

# Pelham Finance Committee Report to the Town

## May 2017

The Pelham Finance Committee is again pleased to report that the Town is in reasonable good financial health. Given a boost in New Growth due to taxable investment by Verizon in transmission lines last year and the last payment in June 2016 for the Library complex, the tax rate decreased by 21 cents. The library roof was completed with the new insulation which should lower the consumption of heating oil. Pelham’s assessment for the Regional School declined by approximately \$88,000 based on the temporarily revised assessment formula. The OPEB (Other Post Retirement Benefits) Trust Fund is growing as planned and should reach its suggested annual funding level by 2021 if we continue to commit to the same funding path.

The Town faces a number of challenges as we head toward the next decade. There is very little taxable building growth and thus all increases in spending will have to be funded through increases in everyone’s property taxes. In 2018 the assessors will be conducting a re-evaluation of all taxable property as required by State law. This will provide all of us with a better understanding of whether our home values are going up, staying level or decreasing. If the values increase noticeably, the tax rate is pushed down. If the values decrease, the tax rate goes up. Either way, we will still pay more through taxes to cover the increasing costs of running the Town. This result is a major indicator of the Town’s future.

Under Proposition two and a half, the tax rate cannot exceed twenty-five dollars per one thousand in assessed value. Our current tax rate is \$21.00 per thousand. That means that we can only increase by four dollars per thousand at which point we reach the ceiling. The savings projects for this year, the reduction in assessment to the Regional School and, paying off the Library have all helped reduce the growth of the tax rate in 2017.

See the comparison chart below.

Local Residential Tax Rate History

Town	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% chng from 2008	% chng from 2015
Amherst	\$16.02	\$15.82	\$16.95	\$18.20	\$19.74	\$20.39	\$20.97	\$20.54	\$21.22	\$21.63	35%	1.90%
Leverett	\$15.00	\$15.40	\$15.80	\$16.20	\$17.77	\$18.66	\$19.20	\$19.88	\$20.41	\$20.95	40%	2.70%
Pelham	\$17.37	\$18.06	\$18.34	\$18.20	\$19.64	\$20.03	\$20.40	\$20.79	\$21.21	\$21.00	21%	<1.00%>
Shutesbury	\$15.90	\$17.38	\$18.76	\$19.37	\$19.56	\$20.27	\$20.60	\$21.53	\$22.08	\$22.76	43%	3.00%
Belchertown	\$13.44	\$13.96	\$14.86	\$15.65	\$16.56	\$17.11	\$17.72	\$17.89	\$17.97	\$18.20	35%	1.30%

You can see many of our neighbors are facing the upper limit of Proposition two and a half.

The Pelham Elementary School’s budget increase of \$67,720 to be paid by the Town in this year’s budget is made up of two parts. One part is the last adjustment needed by the Town to compensate for the reduction in revenue over the last three years due to the increase in Pelham students replacing School Choice students. That portion is \$30,000. The second portion amounting to \$37,720 reflects guidelines requested by the Finance Committee of not increasing Pelham’s portion of the budget by any more than 2.5% which is the best estimate of a sustainable increase. This reflects the percentage the Town can raise in new taxes each year under the Proposition Two and Half limits.

The School Options Committee should be reporting their findings in the near future. There are currently no active discussions of regionalization for the elementary school with other towns.

The Amherst Road project should be finished this summer and is projected to last about 15 years before any meaningful money will be required. Unfortunately the poor condition of the other roads will require costly repairs. The Highway Superintendent and the Finance Chair are working on plans that will lay out the estimated cost to bring each road up to State standards. The total cost is well into the millions of dollars. Currently the state provides just over \$100,000 for Pelham road maintenance and improvement. A more detailed plan should be ready for the Fall town meeting.

Pelham is probably in its best financial position in a long time because several good things came together this year. The taxpayers should take a moment and enjoy it. The future though is looking very rough with expected increases in the Regional and Elementary School budgets, Pension funding, roads repairs, health insurance increases and no significant new revenue. The State has no money to provide, and federal government continues to spend more than it receives. We project Pelham could be facing the tax limit of twenty-five dollars per thousand within six years. Longmeadow and other towns might reach it this year. The Finance Committee will do its best to keep the town functioning with what is available, but without substantial new taxable investments our options are severely limited.

Respectfully submitted F. Vanderbeck, J. Leonard, T. Loomis, B. Martell and J. Trickey



**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 6, 2017**

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 sixth day of May, in the year A.D. 2017 at 9 a.m. for the reading of the Town Warrant which was duly posted April 12, 2017 by Constable Donald G. Clark ; and to proceed with the meeting. 125 Voters attended .

Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Constable Donald G. Clark. He introduced Moderator Daniel Robb.

