

**Belmont School Committee Work Session Minutes**  
**School Committee Finance Subcommittee**  
**November 12, 2019**  
**Conference Room of the School Administration Building**

**SC Members Present:** Ms. Susan Burgess-Cox, Chair  
Ms. Andrea Prestwich, Secretary (until 9:15 AM)  
Ms. Catherine Bowen  
Ms. Amy Checkoway  
Mr. Michael Crowley  
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance  
Mr. John Phelan, School Superintendent

**WC Members:** Mr. Jack Weis, Mr. Geoffrey Lubien

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 AM.

**2. FY21 Budget Discussion**

The group had a discussion on the potential for the Belmont Public Schools to utilize funds from the circuit breaker account balance to decrease the request for town funding for FY21. The School Committee and administration agreed that the district's utilizing approximately \$1.7 million dollars in available funds for upcoming special education costs will help offset a projected town deficit of \$5 million for FY21.

While it is in the best interest of the town to keep a balance in the circuit breaker account of the prior year reimbursement to have funds available for unexpected costs, the amount available at this time is relatively high and it makes sense to draw down from this account to help accommodate upcoming budgetary constraints facing the town in FY21. Mr. DiCologero presented a detailed spreadsheet with a variety of scenarios for drawing down from this account and the group discussed \$1.7 million as an amount that will help allow the town to move forward in FY21 although it will be important to put funds back into the circuit breaker account as soon as possible.

**3. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted by



Susan Burgess-Cox