

A MESSAGE FROM THE PELHAM BOARD OF HEALTH FOR A SAFER TOWN MEETING

1. Please bring and wear your masks or other types of face coverings as they are required.
2. Please also bring water or another beverage with you. And if you have your own bottle of sanitizer, bring that as well.
3. Anyone with a medical reason not to wear a mask will be seated in a separate area.
4. Seating will be set up so social distancing will be adhered to.
5. People should maintain a distance of 6 feet from others. (Couples and families who have practiced safer at home together do not have to social distance from each other, but need to maintain 6 feet from other participants.)
6. If you are sick, have a fever, in quarantine or recently exposed to an COVID-19-positive person should not attend the Town Meeting.

Finance Committee Report to the Town June 2020

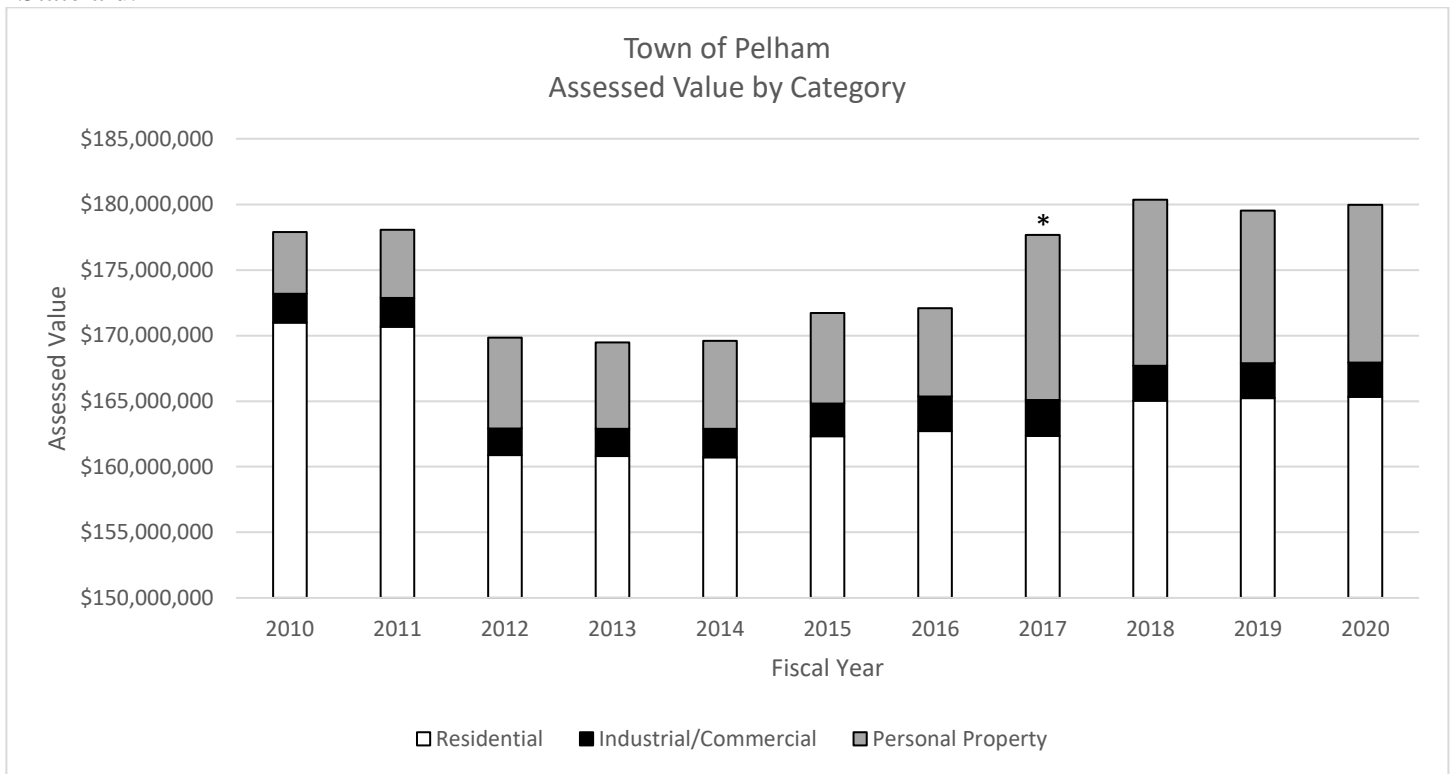
Pelham's financial picture remains steady and good. That was what I wrote back in early March as I prepared the report for a May town meeting. Now in early June I have a very different perspective and would view the picture as cautionary. The closing of the schools, colleges, universities, restaurants, retail, etc. has thrown many cities and towns, along with the State, into a financial abyss where the bottom has yet to be determined. It could be a full year before we fully understand what the new normal will be. Because Pelham's tax revenue is largely dependent on personal and residential property taxes, we are not concerned with the loss of meals and hotel taxes, parking meter revenue, and commercial property taxes as are other municipalities. The big unknown for Pelham is what will happen to our State aid. On a recent webinar sponsored by the Massachusetts Municipal Association, towns were advised to look at what they experienced during the recession beginning in 2007. At that time Pelham saw its unrestricted State aid drop from \$198,000 in 2007 down to \$124,000 by 2012. We have only recovered to \$169,000 in 2020. The Finance Committee, in an effort to be cautionary and expecting to see another drop in aid, decided to reduce the requested budget by approximately \$75,000, which would be a good safeguard in protecting the Pelham taxpayer. Subsequent to that decision, the Town of Amherst appealed to the Regional School District for relief in their share of the Region's cost due to their expected drop both in local and State revenue. The new Regional School budget reduced Pelham's share by \$24,000 compared to the previous budget.

