 2
 Contact: (617) 855-8116, www.donnerforschools.com
 REPLY RECEIVED AFTER DEADLINE

(Please turn page)

TIMOTHY FLOOD

46 Wiley Road Contact: tfloodbelmontma@gmail.com

We need diverse leadership experiences on the School Committee to safely and fully reopen our schools. I differentiate myself as a military veteran, a small business owner, and most importantly, an outspoken advocate for providing necessary resources to support our special needs students. If elected, our students with the most needs will finally have a voice at the table. I will make lines of communication with all parents a priority. My experiences are built on teamwork and are the foundation for the good decision making we need on the School Committee for all Belmont students and families.

EVELYN GOMEZ 41 Carleton Road Contact: evelyn.g.gomez@gmail.com

As a school committee member, I work to amplify the voices of students and communities that are not always heard. I am proud to have played a role in the creation of the equity subcommittee, which will examine and dismantle the systems within our district that lead to inequitable outcomes for marginalized communities.

Furthermore, I helped create more opportunities for community members to inform the school committee's decision making. Working groups now include parents, students, and community members. Surveys are more widely used to give everyone an equal opportunity for input and the school committee now holds weekly office hours.

MEGHAN A. MORIARTY 22 Garfield Road Contact: electmegmoriarty@gmail.com; www.electmegmoriarty.com

I will bring to the School Committee unique skills to address the challenges facing Belmont's schools at this critical juncture. A strong public education, according to my immigrant Irish grandmother, was the only way for people to live more successful lives. This year, for many, Belmont has not provided that education. Unlike many Massachusetts districts, our School Committee did not plan early or act decisively to meet our kids' needs. I can meet those needs using my broad experience in Belmont as Town Meeting Member and Butler PTA president and in education at all levels—planning, budgeting, and managing partnerships.

(Please turn page)

JAMAL SAEH 72 Watson Road Contact: www.saehforschools.com

I am a parent of two Belmont High School kids, a scientist and leader in the pharmaceutical industry. I know the value of collaboration and data-driven decision making to good governance. School closing was a proportional response to the pandemic. Lack of affordable Covid-testing and screening limited the school opening options in the Fall. I partnered with experts in the community to identify solutions that increase safety and peace of mind for teachers, students and their families. I proposed an innovative, cost-effective, developmentally appropriate COVID-19 screening and surveillance testing that included weekly testing of teachers and surveillance of students.

PRECINCT I

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

For Three Years

Vote for not more than Twelve

* JENNIFER G. AUSROTAS 65 Richardson Road Contact: (617) 993-3573

A significant concern for myself and other parents during the last year has been the response by the school administration and School Committee to the pandemic. I have become a vocal advocate for our students, who I believe have not been adequately represented during discussions about school and the return to full in-person learning, through engagement with school principals and the Superintendent. I also want to improve transparency across all levels of the decision making process, and have supported efforts to increase citizen access to the information used when making important decisions about our town.

* JESSICA BENNETT 15 Trowbridge Street Contact: jessiebennett@gmail.com

Town Meeting members have the responsibility to put our beliefs into action for the good of everyone in the community. Our children, our seniors, the vulnerable and all who need our town services depend on us to ensure that we are thoughtful in our deliberations. This past year has demonstrated how much we all depend upon one another. I believe in a Belmont that is stronger for its diversity, that comes together to help others when they are in need, and that carefully plans for a brighter future.

* PETER J. DIZIKES 34 Randolph Street Contact: peterdizikes@gmail.com

Education is a remarkably important investment for our society, and we need to make sure Belmont's students have opportunities to thrive in the classroom. I have long been com-mitted to this issue. I served on the Yes for Belmont campaign committee for the 7-12 School in 2018, devoting hundreds of hours to a project that makes fiscal and educational sense for our town. I also favor the current override, which will help everyone from students to seniors, and allow the town to sustain and even enhance its vital community services.

(Please turn page)

(13 of 13)

(20 of 21)

(20 of 21)

* MARY T.W. GAVIN 12 Long Avenue Contact: (617) 484-0857

People move to the Town of Belmont for the high quality of life that we enjoy. One of the issues that we, as a community, will face is the impact that the opening of the new schools will have on traffic. As someone who had served on the Traffic Advisory Committee in the past, I understand and can foresee some of the problems that we will face. Changes in traffic patterns, pedestrian safety, safe routes to school and increased vehicular traffic will need to be addressed. I hope to continue to contribute positively to Belmont as a Town Meeting Member.

* ANNE MARIE S. MAHONEY 24 Goden Street Contact: (617) 484-0419

I chair the DPW/Police Station Building Committee. Our team renovated and added to existing facilities using creative financing without an override. Similar innovative planning can address long term Capital projects such as the skating rink. My work on Capital Budget Committee helped prioritize and fund essential maintenance on town and school buildings; technology; roads; playing fields.

Mitigate cut-through traffic in the Precinct 1 four school neighborhood which creates unsafe conditions for walkers, runners, cyclists. New middle/ high school will put hundreds more cars on Goden and School Streets. Time specific "No Turn" signage is a cheap but effective solution.

* HENRY McFARLAN OGILBY 96 Taylor Road Contact: (617) 484-6766

If elected as TMM I will vote for services to meet the needs of all constituents including school age children, their parents, as well as our seniors. Everyone should try to make our town all inclusive, and we need to consider all needs regardless of age. Your vote would be much appreciated! Thank you.

* EMMA L. THURSTON

101 Baker Street

Contact: (617) 943-5064; emmalthurston@gmail.com

I've worked hard on the BMHS building committee and remain committed to our public education system (I do have children at BHS, and Chenery). Like nearly every municipality, our budget issues will continue. I believe that a crucial part of addressing the

(Please turn page)

(21 of 21)

(21 of 21)

(2 of 2)

(17 of 21)

10

budget is to make sure that Belmont is a business friendly community and that we must do our part to build a rock solid local economy. To do that, we have to also strive to be welcoming, equitable, and socially responsible both as citizens and as local elected officials.

* STEPHEN TOMCZYK

47 Hamilton Road Contact: stephentomczyk@gmail.com

If re-elected to represent Precinct 1 at Town Meeting I will follow my customary practice to inform myself, as best I can, on every article on the Town Meeting warrant and to vote in a manner that I think represents the best interests of the citizens of the Town of Belmont.

* JOHN J. WEIS 30 Chenery Terrace Contact: (617) 489-1901

Finding the right balance between investing in our community and doing so in a fiscallyresponsible manner is the key on-going issue facing Belmont. This issue has many manifestations each budget cycle, most immediately reflected in the pending override vote this year. While no one likes to see their taxes increase, preserving essential services within the community is critical for maintaining our Town's quality of life. As a member of the Warrant Committee, and chair of its Education Subcommittee, and as a Town Meeting member since 2009, I have worked diligently to ensure that the Town budget achieves that optimal balance.

KIMBERLY NICCOLE HALEY

26 Merrill Avenue

Contact: khaleyjack@gmail.com

I am a 10 year resident with 3 children who have attended Belmont public schools. My focus is on making Belmont a more inclusive space. I am working with various community groups and bps faculty to strive towards a more inclusive curriculum. I have worked over the past year creating affinity groups for parents to provide support and increase involvement. In addition, I am working to create a space to support our students' social and emotional health by providing support from various town organizations by working directly with BPS faculty and leadership.

DAWN MacKERRON 70 Becket Road Contact: (617) 519-9608

I am an Automation Engineer for a manufacturer's rep firm. I work with local manufacturing companies and am a consultant to manufacturers helping them design automation

(Please turn page)

II

(16 of 21)

(21 of 21)

solutions. I've been a Belmont resident for 50 years, and a homeowner for 30 years. As my taxes have rapidly increased in recent years, I wanted to try to be more involved rather than just complain. I am a founding member of Citizen's for a Fiscally Responsible Belmont. I hope both TMM and CFRB will be helpful in finding ways in Belmont to increase revenues (apart from increasing taxes) and cut costs.

