



TOWN OF BELMONT
455 CONCORD AVENUE
BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS 02478

MICHAEL J. WIDMER
TOWN MODERATOR

mike.j.widmer@gmail.com
617-489-1822

December 6, 2023

By Hand

Roy Epstein, Chair Belmont Select Board
455 Concord Ave
Belmont, MA 02478

Re: January 22, 2024 Special Town Meeting — Request to Hold Fully Remote Meeting

Dear Mr. Epstein and Members of the Select Board:

I am requesting, in my capacity as Town Moderator, that the Select Board call for the January 22, 2024 Special Town Meeting to be held through fully remote participation in which only remote participation is authorized, as defined in Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023.

I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Widmer
Town Moderator

Cc: Patrice Garvin, Town Administrator
Ellen Cushman, Town Clerk
George Hall, Town Counsel

Index of Warrant Articles

Article #

- 1 REPORTS

- 2 TRANSITION FROM ELECTED TO APPOINTED BOARD OF ASSESSORS



**TOWN OF BELMONT
WARRANT FOR 2024 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2024
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Middlesex, ss.

To any of the Constables of the Town of Belmont in said County:

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are required to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Belmont, qualified as the law requires to vote in elections and Town Affairs, to convene on **January 22, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** by means of the audio/video conferencing platform described more particularly below, and to notify and warn the Town Meeting Members to convene by said method and act at said time on the Articles set forth on pages 2 through 4 of this Warrant.

The Town Meeting shall be held remotely by the means requested by the Moderator, as follows:

Interested members of the public may see and hear the proceedings by tuning in to the Belmont Media Center's live broadcast of the proceedings on Belmont cable television (Comcast channel 8, Verizon channel 28) or by live-streaming at www.belmontmedia.org.

Town Meeting Members will attend and vote by logging into a web page portal operated by the Town's electronic voting vendor with unique credentials that will be issued to each Town Meeting Member before the meeting.

Town Meeting Members and other participants approved by the Moderator who wish to address the meeting will participate in the meeting through the "Zoom" videoconferencing service. Login credentials will be provided to all Town Meeting Members. Registered voters who wish to address the meeting as approved by the Moderator may contact the Town Clerk's office for login credentials, 617-993-2603.

For more information, see the December 11, 2023 Moderator's letter to the Select Board appended to this Warrant as Appendix A.

ARTICLE 1

REPORTS

To hear the report of the Select Board and other Town Officers, any Committee heretofore appointed and to act thereon.

This article allows the Select Board and other Town officers, boards and committees to report orally to Town Meeting on appropriate matters not otherwise appearing on the Warrant. This article stays "on the table" throughout Town Meeting to allow Town officials and committees to report at the call of the Moderator.

Majority vote required for passage.

Submitted by the Select Board

ARTICLE 2 TRANSITION FROM ELECTED TO APPOINTED BOARD OF ASSESSORS

To see if the Town will (1) vote to convert the Town's elected Board of Assessors from an elected position to an appointed position pursuant to M.G.L. c. 41 sec. 1B; and (2), request and authorize the Select Board, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 41 sec. 1B, to place the following question on the 2023 Annual Town Election Ballot: "Shall the Town vote to have its elected Board of Assessors become an appointed Board of Assessors of the Town? Yes _____ No _____"; or in any way act thereon.

Massachusetts General Law, chapter 41, section 1B, provides a process to convert elected local positions to appointed (hired) positions. This petition will take the first step in that process, to ask Town Meeting to approve the transition, and authorizes the second step, for a townwide vote in the next annual town election.

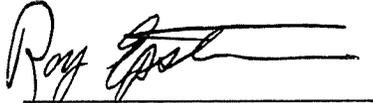
Submitted by the Select Board

Majority vote required for passage.

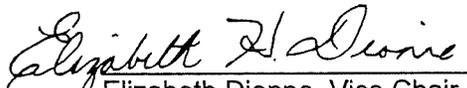


Given under our hands this 18th day of **December, 2023**.

BELMONT SELECT BOARD



Roy Epstein, Chair



Elizabeth Dionne, Vice Chair



Mark Paolillo, Member

A True Copy, Attest

Town Clerk of Belmont, MA



MOTIONS
2024 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
January 22, 2024
Draft as of January 10, 2024
(Subject to Change)

PRELIMINARY MOTION

ORDER OF THE ARTICLES

MOVED: That the Town Meeting hear the motions in the following order: 1, 2

(Majority vote.)

ARTICLE 1

REPORTS

MOVED: That the reports of Town officers be accepted

(Majority Vote)

ARTICLE 2 TRANSITION FROM ELECTED TO APPOINTED BOARD OF ASSESSORS

MOVED: That the Board of Assessors be converted from an elected to an appointed board, subject to the approval by the voters of a question to be placed on the 2024 Annual Town Election Ballot as follows:

"Shall the Town vote to have its elected Board of Assessors become an appointed Board of Assessors of the Town? Yes _____ No_____".

(Majority Vote)

Reporting: The Select Board will report on this Article.