In anticipation of this reduction in State aid, the Finance Committee made reductions to the budget in contributions to OPEB, the Reserve fund, insurance costs, and recycling expenses among others, in addition to the \$24,000 reduction in Pelham's Regional School assessment. The total reduction was just over \$74,000. If the State reductions are not as severe as the Finance Committee has planned, we can bring additional adjustments to the Fall Town Meeting. The Finance Committee also reduced some of the expenses from Free Cash to create a reasonable buffer if the Town experiences late or delayed tax payment from Pelham residents. This will allow the town to function without concern for cash flow or the need for short term borrowing if a significant number of tax payments are delayed.

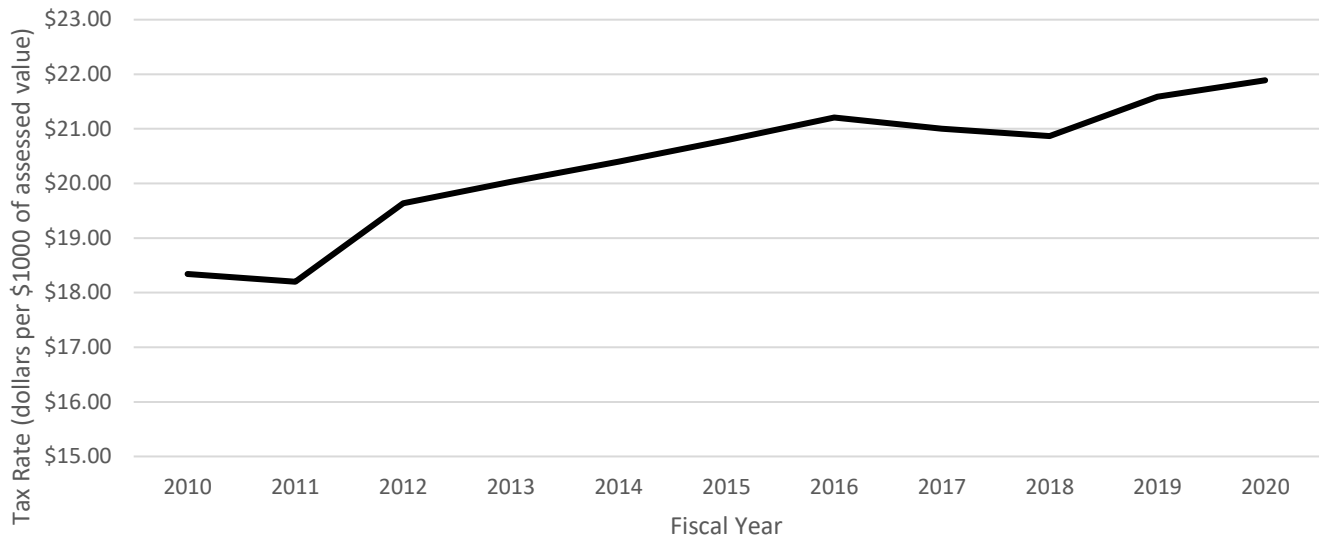
It is important that all the Pelham taxpayers understand how valuable new growth is to the Town and its future survival. Our property taxes are calculated based on the total assessed values of the Town. Briefly this means that the assessors, through approved methods, have figured out the value of every square foot