DANIEL J. O'CONNELL 23 Becket Road Contact: daniel@danieloconnellcpa.com

I am a 36 year resident of Belmont with three sons who attended the Belmont schools. I am eager to get involved in Town Meeting to work together to identify opportunities for new revenue streams for the Town to ease the tax burden on homeowners. The need for future capital projects to sustain the vibrancy of our community is known. I hope to encourage thoughtful pursuit of revenue streams which will enable us to build and maintain these required facilities. Our collective goal is to make our Town healthier and more beautiful, I look forward to working towards that goal.

For One Year

Vote for not more than One

CHRISTOPHER GRANDE

64 School Street

Contact: (781) 393-0021; chris@walnuthilladvisorsllc.com

My decision to run for Town Meeting arises from my desire to take my interests in financial planning and economics and explore ways to help Belmont make wise decisions. I intend to incorporate the help of residents to explore spending decisions and find ways to do things more economically. Furthermore, I'd like to help the community think of the long term effects of decisions made today. Our budget is tight due to decisions made over a long period of time. Therefore, solving them in the future will involve a long term decision framework.

PRECINCT 2

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

For Three Years

* LESLIE J. AITKEN 70 Evergreen Way

Contact: lja315@gmail.com

Education and infrastructure are important. If the override passes, we should be in a good place to make sure that they remain a continued priority. The pandemic has been unfortunate for the town and our citizens, but by keeping our town up on the priorities we will not fall behind and have to play catchup.

* W. SUMNER BROWN

35 Ross Road

Contact: sumner3144@gmail.com

The town has a strong case for a tax override now. A small business owner across the street has a strong case for no tax override now.

When the pandemic hit, my neighbor cut expenses vigorously, while the town gave our town administrator a raise: bad optics. My neighbor seems more serious about financial difficulties than the town.

My most recent property tax bill increased by 52%. A town-wide vote approved debt for our new school which increased taxes without an override. But I did not expect 52%. If the town wants a tax override, they may want to explain this.

* JOHN J. BUCKLEY
11 Leicester Road
Contact: NONE PROVIDED
NO REPLY RECEIVED

* SUSAN E. BURGESS-COX 135 Radcliffe Road Contact: (617) 932-1189; sburgesscox@gmail.com

While Belmont has recently invested in capital assets such as the DPW and police station, other capital assets need investment and improvement. As a member of the Capital Budget Committee, I have worked diligently to approve projects on a limited budget. The town

(Please turn page)

13

(20 of 21)

Vote for not more than Twelve

(21 of 21)

(8 of 21)

(21 of 21)

needs to allocate additional funds to the discretionary capital budget to protect town assets. Belmont continues to be a district that attracts students. As a School Committee member, I worked to address issues related to increasing enrollment while facing budgetary constraints. I intend to continue to address similar issues as a town meeting member.

(19 of 21)

(21 of 21)

(21 of 21)

(Please turn page)

* THOMAS CAPUTO 63 Richmond Road Contact: (617) 932-1722

In my time serving on the Select Board, School Committee, and Financial Task Force, I have worked to develop and promote thoughtful strategic and financial planning for Belmont. We have made great progress in this regard, but we continue to face a structural deficit that we must address. We need to grow revenue, manage costs, and identify innovative ways to deliver Town and School services. But as a community we also must embrace the override in order to ensure we can continue to preserve the Town and School services that make Belmont such a great community in which to live.

* DAVID C. HURLEY 20 Birch Hill Road Contact: NONE PROVIDED NO REPLY RECEIVED

* JUDITH A. McSWAIN 35 Ross Road

Contact: jamcswain@gmail.com

Town Meeting members should be as well informed as possible on issues brought to town meeting and then vote for what they believe is best for the town.

Belmont taxes are some of the highest in Massachusetts. The last property tax bill increased by over 50%! Such a drastic increase was necessary to fund the new high-middle school.

Belmont must maintain our excellent schools, but to further increase taxes during the pandemic is out of touch with the financial hardships many Belmont people have suffered.

* MEGHAN A. MORIARTY 22 Garfield Road Contact: electmegmoriarty@gmail.com NO REPLY RECEIVED	(10 of 21)
* KARNIG OSTAYAN 35 Lantern Road	(5 of 21)
Contact: NONE PROVIDED	

NO REPLY RECEIVED

14

* SUZANNE H. ROBOTHAM

19 Scott Road Contact: suzanne.robotham@gmail.com

Affordable Housing: any developer who flips a series of more than 6 individual housing units should have to contribute to our affordable housing trust just as a 6+ unit development needs to designate a percentage of units as affordable. Accessory apartments would add affordable housing as well and qualify Belmont for Safe Harbor status avoiding further hostile 40-Bs. The override will allow us to maintain the excellence of Belmont schools and the level of public services that we value.

LYDIA L.W. KOGLER 30 Rutledge Road Contact: lydiakogler@gmail.com

Having lived in Belmont for the past 9 years, I am eager to contribute to the future of the town. As a parent of three young children (two at Winn Brook and one yet to start preschool), I am keenly interested in the success of Belmont Public Schools. While I strongly support the upcoming override, as an MBA graduate, I believe we need to keep digging into the school system and town programs/budgets to identify any potential inefficiencies and opportunities to cut costs. I am committed to soliciting, listening, and acting on the opinions of the constituents of Precinct 2.

BARRY LUBARSKY 257 Rutledge Road Contact: barrylubarsky@yahoo.com

As an 11-year resident of Belmont, my priorities are to ensure broad awareness of the issues and decisions Belmont is facing and bring the voice of my neighbors to those discussions. The proposed override is an example that requires broad civic engagement to achieve an inclusive approach to balance the needs of town infrastructure, schools for our children, and services for our aging population, while preserving a stable financial future. Similarly, we need to ensure the town has a say in affordable housing growth that is consistent with the needs of current Belmont residents.

For Two Year

Vote for not more than One

WILLIAM MUSSERIAN 7 Greybirch Circle Contact: askwilliaminbelmont@gmail.com

I have been a resident of Belmont for over 20 years, and as a graduate of Belmont High I understand our school system is our town's greatest asset that should be treated as a priority.

(Please turn page)

15

(20 of 21)

As an economics major and current MBA student at Boston College, I am also passionate about tax policy, prioritized spending, responsible investments, and financial stability. Finally, it is essential that we support basic infrastructure throughout the town and that we study ways to reduce traffic congestion. I sincerely look forward to representing Precinct 2.

For One Year

Vote for not more than One

DERAN M. MUCKJIAN 108 Village Hill Road Contact: deranmuckjian@verizon.net

As a small business owner in Belmont Center and lifelong Belmont resident I have a strong understanding about what makes Belmont a desirable place to live. I am also on the Economic Development Committee as well as Vice President of the Belmont Center Merchants Association. I believe that fiscal responsibility is critical to maintaining a vibrant community. We cannot continue to ask for one override after another. It's unfair to our residents especially those who are on a fixed income. If elected I will offer the perspective of balancing our budget within our current revenue while maintaining our excellent schools.

PRECINCT 3

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

For Three Years

Vote for not more than Twelve

* JOSEPH JOHN BERNARD 71 Waverley Street

Contact: (508) 579-5981

At 2017 Town Meeting, we approved a "Welcoming Town" designation – at the time, it was primarily to express solidarity with displaced persons and migrants. But the idea of being a "Welcoming Town" can more broadly mean solidarity with all people who are marginalized. That will be the first lens through which I judge any Town Meeting vote. In 2020, I supported the McLean proposal and the emergency rental assistance program. I highly value our Housing Production Plan and will continue to support opportunities to make housing affordable, as well as programs that provide property tax relief to eligible households.

