

TOWN CLERK NOTES – JANUARY 2017 – BELMONT, MA

**Thinking of Running for Elected Office in Belmont?
Now Is the Time to Act**

Deadline for submitting nomination papers is 5pm - **Tuesday, February 14, 2017**

Have you ever considered running for elected office in Belmont?

Town-wide Offices

There are many Town-wide elected offices that will appear on the Annual Town Election ballot. If you're interested or want to share your skills in this way, now is the time to step forward. Here is the list of Town-wide offices up for nomination, in the order they will appear on the ballot April 4, 2017:

Moderator	elect one person for one year
Board of Selectmen	elect one member for three years
Treasurer	elect one person for three years
Board of Assessors	elect one member for three years
Board of Cemetery Commissioners	elect one member for three years
Board of Health	elect one member for three years
Trustees of the Public Library	elect two members for three years
	And elect one member for one year
Members of the School Committee	elect two members for three years

Representative Town Meeting – Representatives from Each of the Eight Voting Precincts

In addition to the Town-wide offices, twelve Representative Town Meeting Members are elected for three-year terms from each of our eight voting precincts. This year, there are also some partial term openings for Town Meeting, vacancies created by Members unable to complete their elected term:

- Precinct 1 : elect twelve members for three years
- Precinct 2 : elect twelve members for three years
- Precinct 3 : elect twelve members for three years AND one member for one year
- Precinct 4 : elect twelve members for three years
- Precinct 5 : elect twelve members for three years
- Precinct 6 : elect twelve members for three years
- Precinct 7 : elect twelve members for three years AND one member for one year
- Precinct 8 : elect twelve members for three years AND one member for one year

Incumbent Town Meeting Members who want to run for re-election in 2017 have already notified the Town Clerk. To learn how many members will seek re-election in your precinct, check the Town Clerk's web pages. Annual Town Meeting takes place in the spring, and typically lasts for a total of six evenings, (customarily Monday and Wednesday). Annual Town Meeting is routinely divided into two segments: non-financial articles begin May 1st ; the financial articles will begin June 5th . Town Meeting makes all of the decisions about the Town's budgets and local General and Zoning laws. Belmont's government is a Representative Town Meeting, which means that only Town Meeting Members can vote at Town Meeting, unlike the Open Town Meeting form of government. That's why it's very important that all the Town Meeting seats are filled to have full representation for each Belmont neighborhood.

Getting Your Name on the Ballot

Running for election is simple. Stop by the Town Clerk's office to pick up nomination papers; have your neighbors and friends who are registered voters sign your papers and submit the signed forms to the Town Clerk by the deadline, February 14, 2017 at 5 pm.

To be nominated for Town-wide office: signatures of at least 50 registered voters of the Town are required on the nomination papers. The Town Clerk must certify these signatures so we always suggest obtaining about 20% more just to be safe.

To be nominated for Town Meeting: signatures of at least 25 registered voters of your precinct are required on the nomination papers. The Town Clerk must certify these signatures so we always suggest obtaining about 20% more just to be safe. Some current Town Meeting Members will be seeking re-election but all twelve seats are available in each precinct.

Find Out More

The Town Clerk's web pages are full of information to help make a decision to seek office at belmont-ma.gov | Select **Town Clerk**, then select **Campaigning: Running for Elected Office in Belmont** or **Town Meeting Member Information**

Feel free to call us at **617-993-2600**, or email at townclerk@belmont-ma.gov

Watch a Town Meeting or a meeting of many of the elected boards, commissions and committees on [Belmont Media Center](#), attend any of the public meetings or view meeting agendas and minutes on the Town website, belmont-ma.gov

Remember the deadline for submitting nomination papers, 5 pm on Tuesday, February 14, 2017