of land and buildings in the Town. There are three types of values in Pelham: residential, industrial/commercial, and personal property. When Proposition 2 ½ was passed in 1980, it was assumed that a Town’s value would increase at 2.5 percent or greater each year through new buildings, increased demand for existing locations, etc. For the first decade or longer, this was true, but for the last ten years there has been little new growth in Pelham. In 2010 the total assessment of all three categories was \$177,888,700. In 2020 that number was \$179,967,100 an increase of \$2,076,400 or 1.3% over the ten-year span. That increase is a far cry from 2.5% every year. Meanwhile the amount raised to run the Town was \$3,527,634 in 2010 and \$4,632,302 in 2020, an increase of 31%. You can clearly see why the tax rate keeps going up to cover the added costs of maintaining the Town and meeting the educational needs of the residents.

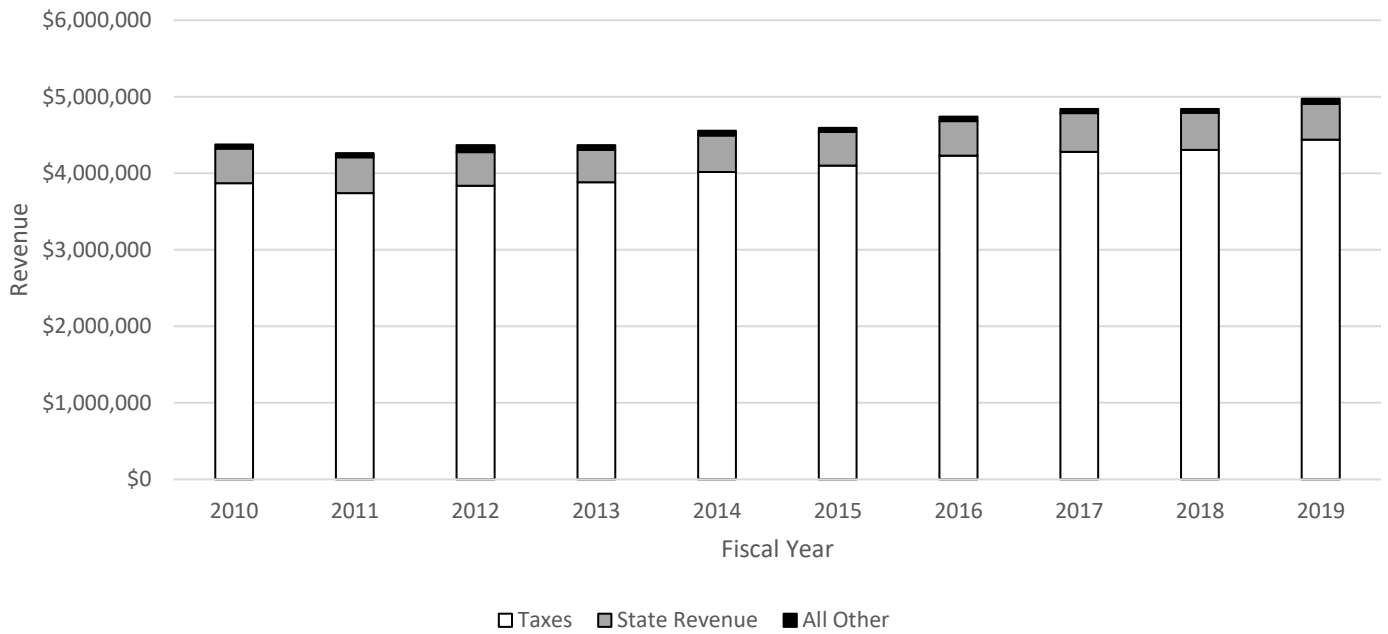
Without a change to its current trajectory—through new growth, increases in State aid, reductions in the operating budget, or a combination of the above—Pelham runs the risk of reaching its property tax limit within the next decade. Increasing commercial development may have the greatest potential to increase Pelham’s long-term financial sustainability as it would likely have lower associated costs to the Town compared to new housing and it maybe more achievable than decreasing Town spending or increasing State aid.