* BONNIE L. FRIEDMAN 16 Hay Road Contact: home@bonnieanddavid.com

TMM since 2012, working on issues I care about: open/green space, affordable housing, multimodal transportation. Serve as Vice-Chair of Community Path Project, which will make it safer to get to school and alleviate traffic. Actively seeking grant money will reduce dependence on Town funds. Several years ago, I edited a LWV Booklet on Open Space in Belmont and how to protect it. My compromise design for Belmont Center, was implemented after a contentious debate over car access vs. green space. The fund my family initiated helped bring the Housing Production Plan to fruition, facilitating creation of more affordable housing.

* SHAUN A. GOHO 50 Davis Road Contact: shaun.goho@gmail.com

As a TMM, I have been a strong supporter of the high school project and of the override. It is essential that we as a Town provide adequate support to our schools and develop and maintain our public infrastructure, including the library, rink, and community path. At the same time, to ensure sound financial management while minimizing the tax burden on homeowners, the Town should diversify its sources of revenue by encouraging smart commercial development.

(Please turn page)

(21 of 21)

(21 of 21)

(17 of 21)

* RICHARD P. HARTLEY

11 Edward Street

Contact: rich.hartley@gmail.com

We face many challenges as a community working to balance our goals and successes with our financial means.

Unlike the national stage, I'm encouraged by the cooperation on innovative and efficient solutions in our community - including housing (investment in analysis of open space impacts on affordable percentages), capital projects (focus on practical investments that support education and the entire community), and continued transparency in process and decision making.

Town Meeting is a unique form of government that reinforces citizen education, awareness, and involvement - I will continue to honor the responsibility and I thank you for your support for another term.

* JULIET BLAU JENKINS

76 Lorimer Road Contact: julietbjenkins@gmail.com

As town meeting member I facilitate knowledge and communication about town issues via a neighborhood email list and social media. I updated neighbors on the 40B project meetings by the Zoning board for Beatrice Circle, the proposed expansion of the Rock Meadow parking lot among other issues and the recently approved McLean development which will greatly impact our neighborhood. I am very concerned about the effects to our town if the override is not passed and have used social media to increase exposure to the losses we will incur if the override does not pass.

* MARY K. KENNEDY 11 Lorimer Road Contact: marykillough@gmail.com

Town meeting members must bring attention to the lack of maintenance of our civic buildings and conservation land. It would seem a new library should be next in line before the misdirected approach for a new hockey rink. A new library would be used by all residents and lift the spirits young and old during these tight financial times.

* ROBERT V. KENNEDY 11 Lorimer Road Contact: rvkboston@aol.com

Belmont Voters:

This has been a crazy time for all of us, but particularly so for those among us who have lost jobs or closed businesses. On top of this, the Town is asking for a tax Override. I would ask

(Please turn page)

(18 of 21)

(18 of 21)

(15 of 21)

that you study the Town's needs carefully in light of recent unfortunate Town spending and salary increases, and keep your neighbors in mind when casting your upcoming Override votes.

I personally feel that this is a terrible time to ask for an Override.

Thank you.

Your TMM for 40 years

* VINCENT P. STANTON, JR. 32 Royal Road Contact: (617) 875-8793; vstanton@verizon.net

Belmont has recently incurred \$200 million of debt to build the new middle-high school, pushing income taxes to the pain point for many residents. While I support the current override, and believe the town is generally well run, private financing will be necessary to proceed with other large capital projects (library, rink). Belmont needs an action plan to reach 10% affordable housing units (vs. 6.7% today) to help address the affordable housing crunch in the Boston area, and to prevent more Beatrice Circles (i.e. excessively large 40B developments which override local zoning), and I will be advocating for solutions.

* CAROLE WILLIAMS 3 Stables Way Contact: wcarole216@gmail.com

I raised a Belmont High School graduate - (Special Educator and Science Teacher), and have been a homeowner for over 25 years! I regularly talk with residents of all ages who are looking for candid answers as to HOW tax money is being spent. Causing hostility by pitting neighbor against neighbor over loss of services is unacceptable...and they ask if continuous approval of overrides will further displace longtime residents. Money needs to be spent efficiently so that our schools maintain their top rating, while the quality of assistance provided is preserved for our seniors!

* MICHELLE A. YOUNG 34 Davis Road Contact: NONE PROVIDED NO REPLY RECEIVED

(Please turn page)

(18 of 21)

19

(20 of 21)

(15 of 21)

ADESHINA AYODEJI BAPTISTA

44 White Street Contact: (617) 800-3354

Now, more than ever, we need to take care of each other so we can all make it out of the pandemic strong and ensure Belmont's status as a welcoming, desirable and inclusive community that is enjoyed by many. Our seniors should receive the services they need. Our schools should be funded properly. Let's encourage smart transit oriented development, affordable housing and small business. Create a vibrant space in the underutilized Waverly Square for people to live, work and entertain. We should further consider sustainable building practices on new development so we can reduce our towns energy costs and carbon footprint.

JASON KETOLA

11 C Street

Contact: (651) 208-2115; jasonketola@gmail.com; www.belmont-ma.info

I've enjoyed Belmont for two years with my wife, and now with our one year old daughter. The two most important things a town meeting member can do are to ensure our tax money is well spent and to ensure the interests of their precinct are well represented. As a town meeting member, I will do my part to ensure that the town sufficiently justifies requested expenses, that options are fully explored, and that analyses are shared openly. I will also monitor online forums where precinct members share their concerns (Facebook/Nextdoor) to make sure I'm representing precinct interests.

NORAH C. PIEHL 150 Beech Street Contact: ncpiehl@gmail.com; ncpiehl.medium.com

As the director of a small nonprofit, I understand that budgets reflect shared values and priorities. I also recognize that the big issues facing Belmont are interrelated; for example, one likely outcome of an override defeat is a reduction in the number of children who can attend neighborhood schools, potentially resulting in decreased walkability and increased automobile traffic. This year, I've been fortunate to help build Belmont relationships by developing fundraisers that contribute to Butler's PTA while also supporting local businesses. I embrace the energy and diversity of our community and am eager to listen to and serve my constituents.

PRECINCT 4

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

For Three Years

* SAMI S. BAGHDADY

14 Loring Street

Contact: (617) 484-0251

Have you noticed how shocking your real estate tax bill has become? Belmont has become unaffordable, especially for Precinct 4 residents. Structural governmental change is needed to reduce spending. Also, I support affordable housing to keep Belmont a diverse community. But, the affordable housing shortage is a Town problem that requires a Town solution. Increased density to accommodate this initiative should be explored throughout the Town.

* DEBRA DEUTSCH

56 Hull Street

Contact: belmontma@ddeutsch.org

Belmont's finances affect and are affected by many issues that our town faces. The lack of significant commercial tax base puts the burden on residential property owners. Today we are paying increased costs due to past delays of necessary projects and facing an override when many taxpayers' finances are particularly stressed.

There are limits to the service reductions and project delays or cancellations that can be adopted without significant negative consequences. Belmont has recognized savings by restructuring operations and departments. Additional restructuring, including potential regionalization of some operations, could meaningfully reduce annual costs with relatively smaller impacts on us.

* LUCIA E. GATES

11 Agassiz Street

Contact: luciagates@aol.com

As a member of the Shade Tree Committee, I review site plans for all capitol projects and stay up to date on the progress of each. As a resident of precinct 4 I know that projected new plans for adding further housing on the McLean properties will have an impact on our area. I intend to stay current as this possibility develops and to advocate for Waverly Square needs.

