Pelham Finance Committee
Minutes for Monday March 4, 2019

In attendance: F Vanderbeck (FV); E. Marriott, T. Loomis (TL), B. Martell (BM) and J. Trickey (JT)

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM
Minutes: February 20th Motion to approve EM; 2nd FV vote: 5 yes
February 25th Motion to approve BM; 2nd EM vote 5 yes

Elementary School: Sean Mangano, and Sarah Hall presented the budget;
Main highlights: Health cost going down
Charter school cost are going down
School Choice funds are going up
Sean noted that the proposed budget totals $2,130,151.00, a 1.6% decrease from the FY19 budget.

Mr. Mangano, reviewed the initial capital requests that are being made for FY20, which include:
$6,050 for Chromebooks for fourth grade,
$5,000 for interior renovations to develop a quiet room for students, and
$6,000 to replace two remaining skylights to minimize the possibility of leaks.

Regional School Proposed Budget: $32,090,230, increase over FY19 budget of $274,879 or .86%
Assessments, based on 30% statutory method which is the fallback option (same as FY19 method sing 30% instead of 20%.

Regional School: Assessment decision: Option that all four towns support FY20
30% 40% 50% 1, 2, 3 phases in yearly; Try for two years and reevaluate then

Proposed Capital Plan: Middle School Roof, $3,000,000. Statement of interest has been submitted to the MSBA. Official acceptance or rejection in early summer.

The Finance Committee reviewed the FY20 Operating Budget

Motion to vote on recommended amounts in Article 4 by TL Second EM; Motion passed 5-0

The committee reviewed the warrant articles

Old Business

New Business
The Pelham Finance Committee requests a transfer of $1250 from the Reserve Fund account number015131.700 to the Planning Board Consultant fund account number 015175.807 to pay for technical help in preparing documentation for a warrant article to come before the May Town meeting.

Motion to approve: FV; BM Second; Unanimous vote to approve

Tree Warden: Budget Hearing: Presented a case to increase the budget for the Tree Warden. Rationale given: more time due to the Gypsy Moth and Emerald Ash Boer. Ash trees will be gone in the next 5 years; Climate change impacting the health and longevity of trees; Hemlocks can't take the extreme heat. Asking for $1500 a year versus 400. 50 hours are $30 an hour.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 by TL 2nd by JT. Votes 5 yes