Town of Pelham
Tax Rate



Town of Pelham
Revenue



**WARRANT ARTICLES
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

June 27, 2020

Hampshire, ss.

To one of the Constables of the Town of Pelham, in said County.

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Pelham, Massachusetts, qualified to vote in the Town affairs to meet in the Pelham Elementary School, at 45 Amherst Road, in said Pelham on Saturday the twenty seventh day of June, in the year A.D. 2020 at 9:00 a.m. for the reading of the Town Warrant and to proceed with the meeting.

Local elections will be held on June 30, 2020 in the Ramsdell Room at the Library, 2 South Valley Road. Polls will open at 11:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.

Article 1.

To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Town Officers and Committees, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 2.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the FY2021 beginning July 1, 2020, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 3.

To see if the Town will name the salaries and wages for all elected officers for the ensuing year, which payments shall not be made in advance of performance, and to determine when and how they shall be paid, or take any other action relative thereto.

	FY2019 Appropriated	FY2020 appropriated	FY2021 recommended
Assessors (Chair)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Assessors (others)	\$500	\$500	\$500
Auditor	\$0	\$0	\$0
Board of Health (Chair)	\$200	\$200	\$200
Board of Health (others)	\$150	\$150	\$150
Cemetery Commissioner (each 3) \$9.00hr	\$0	\$0	\$0
Library Trustees	\$0	\$0	\$0
Moderator	\$0	\$0	\$0
Planning Board	\$0	\$0	\$0
School Committee	\$0	\$0	\$0
Selectmen (each 3)	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200
Town Clerk	\$18,635	\$18,914	\$19,293
Tree Warden	\$400	\$1,500	\$1,500

Recommended by the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen.

Article 4.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the ensuing fiscal year, or take any other action relative thereto.

WARRANT LINES	FY2021	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2021
Article 4		Approp.	Approp.	Requested	Recom.
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
2	Selectperson Salary	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600
	Expenses	NA	NA	\$0	
3	Town Clerk Salary	\$18,635	\$18,914	\$19,292	\$19,292
	Expenses	\$6,750	\$6,850	\$8,000	\$8,000
	Records/Information Clerk	\$12,480	\$12,667	\$12,920	\$12,920
18	Archivist	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$0
4	Finance Committee Expenses	\$990	\$990	\$990	\$990
5	Assessor's Salary	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
	Assistant Assessors Salary	\$0	\$0	\$12,300	\$12,300
	Contract Service	\$26,100	\$26,100	\$9,900	\$9,900
	Expenses	\$4,250	\$4,250	\$5,750	\$5,750
6	Collector Salary	\$15,425	\$16,550	\$17,212	\$17,212
	Expenses	\$9,702	\$9,702	\$9,775	\$9,775
7	Treasurer Salary	\$24,666	\$25,950	\$27,988	\$27,988
	Expenses	\$7,082	\$8,500	\$8,670	\$8,670
	Clerical/Consulting	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$6,050	\$6,050
8	Town Legal Services	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
9	Town Meetings, Elections etc.	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
10	Town Reports	\$875	\$875	\$875	\$875
11	Town Office Wages	\$23,612	\$27,699	\$28,253	\$28,253
	Select Board/Town Office Expenses	\$19,670	\$19,670	\$21,500	\$21,500
12	Buildings and Grounds				
	Salaries	\$15,621	\$16,531	\$16,862	\$16,862
	Expenses	\$62,720	\$62,720	\$62,720	\$62,720
	Maintenance	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000
13	Blanket Insurance	\$40,000	\$43,000	\$46,000	\$46,000
14	Town Accountant	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
15	Reserve Fund	\$87,000	\$87,000	\$87,000	\$70,000
16	Surety Bonds	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
17	Emergency Management	\$6,500	\$6,545	\$7,000	\$7,000
19	Hampshire County COG	\$662	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT		\$451,640	\$464,413	\$473,957	\$455,657
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS					
20	Board of Appeals	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
21	Conservation Commission	\$850	\$850	\$850	\$850
	Conservation Part Time Agent	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