* LINDA DEVITO GHILARDI	
16 Church Street, 3L	(17 of 21)
Contact: NONE PROVIDED	
NO REPLY RECEIVED	
	(Please turn page)

(19 of 21)

Vote for not more than Twelve

(21 of 21)

(20 of 21)

2I

* JIRAIR M. HOVSEPIAN 44 Chandler Street Contact: NONE PROVIDED

Our town needs to be managed more frugally. This is not the time to add to the struggling residents' financial burden by raising taxes with an override. Rental prices have come down considerably, but taxes have increased, straining the burden on homeowners and landlords. We are expected to receive an increase in local aid for unrestricted general government aid (UGGA) from the state. We need to see what that increase is, expected to be 3.5%, before deciding on any override. We need to tighten our belts and put off our expenditures until this pandemic is over.

* GITANJALI REGE	
64 Beech Street (21	of 21)
Contact: ms.gituska@gmail.com	
I support our schools and our town and will vote for The Override. I hope you do	o too!
* ELIZABETH B. SCHMIDT	

Contact: ebschmidtor@gmail.com As a retiree and 30-year Belmont homeowner, I'm concerned with maintaining an excellent quality of life for townspeople of all ages. Our high property taxes are already forcing some folks out, yet a sizable override is looming. Concurrently, capital projects are amassing, infrastructure is deteriorating, town officials' salaries are rising, and police and firefighters are in peril of being removed from civil service. I believe that careful long-term planning and some consolidation are necessary and will continue to work toward these goals. Smallscale development could help to keep tax rates down but must remain neighborhood-friendly and consistent with Belmont's character.

and some consolidation are necessary and will continue to work toward these goals. Small
scale development could help to keep tax rates down but must remain neighborhood-friend
and consistent with Belmont's character.
* DANIELL G. STEVENS

3 Chestnut Street

59 Lexington Street

Contact: daniell.stevens+tmm@gmail.com

Our neighborhoods aren't the same and town policy should reflect that. I support keeping taxes low by increasing commercial and residential development along existing, denser commercial corridors and public transportation routes like Trapello Road and at the same time preserving the cherished suburban feel of the Winbrook area and the stately Belmont Hill neighborhoods.

I like walkable neighborhoods and plan to join the Shade Tree committee. In my next term, I'll also begin regularly attending school committee to keep my constituents accurately informed about one of our most important institutions.

(Please turn page)

22

(18 of 21)

(18 of 21)

* DAVID M. WEBSTER 18 Holt Street Contact: (617) 489-1029

I have lived in Belmont's Waverley neighborhood for 33 years. As a Town Meeting Member, I support quality schools reopening as soon as possible, open space protection, and fiscal responsibility to retain our AAA bond rating and town services. I support public transportation, pursuing state funding for the community pathway and library, and ensuring transparency in government, including Town Meeting voting. I see the use of planning and zoning through Town Meeting as important to retain our neighborhood character, increase affordable housing, spread out capital projects, and allow mixed use development to ease the burden of high taxes.

DANA HARRINGTON 37 Holt Street Contact: danarharrington@yahoo.com

Every municipal expenditure ought to satisfy one of three basic principles... the golden rule, love thy neighbor or do no harm.

As a humanist and democratic socialist; I believe that civil rights, woman's rights and worker's rights are human rights. They've been under attack throughout the world and locally. We can do better.

I believe that the most vulnerable among us should be protected, the youngest well educated and that those that can contribute, should.

In return for your vote, I will work tirelessly, within these parameters, to represent you for policy that's of, for and by the people.

ANNE B. MAHON 19 Alma Avenue Contact: (617) 990-7660; annemahon.realtor@gmail.com

As a 22+ year resident of Belmont and a Realtor, I have seen how investing in our schools has increased property values, giving us a magnificent return on our investments, and prepared our children for their successful futures. I also love that we have a community involved in our local politics to help us stand up for their constituents and what matters most to them. I love Belmont and want to give back by being a Town Meeting Member again. I'd be so grateful for your vote to put me back on the team. ;-)

(Please turn page)

MICHAEL ANTHONY PALOMO 113 Sycamore Street Contact: (646) 204-3400

A Belmont resident since 2009, I have watched as the town has shifted demographically, while town government has not dealt with changes in an equitable manner. Increased traffic, road maintenance and balancing smart (taxable) growth with more open spaces are all of concern. As well, the practice of spending the majority of town budget on an already top-notch school system at the expense of seniors, other residents and the town budget should be examined. I am honored to have the opportunity to be a member of town Meeting, providing a fresh, positive perspective on how Belmont can work for everyone.

For Two Year

Vote for not more than One

NO CANDIDATE PAPERS FILED - WRITE-IN ONLY

PRECINCT 5

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

For Three Years

* CLAUS CHRISTIAN BECKER

20 Poplar Street

Contact: clausprecinct5@gmail.com

Belmont citizens should expect their town meeting members to develop and vote for policies that lead to a community with a high quality of living. That includes ensuring great schools, good infrastructure, and a reasonable level of taxation. Unfortunately, due to the town's fragile economic situation, we often wind up being reactive. I work on the Energy Committee and the Long-Term Capital Committee because I think strategic planning will help us take control of our destiny. If we are thoughtful, we can reach the goals we have while meeting our financial obligations.

* SUZANNE W. BLOORE

37 Hastings Road

Contact: swbloore@aol.com

Two important issues facing Belmont are providing essential services within budget restraints and maintaining our roads and sidewalks. Homeowners must not be overwhelmed by property taxes which have risen dramatically. Our officials need to seek federal Covid 19 funds destined for cities and towns. Funds set aside for road repair and maintenance must be used only for those purposes.

* DAVID COLEMAN

26 George Street

Contact: david-coleman@verizon.net

My wife Amy and I have lived in our house on George St. for 8 years. I have canvassed for the 2015 override and the exclusion vote for the new high school because I value the central role that the schools have in binding the town together and helping families raise strong children. I am concerned about the heavy traffic in town and the safety of pedestrians and cyclists and so serve on the Transportation Advisory Committee which is working on solutions to the heavy commuter traffic. We love the community as our home.

*]	ГНА	YER	DON	HAM
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

77 Hammond Road

Contact: tdonham@mit.edu

As a member of the Planning Board, I spent a couple of years working on the McLean rezoning with my colleagues and town staff. There was a tremendous amount of community

(Please turn page)

(18 of 21)

Vote for not more than Twelve

(20 of 21)

(17 of 21)

(20 of 21)

25

input at our meetings, which was critical to developing good zoning and a better outcome for the Town of Belmont. I look forward to engaging the community in the Design and Site Plan Review of the project when the developer submits it to the Town for permitting.

* HOWARD MARK FINE

88 Bay State Road

Contact: howardmfine@gmail.com

Belmont continues to be challenged fiscally to find ways to preserve a high quality of life for our citizens and maintain the educational excellence of our schools. As such, Belmont must find fiscally sound and creative solutions to our short-term and long-term budgetary needs and constraints to meet these goals. Despite the anticipated federal aid Belmont may soon receive, to some a tax override is the simplest solution to fix the structural deficit problem. I do not believe that it is the best alternative for our community in these trying times. Respectfully, I ask for your vote on April 6th.

* TIMOTHY FLOOD

46 Wiley Road

Contact: tfloodbelmontma@gmail.com

If given the privilege, I will continue to thoughtfully and collaboratively represent our community. I recognize that many of Belmont's past successes and plans for the future are, in large part, due to the tremendous work of town volunteer committees and boards. I will continue to support these efforts and our shared values of community, education, family, and inclusivity with transparency for all my decision making and voting. I will continue to listen to your concerns and priorities, and most importantly act on your behalf.

* RAYMOND J. JOHNSON

53 Hammond Road Contact: (617) 895-6021

I grew up in Belmont, attended Wellington and Chenery, my wife Cara and I are now here to raise our children. Education is an important reason for returning. For the past three years I have been a board member of the Wellington PTO. Recently, I was involved with the Belmont police chief screening committee. There is still work to do, supporting commercial development to enhance tax revenues, improving town road conditions, and finding creative solutions to traffic. I am asking for your support.

