



Belmont Citizen Herald Question:

David Kale's last day is March 3. What do you think the selectmen should do during this critical time to ensure the important duties still get done for budget season and beyond during the search process and transition period and how do you think your experience could help?

Adam's Response:

Losing our Town Administrator in the midst of the budget process will certainly create challenges. As Vice Chair of the Warrant Committee, I am already immersed in the budget process, as I have been for the past eight years. This would allow me to seamlessly transition to the Board of Selectmen and not have to be as reliant on the Town Administrator.

For this budget process in particular, the Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee must work closely to ensure that the right questions are asked. While the outgoing Town Administrator has done a good job of leaving the budget as complete as he can, unforeseen events and budget changes always happen.

Our Board of Selectmen provide the leadership and, ultimately, the decision-making authority to prepare a complete budget for Town Meeting in June. I have served on the Warrant Committee for eight years, where I analyzed the budget and wrote chapters of the Warrant Committee's 70-page report for Town Meeting. I am well-equipped to help shepherd this year's budget process as a Selectman.

For the future, hiring a new Town Administrator will be one the most important responsibilities of the Board of Selectmen. It is crucial to find a person with the right fit and priorities who can build a close relationship with the School Superintendent and Town committees. Strong leadership on the Board and from the staff will allow us build the mutual trust we need to seize opportunities and tackle our challenges.