22	Council on Aging	\$2,470	\$2,470	\$5,000	\$5,000
23	Historical Commission	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
24	Library Trustees				
	Director Salary	\$25,211	\$26,709	\$27,770	\$27,770
	Staff Salaries	\$15,199	\$15,427	\$16,132	\$16,132
	Expenses	\$11,614	\$11,214	\$10,814	\$10,814
25	Planning Board	\$500	\$500	\$1,500	\$1,500
26	Recreation Commission	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
28	Cemetery Commission	\$6,500	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
	Energy Committee	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$500
TOTAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS		\$67,744	\$69,570	\$74,966	\$74,966

SCHOOLS

30	Pelham Elementary	\$1,763,380	\$1,785,208	\$1,826,299	\$1,826,299
31	Amherst Pelham Regional	\$947,186	\$911,947	\$913,077	\$891,934
TOTAL SCHOOLS		\$2,710,566	\$2,697,155	\$2,739,376	\$2,718,233

		FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2021
		Approp.	Approp.	Request	Recom.
PUBLIC WORKS					
40	Highway Fund				
	Superintendent Salary	\$62,182	\$65,195	\$66,499	\$66,499
	Staff Salaries	\$118,446	\$124,383	\$127,871	\$127,871
	Expenses	\$121,362	\$121,362	\$121,362	\$121,362
41	School Signal Lights	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900
42	Snow Removal				
	Salaries	\$13,451	\$14,198	\$14,582	\$14,582
	Materials	\$68,432	\$68,432	\$68,432	\$68,432
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS		\$384,773	\$394,470	\$399,646	\$399,646

PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY

50	Police Department				
	Chief Salary	\$62,401	\$65,417	\$66,725	\$66,725
	Full Time Officer Salary	\$32,032	\$40,000	\$41,605	\$41,605
	Part Time Officer's Salaries	\$40,146	\$42,828	\$43,684	\$43,684
	Training and Education	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
	Expenses	\$25,701	\$25,701	\$25,701	\$25,701
	Expenses Fuel	\$12,475	\$10,475	\$10,475	\$10,475
	Reserve Officers	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Regional Lockup	\$1,255	\$1,255	\$1,255	\$1,255
50A	Town Road Detail	\$3,729	\$3,729	\$3,729	\$3,729
50C	Constable: Elections	\$2,275	\$2,275	\$2,275	\$2,275
51	Fire Department				
	Chief Salary	\$25,901	\$27,329	\$27,875	\$27,875

	Firefighter's Salaries	\$41,431	\$42,352	\$46,259	\$46,259
	Expenses	\$23,980	\$23,980	\$23,980	\$23,980
53	Fire Hydrants	\$280	\$280	\$280	\$280
54	Tree Warden Salary	\$400	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
	Expenses	\$11,500	\$11,500	\$11,500	\$11,500
57	Ambulance	\$30,750	\$31,750	\$32,500	\$32,500
58	Animal Control	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY		\$326,256	\$345,371	\$351,843	\$351,843

HEALTH AND SANITATION

60	Board of Health Salaries	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
	Expenses	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
61	Solid Waste				
	Hazardous Household Waste	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,200
	Recycling	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$7,000	\$0
63	Inspector of Animals	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75
65	Quabbin Health District	\$16,861	\$17,361	\$17,861	\$17,861
TOTAL HEALTH AND SANITATION		\$27,336	\$27,836	\$27,036	\$20,036

BENEFITS AND INSURANCE

70	County Retirement	\$189,000	\$206,000	\$226,318	\$226,318
71	Veteran's Agent Salary	\$5,751	\$5,973	\$6,369	\$6,369
	Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Benefits	\$49,248	\$49,248	\$49,248	\$49,248
72	Workers' Compensation	\$16,444	\$17,266	\$24,000	\$24,000
73	Unemployment Insurance	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
74	Group Health /Medicare	\$220,000	\$220,000	\$190,000	\$175,000
	Health Insurance Opt Out			\$12,000	\$9,000
75	OPEB Deposit	\$100,000	\$120,000	\$140,000	\$130,000
TOTAL BENEFITS AND INSURANCE		\$586,443	\$624,487	\$653,935	\$625,935

GRAND TOTAL		\$4,554,758	\$4,623,302	\$4,720,7 59	\$4,646,316
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Recommended by the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen.