* TOMMASINA ANNE OLSON 10 Bay State Road Contact: (617) 489-2828

It has been my privilege to serve as Precinct 5 Town Meeting Member. My dual focus is housing and financial management. Serving on both the Housing Trust and the Council on

(Please turn page)

26

(11 of 13)

(19 of 21)

(21 of 21)

(18 of 21)

Aging I will continue to advocate for diversity and fairness for all residents. Financial management requires greater efficiency and more transparency since it affects our communal tax dollars. Last year, the Payson Park Music Festival that I founded celebrated, safely and under strict COVID guidelines, its 30th anniversary. PPMF is a public-private partnership which I hope will continue to bring summer joy to Belmont residents.

* CASEY CLAIRE WILLIAMS 46 Wiley Road Contact: caseywilliamsbelmont@gmail.com

I believe participating in our community is part of being a good neighbor. I am a current town meeting member and serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals. As a town meeting member, I believe my primary responsibilities are to represent my neighbors, listen to your concerns and feedback, and act on your behalf. In the coming years Belmont has numerous financial choices to make, such as capital projects and structural financial changes, to ensure Belmont is financially responsible. As a professional engineer, I can evaluate many inputs and perspectives, synthesize various data sources, and problem solve.

* ROGER P. WRUBEL 165 Slade Street Contact: roger_wrubel@msn.com

As a member of the Belmont Energy Committee, I have worked towards Belmont meeting our Climate Action goals, including all-electric, energy efficient high school and proposed library. I urged the Planning Board to make the proposed housing development at McLean all-electric. I support the Energy Committee's warrant article, at this year's Town Meeting, for a statewide prohibition of new fossil fuel infrastructure in all new construction and creating a Net-Zero Energy Stretch Code that Belmont could voluntarily adopt. Net-zero buildings combine energy efficiency and renewable energy generation to consume only as much energy as can be produced onsite.

JESSICA J. BARNARD 48 Alma Avenue Contact: (781) 859-8242

I am a ten-year resident of Belmont with children at Chenery and BHS (Butler alums), and for me the most critical issue facing our town is the budget shortfall that will drastically impact town and school services. I actively campaigned for the 2015 override and believe that the proposed override is critical to maintaining manageable class sizes that will allow children to return to school full-time and prevent cuts to senior services, the library, and other fundamentals that make our town so liveable. As a Town Meeting member, I will support responsible use of any override funds.

(Please turn page)

(18 of 21)

(17 of 21)

SARAH M. BILODEAU

203 Trapelo Road

Contact: bilodeausarahm@gmail.com

I am a professional, an educator & a parent of children attending Belmont Public Schools. I believe it is important that all residents and visitors to Belmont feel welcome and belonging when they are in town, whether they are passing through on a daily commute, attending school, raising a family or residing in Belmont Housing Authority residences. As an elected official in Belmont, I want to spend time talking with people about how they feel as they go about their lives in Belmont. I want to learn from them what they need and how they hope to see their town [LWV truncated at 100]

MATTHEW GASBARRO

139 Trapelo Road

Contact: (339) 224-0150

I believe structural reform is paramount if Belmont is to continue having top rated schools while providing its citizens the services they expect. As a member of the Structural Change Impact Group, I am engaging with residents and town leadership to explore cost mitigations, synergies both within Belmont and our surrounding communities, as well as new revenue opportunities to fuel our future growth. If elected as a Town Meeting Member, I pledge to continue these efforts by ensuring that recommendations are pursued and listening to all residents on their concerns.

NORMA MASSAROTTI

53 Bay State Road

Contact: (617) 484-4283

I am committed to community and to helping to make things better. I have lived in Belmont for over 20 years and during that time have served in a variety of volunteer capacities. I have 30+ years of corporate experience, 25 at Gillette/P&G and know that some practices prevalent in corporations can be reapplied in Belmont to improve its financial health while: not compromising on services or education, taking care of *all* its residents, young and old, and being fair to its all its employees. It can be done. I believe in collaborating to "Do the Right Thing".

KATHLEEN M. RUSHE

64 Horne Road

Contact: kathleenrushe@hotmail.com

I've lived in the Cushing Sq neighborhood for over 20 years and have learned about many aspects of redevelopment by staying involved in the Toll Bros project, a process that began in 2008. As a result, I'm interested in participating in Town Meeting to encourage reasonably scaled development throughout Belmont. One goal is to ensure that zoning by laws reflect proportionate scale and mass near residential neighborhoods. A second goal is to establish regular communication between the Town, the developer and abutters during all stages of the planning and building process, with a focus on public safety.

PRECINCT 6

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

For Three Years

Vote for not more than Twelve

* JOHN JOSEPH BOWE

20 Elizabeth Road

Contact: (617) 484-8742

As we emerge from covid, schools everywhere will need special attention to help students and staff reclaim what was lost in their educational missions. TM must keep that in mind and be supportive as we approve legislation in the coming year. Governments, including Belmont's, have learned much about remote work this past year, including both official (and open!) meetings and government operations. A positive side of this is that this has opened a new door to greater transparency and new channels of participation from the public. TM should press that Belmont retain some of that.

* THEODORE DUKAS

236 Payson Road Contact: dukassoc@aol.com

I've been following the current debate and presentations on the tax override to be on the April Belmont ballot. The warrant committee and the chair of the council on aging, Mark Paolillo, made thoughtful and concise statements focus on a need for an override at this time. I agree with their arguments; however, I believe that too little emphasis is placed on the idea that overrides are a recurring necessity if Belmont is to maintain its property values and quality of life as the "Town of Homes". As your town meeting member I will explore proposals in the commonwealth for [LWV truncated at 100]

* JUDITH F. FEINLEIB

87 Oakley Road

Contact: (617) 484-5304; feinleib@gmail.com

Representing all my constituents regardless of issue or view, answering questions and keeping them informed matters! Two Op/Eds, "Article 10 – Civil Service and Belmont's Legislature" about not silencing Town Meeting Members and "Voting Free of Fear," a plea for providing facts and eliminating scare tactics so voters can make rational decisions on their override votes published by the Belmont Citizen form a portion of my efforts. I continue to advocate a balanced approach to housing and commercial needs in Cushing Square and along the Belmont St./Trapelo Road corridor. Publicizing Benton Library Covid activities helps Precinct 6 and the entire town.

(Please turn page)

29

(21 of 21)

(18 of 21)

(21 of 21)

30

* LAURIE A. GRAHAM

46 Lawndale Street, #1

Contact: (617) 413-9622; iamlaurieg@yahoo.com

I have been an elected Town Meeting member for 12 years, a three-term former School Committee member and an appointed member to numerous permanent, and temporary Town of Belmont and Belmont Public School committees and sub-committees. Despite having different missions or charters, a common denominator for all committee participants must be a commitment to transparent, two-way communication with the community and various constituencies. This can be achieved by describing the issue(s), sharing information and possible outcomes; providing multiple opportunities for input and feedback; responding to questions and explaining decisions made and votes taken. I ask for your vote in April.

* GAIL S. MANN

196 Payson Road

Contact: gailsmann@aol.com

As a Town Meeting member, I support maintaining the high quality of educational and other town services we in Belmont value through continued strong fiscal management. As a Library Trustee I understand first-hand the importance of providing capital funding to ensure that our Town facilities are safe, welcoming, accessible, and functional. I also support exploring structural changes that might help to reduce over time the budget deficit faced by Belmont as a result of proposition $2^{1/2}$. I ask for your vote on April 6 and look forward to continuing service to Belmont.

* AARON B. PIKCILINGIS

24 Branchaud Road

Contact: aaronpikc@gmail.com

I support the override because I believe it will allow us to continue providing the services that help our town thrive and upon which all our residents rely. I also recognize that we need to strike a careful balance that keeps our town affordable, and volunteer as a member of the Structural Change Impact Group to help our town make the most effective use of revenue and to control our costs. I also recently submitted an Town Meeting article that proposes extended supports for veterans and their families, including a volunteer tax workoff program and tax exemptions.