Article 5.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$141,559 for expenditure as follows:

- A. \$2,000 to defray the cost of clerical and technical help and consultants to the Planning Board
- B. \$10,000 for road maintenance
- C. \$10,000 to repair and or replace the heating system at the Community Building
- D. \$8,339 to the School Department for FY2020, this money representing an amount equal to that received by the Town as Medicaid reimbursements for services provided by the School Department
- E. \$25,000 for reimbursement of unanticipated special education charges, which reimbursement would require the approval of the School Committee, Finance Committee, and Board of Selectmen
- F. \$20,000 toward the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District Capital needs
- G. \$10,000 to be used to correct ADA issues at the Elementary School

- H. \$10,000 to fix the oil supply to the elementary school boiler
- I. \$2,200 to install a hood vent over the welding area in the Town garage
- J. \$5,200 to install garage door openers in the Town garages
- K. \$1,120 to cover the cost of an expired Police Department Safety Grant
- L. \$3,200 to acquire a fixed solar-powered speed sign for Amherst Road
- M. \$6,000 to replace the server at the Pelham Elementary School
- N. \$5,000 for a computer server and handheld GPS to locate boundaries
- O. \$10,000 to be deposited in the Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund
- P. \$1,000 for maintenance of the Historic Complex
- Q. \$2,500 to defray the Zoning Board of Appeals cost of consultants including legal and stenographic services
- R. \$1,000 to be used by the Cemetery Commission in making repairs to some of the Pelham cemeteries
- S. \$500 for preservation of Town Clerk Records
- T. \$3,500 to cover two months of recycling costs

or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Article 6.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into contracts with the Massachusetts Highway Department for construction and/or maintenance of public highways for the Fiscal Year 2021, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town to accept and expend any money from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for highway construction and/or maintenance, provided that no funds shall be expended to widen, or enter into a contract to widen, any Town road unless the Board of Selectmen has held a public hearing advertised at least fourteen (14) days in advance, with any proposed contract and/or plans for such road improvements being posted for public viewing prior to the public hearing, and further provided that such policy is consistent with State requirements, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 7.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and/or apply for any State or Federal funds or grants that may become available during the Fiscal Year 2021 and to expend such funds in accordance with the terms and conditions thereof, provided that no funds shall be expended to widen, or to enter into a contract to widen, any Town road unless the Board of Selectmen has held a public hearing advertised at least fourteen (14) days in advance, with any proposed contract and/or plans for such road improvements being posted for public viewing prior to the public hearing, and further provided that such policy is consistent with State requirements, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 8.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$41,300 from the Capital Stabilization account to purchase and install seven new replacement windows for, and to wash, repair, scrape, caulk, and paint the exterior of the Highway Garage, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Article 9.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$5,600 from the Capital Stabilization account to wash, repair, scrape, caulk, and paint the exterior of the Community Hall, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Article 10.

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section VI of the Amherst Pelham Regional School District Agreement by adding subsection (j) as follows: For Fiscal Year 2021 only, the alternative operating budget assessment shall be

calculated as 45% of a five-year average of minimum contributions with the remainder of the assessment allocated to the member towns in accordance with the per-pupil method found in Section VI (e) of the Amherst Pelham Regional School District Agreement. The five-year average of minimum contributions will include the five most recent years, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Article 11.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$62,229.72 and transfer \$12,657.78 from Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Funds for the payment of the Town's (General Fund) indebtedness, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Article 12.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$27,540 from the Regional School Capital account to pay Pelham's share of the Regional School Capital debt, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Article 13.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,771.68 from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund (established by vote of the Fall 2015 Town Meeting) to be used by the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of Technology services and purchases for the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Article 14.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Library Trustees to expend such monies as they may receive from the sale of discarded books, gifts, and bequests, and from the State and Federal Governments, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 15.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Pelham Cultural Council to expend such monies as it may receive from the State and Federal Governments, and from gifts and bequests, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 16.

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c. -59, §5C1/2, inserted by Section 14 of Chapter 62 of the Acts of 2014, for the purpose of increasing the real estate tax exemptions up to 100 percent for taxpayers qualifying for exemptions under Clauses 17C, 22, 37 or 41C of G.L. c. 59, §5, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 17.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws of the Town to rename the Board of Selectmen as the Select Board, by striking out, in every instance in which they appear, the words "Board of Selectmen" and inserting in place thereof the words "Select Board"; and by striking out, in every instance in which they appear, the word "Selectman" and "Selectmen" and inserting in place thereof the words "Select Board Member" or "Select Board Members"; and further to authorize the Town Clerk to prepare and publish a version of the General Bylaws which conforms to such change in title; and, further, to amend Chapter 1 of the General Bylaws by inserting the following new Article therein, with the remaining sections to be renumbered accordingly, or take any action other relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

CHAPTER 1. General Provisions

Article I: Adoption of Code

Article II: Select Board

For the purposes of these Bylaws and otherwise, the Board of Selectmen shall be referred to as the Select Board and members of the Board shall be referred to as “Select Board Members.” The Select Board shall have all the powers and duties of a board of selectmen under the General Laws and any special laws applicable to the Town of Pelham, as well as such other powers and duties as are provided in the Town’s Bylaws.