* ROBERT P. REARDON

73 Van Ness Road

Contact: robertpreardon@gmail.com

The problems facing the Town of Belmont are many, including school and government funding issues and numerous capital and infrastructure needs. State aid, efficiency in town government and cuts in the labor force have allowed the Town to mask the hidden problem of limited revenues to keep pace. Although there are many worthy projects that need to be

(Please turn page)

(18 of 21)

(18 of 21)

(21 of 21)

(6 of 21)

addressed difficult decisions must be made to use available funds in the most prudent manner and not overburden the homeowners with tax increases. Town meeting must promote responsible development through zoning and continue to make government operations more efficient.

* JOEL M. SEMUELS 18 Bellevue Road

Contact: jsemuels@yahoo.com

Our schools are among the best in the Commonwealth and we must make every effort to maintain their high quality. I am in favor of the property tax override, which while painful to some, is necessary to maintain services in a town with little large commercial tax base. As a member of the C.O.A, Board and President of the Friends of the C.O.A., I will continue to advocate for senior citizen programs.

* JUDITH R. SINGLER

53 Selwyn Road

Contact: (617) 997-1202

For the past several years I have served on the COA and the Housing Trust. I am especially pleased with the Trust's work with the developer of the McLean project, which resulted in an increased number of housing units, including smaller units, rental apartments and 25% affordability. My overall philosophy is to speak up when I identify issues facing Belmont. Recently this included drawing attention to unauthorized removal of trees and shrubs at Claypit Pond, and following up with the Conservation Commission and other town departments to assure appropriate mitigation to limit further damage and restore the area.

* PHILIP K. THAYER 39 Oak Avenue

Contact: (857) 919-9373

Energy conservation reduces operating costs. As Chair of SustainableBelmont.net, I worked hard over the last 3 years to ensure that our new Middle and High School achieves Zero Net Energy status so that the town realizes \$5M in operating savings. If the override passes, the town will hire a building systems specialist to optimize energy systems in all town buildings and leverage the town's Green Communities designation to win \$250K/year in grants. When the town plans future building projects, I will work hard to encourage the building committee to focus on reducing operating costs in addition to reducing upfront costs.

* PETER A. WHITMER 41 Hurd Road Contact: peter@peterandhannah.com **REPLY RECEIVED AFTER DEADLINE**

(20 of 21)

(21 of 21)

(20 of 21)

(21 of 21)

(Please turn page)

STEPHEN A. EVANS

100 Van Ness Road

Contact: (617) 872-8689; stephen.a.evans@gmail.com

I am a former TMM (10+ years) and previously served on the boards of the Foundation for Belmont Education and the Wellington Afterschool Program (when my kids were younger!). If elected, I will support capital projects like the new library and rink and advocate for the responsible use of limited town financial and capital resources. I will also provide active and engaged representation on the other issues that come before Town Meeting including emailing out what happened and how I voted to anyone that is interested. If you would like to know more please contact me by email or phone.

ELSHAD G. KASUMOV

71 Payson Road

Contact: elshad@kasumov.net

As a parent of two kids, three and seven, I strongly support investment in our schools and public library. The library is a gateway to knowledge and information and a place of equality, and the services it provides, from books to online research resources to language groups and storytime, are incalculable. Additionally, I firmly believe that Belmont's success lies in increasing and diversifying its revenue stream and improving and expanding its infrastructure with a strong focus on environmental sustainability.

LINDA N. OATES 302 Payson Road Contact: loates1@verizon.net

Health, safety, schools, Payson Park are my priorities. COVID testing should be in place when students resume in-person in-class schedules. As a RN, helping neighbors and contacts with vaccination access. I support vaccinations for Town employees. A long-time advocate for Payson Park as an enjoyable green space. Currently co-chair of proposal seeking funding for Payson Park revitalization with much neighborhood support. Since last year I have been a leader to obtain CPA finds for Park improvements and upgrades. Suggest new RFP for ice rink with modifications of constraints to increase bidders interest.

MARIE VIRGINIA WARNER

39 Hillside Terrace

Contact: (617) 721-4853; warner4precinct6@gmail.com; warnerforprecinct6.com

Precinct 6 has been my home and neighborhood for 24 years. Professionally, I am a manager at an educational software company that helps children K-12 learn to read.

I am concerned as Belmont careens from one fiscal crisis to another. All good municipal decisions flow from a fiscally sustainable plan. Without such a plan, the future of our schools, our roads, services and our valued town employees are jeopardized. I want to be part of the solution to meet these and other challenges in our wonderful town. I ask for your vote. Tell me what's most important to you. https://warnerforprecinct6.com ³²

PRECINCT 7

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

For Three Years

* RICHARD A. "NICK" CANDEE

21 Anis Road

Contact: home: (617) 484-2561; cell: (617) 962-2498; nickcandee@aol.com

- schools / financial management: let's not be Chicago / Illinois, with unfunded pension and health care costs. That may mean structural reductions in payouts.
- housing: why should taxpayers subsidize low-income housing? Seniors will leave as taxes are increased to cover such creeping socialism.
- zoning: I helped form Belmont Citizens for Responsible Zoning, for a moratorium on teardowns, until zoning codes were updated. Beatrice Circle, zoned single family, should remain so, as that was the deal when people bought their homes.
- capital projects, any department: should we be combining with nearby towns on some items?

* JOAN A. DREVINS

61 Betts Road

Contact: (617) 512-3644; joan.drevins@gmail.com

Our town faces financial issues, some new and some exacerbated by the pandemic. A perception within the community is that Town leaders are not open and transparent. The 2020 U.S. News report ranks Belmont Public schools # 12 in MA, however, discussion at Town Meetings consistently requests additional school funding. Belmont is efficient and effective with the school budget and producing an excellent outcome. Financial decisions MUST be supported by relevant facts and statistics. Service reductions should be made wisely and creatively avoiding harm and fear for any resident. Let's support and expect open, honest, evidenced based and fair communication.

* ELIZABETH A. GOSS 58 Berwick Street Contact: NONE PROVIDED NO REPLY RECEIVED	(16 of 21)
* GEOFFREY GEORGE LUBIEN 38 Unity Avenue Contact: NONE PROVIDED NO REPLY RECEIVED	(21 of 21)
	(Please turn page)

(14 of 21)

Vote for not more than Twelve

(19 of 21)

* STEPHEN RICHARD PINKERTON

139 Dalton Road

Contact: (617) 484-2732

FOR: Keeping our town and schools running with a PROP 2¹/₂ TAX OVERRIDE.

FOR: Creating options for responsible development of AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

FOR: Improving town parks and recreation facilities, preserving historic sites, and providing affordable housing with CPA FUNDING.

FOR: Adopting and enacting Belmont's HAZARD MITIGATION-MUNICIPAL VUL-NERABILITY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

* ALEXANDRA E. VAN GEEL

64 Livermore Road

Contact: alixvangeeltmm@gmail.com

After an unthinkable year, the need to support one another has never been clearer. This includes ensuring that our children, who have endured so much this school year, are fully supported in their return to school. An override is essential; our schools have achieved their status despite below-average per-pupil expenditures and must not be asked to cut more, particularly now. More generally, prudent governance requires a focus on long-term sustainability, including financial sustainability and also responsible stewardship of the town's infrastructure, human resources, and natural resources. We need to invest in our community responsibly.

* GLENN PATRICK WONG

70 Livermore Road

Contact: gwong@post.harvard.edu

Having 3 school-aged children myself -- and many friends in town at the same age and stage -- I am very supportive of our public schools and the opportunities families have for learning, enrichment, and recreation. Though we are a relatively small town, I also feel it is important for Belmont to adopt policies and projects that are responsible to the environment, promote inclusiveness, and supportive of our increasingly diverse society. Finally, I believe it is important to represent Precinct 7, where we often find it difficult to field candidates for Town Meeting.