Article 18.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaws of the Town to rename the Board of Selectmen as the Select Board, by striking out, in every instance in which they appear, the words “Board of Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the words “Select Board”; and by striking out, in every instance in which they appear, the word “Selectman” and “Selectmen” and inserting in place thereof the words “Select Board Member” or “Select Board Members”; and further to authorize the Town Clerk to prepare and publish a version of the Zoning Bylaw which conforms to such change in title; or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 19.

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.44, Section 53E1/2, to establish a new revolving fund to authorize the Planning Board to use application and consultation fees collected for administrative, consulting and other costs in order to carry out its application review responsibilities, and further to amend the Pelham General Bylaws, Chapter Revolving Funds by inserting a new row in the Table of authorized revolving funds as follows, and to set the FY 2021 spending limit at \$15,000, or take any other action relative thereto:

Revolving Fund	Authorization to Spend	Revenue Source	Use of Fund
Planning Board	Planning Board	Application and consultation fees	Application review responsibilities

Recommended by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Article 20.

To see if the Town will vote to approve annual spending limits for FY 2021 for revolving funds established in the Town Bylaws, in accordance with G.L c.44, Section 53E1/2, with such expenditure limits to be applicable for each fiscal year until such time as Town meeting votes, prior to July 1 in any year, to increase the same for the ensuing fiscal year; provided, however, that at the request of the entity authorized to expend such funds, the Board of Selectmen, with the approval of the Finance Committee, may increase such limit, for that fiscal year only, all as set forth below, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Revolving fund	FY spending limit
Archivist	\$2,500
Building Inspector	\$18,227
Community Garden Committee	\$5,000
Community Hall	\$7,000
Fire Department	\$7,500
Gas Inspector	\$1,500
Department of Public Works	\$7,500
Planning Board	\$15,000
Plumbing Inspector	\$1,500
Police Department	\$7,500
Wiring Inspector	\$3,000
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$55,000

Recommended by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Article 21.

To see if the Town will vote to accept, for hearings held by the Zoning Board of Appeals, Section 23D of Chapter 39 of the General Laws, which allows a member of a municipal board holding adjudicatory hearings who has missed no more than one session of the hearing to vote on the matter provided that, before the vote, they have certified in writing that they have examined all evidence received at the missed session (which shall include an audio or video recording or a transcript of the missed session), or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 22.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Community Choice Energy resolution adopted at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting, which is set forth below, to authorize the Board of Selectmen, rather than Town Meeting, to approve the plan developed by the inter-municipal task force for an inter-municipal Community Choice Energy organization, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

2018 Resolution Passed

Resolution to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Using Municipal Electric Aggregation, also known as Community Choice Energy, to Improve Energy Efficiency and Develop Local Renewable Energy Generation

Whereas the Fall 1998 Pelham Town Meeting, pursuant to MGL Chapter 164 Section 134, voted to grant the Board of Selectmen the authority to develop and participate in a contract, or contracts, for power supply and other related services, independently, or in joint action with other towns, and;

Whereas the town of Pelham has been invited by the City of Northampton to explore forming a joint Community Choice Energy organization initially comprising Northampton, Amherst, and Pelham, and;

Whereas residents of the Town of Pelham have a substantial environmental and social interest in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the generation of electricity, and;

Whereas residential electricity customers in the Town of Pelham are interested in the possibility of reducing and stabilizing electric bills and in expanding energy services;

Be it therefore resolved, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 134, that the Town Meeting of Pelham authorizes the Board of Selectmen to act in partnership with other municipalities to form an inter-municipal task force to develop a plan to be approved by Town Meeting for an inter-municipal Community Choice Energy organization that will:

- Contract for and develop electric supply and other related services for Pelham electricity consumers. Individual consumers would retain the option not to participate and to choose an alternate service.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive energy plan to:
 - Provide energy efficiency services
 - Develop local renewable and other distributed energy resources
 - Deliver other energy services
 - Reduce or stabilize customer electric bills

Be it further resolved that a primary Community Choice Energy organization objective will be to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the purchase of electricity from green renewable sources, provision of energy efficiency services and the development of local renewable distributed energy resources.

Article 23.

To see if the Town will vote to accept the recommendations of the Historic Commission and the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate from the Community Preservation Historic Fund the sum of \$70,000 for the exterior repainting of the old Town Hall, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Article 24.

To see if the Town will vote to accept the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee and the School Committee to appropriate from the Community Preservation Open Space and Recreation Fund the sum of \$11,500 for the design of a new track and field complex at the Amherst/Pelham Regional High School, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Article 25.

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate and transfer the following sums of money from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues for Community Preservation Committee administrative expenses in FY2021 in the amount of \$3,500 or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 26.

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate and transfer the following sums of money from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues, and to reserve for later appropriation; \$14,500 for Open Space; \$14,500 for Community Housing; and \$14,500 for Historic Resources; and to reserve for later appropriation \$40,200 to the FY2021 Community Preservation Fund Budgeted Reserve, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 27.

To see if the Town will vote to accept G.L. c. 53, §9A, Nomination Papers, which provides as follows:

The final date for obtaining blank nomination papers for nomination to city or town office shall be forty-eight week day hours prior to the hour on which nomination papers are required to be submitted to the registrars of voters for certification.

Each candidate shall file with the city or town clerk, prior to obtaining blank nomination papers, a statement containing his name and address, and the city or town office for which he intends to be a candidate.

No candidate for city or town office shall receive more blank nomination papers than will contain the number of signatures required to place his name in nomination, multiplied by five, or take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 28.

Town of Pelham Pollinator Protection Resolution

A non-binding resolution endorsing the protection of pollinators and enhancement of pollinator habitat

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators are a crucial component of a healthy ecosystem and a vital link in our food system, providing the pollination responsible for over three quarters of the world's plant species, and for one out of every three bites of food that we eat; and

WHEREAS, pollinator populations are in sharp decline due to human land use practices that are causing ongoing habitat loss and fragmentation, the expansion of pesticide use by consumers and professionals, the spread of pathogens and parasites, and global climate change; and

WHEREAS, extensive research has documented that neonicotinoids and other systemic pesticides have been shown to cause illness and death to honey bees, native bees, butterflies, moths, other insect pollinators, and beneficial insects; and

WHEREAS, guidelines for land management best practices are available that allow residents, businesses, farms, towns, and land trusts to manage their land in ways that increase pollinator forage and nest sites while decreasing maintenance costs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this Select Board that the Town of Pelham is hereby declared a Pollinator-Friendly Community and that the town encourages the adoption of policies and practices that support pollinator health by minimizing the use of insecticides;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Pelham will set an example by adopting the pollinator friendly practices below and encourage property owners, residents, town departments, business owners, and land trusts to adopt pollinator-friendly practices including:

- * Planting more pollinator-supporting forage on their property, emphasizing native plant species, and adopting organic or chemical-free lawn and landscaping practices;
- * Avoiding the planting of flowering plants that are treated with systemic insecticides and avoiding the use of seeds coated with systemic neonicotinoids;
- * Avoiding the use of insecticides, including systemic insecticides, on their property.

The Town Clerk is requested to send copies of this resolution to Governor Charlie Baker, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner John Lebeaux, State Senator Josephine Comerford, and State Representative Mindy Domb, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

Article 29.

Citizen's Petition

To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 7 of the 2019 Annual Town Meeting changing the position of Town Clerk from Elected to Appointed and return it to an Elected position with a 3 year term as previously in the Town Of Pelham bylaws and the Town of Pelham will authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation changing the office of Town Clerk from Appointed to Elected , as set forth above; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition. Upon effective date of this act, the current appointed Town Clerk shall hold the position until such time as a special election to fill the position is held if it is more than 3 months before the next Annual Local Election; or otherwise until the next Annual Local Election and the Elected Town Clerk is Qualified

Karen Willard-Ribeiro, Chair Karen Willard Ribeiro

Robert Agoglia, Vice-Chair RA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Date signed: 6-9-2020

Constable George Benson

Date posted: 6/11/2020 Fire/Police Station and Rhodes Building