MARY-ELLEN OBERHAUSER

2 Sargent Road

Contact: (617) 489-3893

I have lived in Precinct 7 for 50 years and have been a home owner for 47. My four daughters went through the Belmont school system. It is an honor for me to now give back as a Town Meeting Member. I am concerned about taxes that keep going up and up. What about the seniors who are on a fixed income? Our schools are high priority, but we must find a

(Please turn page)

(10 of 21)

(17 of 21)

(17 of 21)

balance between the schools and other crucial needs. Fiscal management requires fiscal responsibility. We cannot continue to allow spending to exceed our revenue.

WILLIAM TRABILCY 70 Marlboro Street Contact: (617) 484 1663

My vision for the Town, as custodian of citizens' interests: transparency and an active, considered, faithful advocacy on behalf of all residents. Unprecedented fiscal conditions require consideration of unprecedented solutions. Underlying considerations:

- "Bumper sticker wisdom" doesn't work
- The path of least resistance is often not the wisest path
- Margins of improvement are usually the most costly/least beneficial
- Facts matter, above all, toward forming solutions
- Looking "beyond the headline" is essential

Semi-retired professional in environment, health and safety engineering, risk, conformance, and compliance. Advisor/instructor for enterprise-level performance and development, and early STEM-based enrichment. Homeowner/landlord since 1994.

For One Year

Vote for not more than One

NO CANDIDATE PAPERS FILED — WRITE-IN ONLY

PRECINCT 8

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN MEETING MEMBER

For Three Years

Vote for not more than Twelve

* KATHLEEN M. BASKIN

73 Munroe Street Contact: baskin_kathy@yahoo.com

I support long-term maintenance of infrastructure, including public buildings, roadways, and energy systems. Belmont should continue long-range planning for capital expenditures, maximizing the use of creative funding alternatives such as lessons learned and new tools developed during the pandemic, outside grants, and public-private partnerships for funding. I also support a high-quality school system that provides a strong foundation for our children's futures and protects property values by keeping Belmont a desirable community.

* KEVIN P. BROSNAN 31 Tobey Road Contact: NONE PROVIDED NO REPLY RECEIVED

* LAURA S. CAPUTO

75 Oliver Road Contact: (617) 484-2498; lscaputo@gmail.com

We must pass the override. It's imperative that we stay on top of building maintenance to get the most out of our recent capital investments. It is always tempting to create short term budget relief by delaying these items, but we have seen how a backlog of deferred maintenance ends up more costly in the end. Likewise, we need to continue to hire teachers to keep up with our rise in enrollment, avoid overly large class sizes, and appropriately staff our new 7-12 school. I am committed to transparency and happy to discuss any of my votes past or future.

* ANTHONY A. FERRANTE

15 Westlund Road

Contact: aafbelmont@verizon.net

I am currently Vice Chair of the DPW-BPD Building Committee. With the help of a creative architect, we preserved the historic police station and added a modern addition at far lower cost than estimates and without requiring a debt exclusion. This was achieved through collaboration with all stakeholders including the BPD, DPW, Select Board, Town Administrator's office, Accounting, and Community Preservation Committee. We provided frequent updates to Town Meeting and to the public. This level of teamwork will be crucial to support future capital projects.

(Please turn page)

36

(17 of 21)

(20 of 21)

(18 of 21)

(20 of 21)

* DONALD H. MERCIER

96 Cross Street Contact: NONE PROVIDED

Help the elderly with their Real Estate Tax bill by putting the following information in all Water Bills 2-3 times a year. If you are 65 or older with annual income of \$61,400 or less, (adjusted annually not including assets), you may defer your Real Estate Taxes. Apply at the Assessor's Office. Interest rate should be no higher than 1% higher than the interest rate charged to the Town.

* PATRICK J. MURPHY, IV 130 Claflin Street

Contact: (617) 894-9550

Given all that is happening in our world right now, I feel as though it is imperative to get our kids back into school as a 1st priority and then begin to deal with capital projects. With the financial woes our Town, and other Towns, are facing it is now more important to try and find ways in which to get the proposed capital projects done without increasing our annual taxes. Fundraising and alternative ways to build may be the best manner to achieve these goals.

* DAVID T. NUSCHER

50 Winn Street

Contact: dave.nuscher@gmail.com

I served on the YES for Belmont steering committee, in 2018 to fund the outreach for the 7-12 school and again this year to fund outreach to support the override. I support education, sustainability, and responsible spending, and will continue to do so. If I am reelected, I would support thoughtful commercial development to enhance tax revenue. As we make progress toward that goal, given the structural deficit we confront, I support giving our educators the resources they need to fulfill their responsibility to educate and care for the social and emotional needs of all the children entrusted to them.

* LYNN PETERSON READ

62 Munroe Street

Contact: lpetersonread@gmail.com

As a current member of Town Meeting and the Warrant Committee, I study Belmont's financial options and decisions, to help communicate them to residents. Our Town officials have protected our finances during COVID, but now we must redouble our efforts to find efficiencies. I am voting Yes for Belmont because it is more efficient and humane to address unavoidable deficits now than it will be later. I know that with hard work we can remain a vibrant community for people of all income levels. Please vote for me so I can continue this work for our town.

(Please turn page)

(18 of 21)

(21 of 21)

(19 of 21)

(18 of 21)

* ELLEN J. SUGARMAN

119 Cross Street Contact: ejsugarman@yahoo.com

I look for creative ways to build community, be fiscally responsible, and move Belmont's capital projects forward. As a member of the Community Path Project Committee I help design the path and search for funding sources. I'm a member of the Belmont Library Foundation whose mission is private fundraising so, when the time is right, the town will be able to afford a new library. I worked on the 'yes' campaign for the new 7-12 school that allowed the town to accept a state grant toward construction costs. Re-elect me to Town Meeting and I will continue to work for you.

DAVID J. DEMARCO 36 Lodge Road Contact: d.demarco3@aol.com

Having grown up in the town of Belmont and residing for most of my life, attending the Belmont public schools and as well as my children, and as an employee of the town, I have a unique and vested interest in the town. My platform is broad based, open-minded and interested in seeing the town thrive.

SHARON L. DEMARCO 36 Lodge Road Contact: shademarco@yahoo.com

Being a resident of Belmont for most of my life and having attended the Belmont public schools, I have a vested interest in the town. This past year has been very challenging and I would like to represent the voice of my constituents regarding the Belmont schools, and the many projects that the town is facing.

MARK KAGAN 160 Claflin Street Contact: NONE PROVIDED NO REPLY RECEIVED

(Please turn page)

ALLISON V. LENK

145 Sherman Street Contact: cell: (617) 877-4792; home: (617) 484-6346

A third generation Belmontonian, I care deeply about our town, honoring its past through serving on the Belmont Historical Society board, while working with residents to address issues that impact us today: traffic concerns, balancing smart growth with preservation of open space and, presently most crucial, the steadily rising property taxes that threaten residents' ability to remain in the town we love. An exhaustive study revealed inequities in property tax allocation - I began co-hosting meetings with concerned citizens to bring this issue to the forefront; speaking at public meetings; writing to news sources; and posting to NextDoor Belmont.

Ballot Question 1:

Shall the Town of Belmont be allowed to assess an additional \$6,400,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of supplementing the capital budget and the town and school operating budgets for fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2021?

YES



WHAT YOUR VOTE WILL DO:	A YES VOTE WILL ensure Belmont can preserve crucial town services, support our students now when they need it more than ever, and avoid a more expensive override next year.	A NO VOTE will stop the town of Belmont from permanently increasing property taxes by \$6.4 million for next year and every year thereafter.
STATEMENT OF FISCAL CONSEQUENCES:	A YES VOTE is the responsible choice for addressing Belmont's structural deficit. A NO Vote will cost taxpayers more due to deferred maintenance and the need for a larger override next year.	A NO VOTE means your pro- perty taxes will not increase more than 2.5%. Your NO vote focuses Belmont on closing our deficit using available cash and exercising financial restraint.
CONTACT:	Nicole Dorn, Chair nicole@yesforbelmont.org (617) 515-6183 www.yesforbelmont.org	Marie V. Warner, Chair NoOverrideNow@gmail.com (617) 721-4853 www.NoOverrideNow.org

NOTE: The answers above and on the next page are written by the Yes For Belmont and the No Override Now campaigns. The League of Women Voters is not responsible for the content of their messages.

40

ARGUMENTS:

IN FAVOR: A Yes vote preserves Belmont's services, from plowing streets to keeping library hours and programs intact. It ensures a timely response by our first responders to all their calls, and lets us keep our parks and playgrounds clean.

A Yes vote addresses the surge in school enrollment over the past 13 years and supports our students as schools begin to reopen. A Yes vote preserves 21 school positions, helps reduce class sizes, and avoids substantial cuts to the budget for athletics, music, theater and more. Without this override, we risk prolonging the impact of the pandemic on our students.

Delaying the override will force Belmont to deplete its cash reserves and make significant cuts this summer — leading to a more expensive override next year to avoid even larger, more devastating cuts. Passing the override now puts Belmont on solid financial ground and is the fiscally responsible choice.

AGAINST: Belmont voters should vote "No" on Question 1 because this is the wrong time to raise taxes. Belmont residents are hurting from the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Higher taxes (\$1,230 per average home) will push families and seniors who are just getting by into financial turmoil. Higher taxes will force families to leave our schools; raise rents on homes and small businesses; and force seniors to choose between a reverse mortgage and selling the home where they raised a family. We don't have to raise taxes NOW — the town can close the entire budget deficit with our cash reserves, reduced spending, and from Belmont's share of the \$8.2 Billion coming to the state from the American Rescue Plan. No matter the outcome of the override. Belmont students will continue to succeed. We shouldn't create an unnecessary financial burden on vulnerable Belmont residents and already struggling local businesses.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS' OF BELMONT

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 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, 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



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. **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		🗆 New 🛛 Renewal		
2nd Name(s) (family)		Individual Membership	\$ 5	0
Address		Family (2 members)	\$7	5
Home phone		Family (3 members)	\$ 10	0
Cell/Work phone(s)		Student Membership	\$ FRE	E
Email		Contribution*	\$	
2nd Email (family)		Dues Assistance Fund*	\$	
		Total amount	\$	

This membership expires on June 30, 2022. In addition to accepting personal checks (payable to Belmont LWV) for your membership payment, you may also pay your membership dues and/or make a donation to the Belmont LWV via **PayPal.** Please go to **Belmont LWV.org** and click on **JOIN LWV**, then select **MEMBERSHIP FORM**.

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

Questions: Contact the Membership Co-Chairs: Pat Hawkins at: pathawk4@gmail.com or Jocelyn Hayes at: jchayes60@icloud.com

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR DUES PAYMENT OR SUBMIT VIA PayPal. Thank you for your support of the Belmont League of Women Voters P.O. Box 426, Belmont, MA 02478

PRECINCT MAP



For more information about Precincts, including Precinct Listing by Street Name and Polling Locations with maps, go to the Town Clerk's website:

http://www.belmont-ma.gov/town-clerk/pages/elections-information-for-residents-media http://www.belmont-ma.gov/sites/belmontma/files/file/file/precinctmap.pdf

POLLING PLACES

7AM to 8PM

Precinct 1	Belmont Public Library 336 Concord Avenue Assembly Room
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

Note: 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.

Submitting the **Application**



2021 Instructions for Absentee Ballot Application Belmont, Massachusetts Request for ballot to be mailed to the voter

Dear Belmont Voter.

Applications	More than 84.4% of Belmont's registered voters cast ballots in one or more of the 2020 elections. As the		
can be	impact of the COVID-19 pandemic broadened, a large number of Belmont voters requested and voted ballots		
mailed,	by mail. Since the pandemic continues to surge, we expect that many voters will want to vote by mail in 2021 also.		
emailed,	According to Massachusetts General Laws, all voter applications to receive a ballot by mail expire December		
faxed	31 st , so any voter who wants to receive a ballot by mail in 2021 needs to file a new application for 202		
or	There are only three reasons in Massachusetts that a voter may request and obtain an absentee ballot:		
hand-delivered.	absence from the community on Election Day; physical disability preventing the voter from going to the poling place; religious belief. Section 99 of 227 of the Acts of 2020 expanded the reasons that a voter may request and receive an absentee beliet to include <u>any person taking precautions relative to COVID-19</u> .		
Requester's	Any voter wishing to receive a ballot by mail must file that request in writing, containing the voter's signature. The application on the reverse is available for this purpose or a voter may just write a letter to request a ballot be mailed. The request should include contact information for the voter.		
signature			
must be	At this time, there is only one election scheduled in Belmont in 2021, the Annual Town Election to be held April 6, 2021 but there is always a possibility that another election could be called for a specific purpose.		
visible.	Ballots will be mailed by US Mail, as soon as they are available. The Post Office does not consider ballots to be forwardable mail so please be certain to include the mailing address where the voter will be.		
	Each voter should complete and sign a separate application – feel free to make copies or download additional copies from the Town Clerk's web page. For those residents who are not yet registered voters, an application to register to vote can also be found on the web page. The green links on the left of the page will direct you.		
Applications	www.bolmont-ma.gov/town-clerk/		
must be			
received by			
5pm on	Sincerely		
Wednesday,			
March 31 st .	Ellen O'Brien Cushman, Town Clerk Board of Registrars of Voters		

Send the completed application to:

Mail to: Town Clerk, Belmont, Town Hall, P.O. Box 56, Belmont, MA 02478; or

Scan or take of picture of the completed application and... Email to: voting@belmont-ma.gov; or

Fax the completed application to: 617-993-2601; or

Hand-deliver to mailbox in front of Town Hall, 455 Concord Avenue.

Please allow ample mailing time for this application and for the ballot. Ballots must be returned to the Town Clerk by the close of polls, 8pm, on Election Day, Tuesday, April 6th.

46



2021 Absentee Ballot Application for Belmont, Massachusetts Ballot to be mailed to the voter

This application is for use by registered voters of Belmont who will be unable to vote at the polls on Election Day due to:

- Absence from Belmont during normal polling hours; or
- Physical disability preventing you from going to the polling place; in 2021 this includes any person taking precautions relative to COVID-19; or
- Religious belief.

This application must be received by Noon on the day before the election. All absentee requests automatically expire December 31st.

Please print to complete the following:

1.	1. Last Name	_ First Name
2.	2. Date of Birth	
3.	 Legal Voting Residence/Address 	Belmont, MA 02478
4.	Election for which you want an absentee ballot	mailed to you:
	Local Election, April 6, 2021, and a	any other election called in 2021
5.	Please mail ballot to me at – specify one:	
	Belmont address listed above OR	
	This address	warate se inse ar se il ass
		······································
		FL
6.	6. Phone or email (Required)	for questions regarding this request

7. Signed ______ Date_____ (Under the penalty of perjury) Return form to Belmont Town Clerk, 455 Concord Avenue, Belmont, MA 02478. See www.belmont-ma.gov/town-clerk for more information or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 617-993-2603 or voting@belmont-ma.gov.

Town Clerk Time Stamp



Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Boston, MA Permit 59610

Voter Guide

including

Ballot Question

&

Absentee Ballot Application

for

Belmont Town Election

on

Tuesday, April 6, 2021