A power point presentation on Pelham Finances for 2018 was given by John Trickey, Finance Committee Chair. At 9:21 AM the Moderator continued the town meeting stating he was using Town Meeting Times as his guide for the meeting. He told voters how the meeting would be governed, including standing if able and waiting to be recognized, and point of order and Call the question guidelines. He stated he would read each article in its entirety before allowing motions to make sure everyone understood what was being considered.

He stated we would have a report from the School Options Committee and from the Energy Committee. He took a moment to recognize Fire Chief Ray Murphy and Deputy Rich Hall and Jason Hall Police Chief Gary Thomann who has been on Police Department 29 years and in 9<sup>th</sup> year as Chief, and Cosnstable Donald Clark as well as Highway Superintendent Rick Adamcek and Ed Chapin. He introduce those at the head table, John Trickey and Fred VanDerbeck from the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen members Alisa Pearson William Martell and Karen Ribeiro Attorney Klein Town Clerk Kathy Martell and Sharrie Reydak Board of Registrars. Alisa Pearson wanted to note the commitment of Officers and Committees in town including Karen Ribeiro as part of Democracy in action and also, recognize Susannah Carey as Assistant to the Board of Selectmen. A moment of silence was requested and held for Pelham residents lost this past year including Tom Lederle, Doris Aldrich and Jack Pembertown.

A motion was made and seconded to discuss Article 47 first. It was noted that a non voter wishing to discuss this article would not be present for an hour . John Trickey suggested that the order of the warrant not be changed. Mai Porter made a motion to call the question , which passed and vote on motion to move the article failed with 3 in favor and the rest opposed.

**Article 1.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Town Officers and Committees. **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 2.**

A motion was made and seconded 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 FY2018 beginning July 1, 2017, 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. **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 3.**

A motion was made and seconded 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.

	<b>FY2016 appropriated</b>	<b>FY2017 appropriated</b>	<b>FY2018 recommended</b>
Assessors (Chairman)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Assessors (others)	\$500	\$500	\$500
Auditor	\$0	\$0	\$0
Board of Health (Chairman)	\$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	\$16,000	\$18,000	\$18,270
Tree Warden	\$400	\$400	\$400

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Article 4.

A motion was made and seconded 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.

WARRANT LINES		FY2017	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2018
Article 4			Approp.	Approp.	Request	Recom.
GENERAL GOVERNMENT						
2	Selectperson Salary		\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600	\$3,600
	Expenses		Na	Na	Na	Na
3	Town Clerk Salary		\$16,000	\$18,000	\$19,000	\$18,270
	Expenses		\$5,000	\$5,500	\$6,000	\$6,000
	Records/Information Clerk		Na	\$5,000	\$12,480	\$12,480
18	Archivist		\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300	\$1,300
4	Finance Committee Expenses		\$790	\$790	\$990	\$990
5	Assessor's Salary		\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
	Contract Service		\$23,600	\$26,100	\$26,100	\$26,100
	Expenses		\$4,000	\$4,250	\$4,250	\$4,250
6	Collector Salary		\$15,438	\$15,747	\$16,336	\$16,336
	Expenses		\$9,318	\$9,418	\$9,702	\$9,702
7	Treasurer Salary		\$24,769	\$25,264	\$26,208	\$26,208
	Expenses		\$7,082	\$7,082	\$7,082	\$7,082
	Clerical/Consulting		\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
8	Town Legal Services		\$12,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
9	Town Meetings, Elections etc.		\$10,000	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$11,000
10	Town Reports		\$875	\$875	\$875	\$875
11	Town Office Wages		\$31,944	\$23,712	\$22,882	\$22,882
	Select Board/Town Office					
	Expenses		\$19,670	\$19,670	\$19,670	\$19,670
12	Buildings and Grounds					
	Salaries		\$13,611	\$13,883	\$14,091	\$14,091
	Expenses		\$62,720	\$62,720	\$62,720	\$62,720
	Maintenance		\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000
13	Blanket Insurance		\$48,350	\$49,560	\$53,280	\$53,280
14	Town Accountant		\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
15	Reserve Fund		\$73,000	\$85,000	\$87,000	\$87,000
16	Surety Bonds		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
17	Emergency Management		\$5,000	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$6,500
19	Hampshire County COG		\$662	\$662	\$662	\$662
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT			\$425,729	\$450,333	\$463,728	\$462,998
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS						
20	Board of Appeals		\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
21	Conservation Commission		\$850	\$850	\$850	\$850
22	Council on Aging		\$2,470	\$2,470	\$2,470	\$2,470
23	Historical Commission		\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
24	Library Trustees					
	Director Salary		\$21,925	\$22,364	\$23,706	\$23,706

	Staff Salaries	\$13,632	\$13,905	\$14,055	\$14,055
	Expenses	\$12,782	\$12,974	\$13,224	\$13,224
25	Planning Board	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
26	Recreation Commission	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
28	Cemetery Commission	\$5,500	\$6,500	\$6,500	\$6,500
TOTAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS		<b>\$58,251</b>	<b>\$59,963</b>	<b>\$61,705</b>	<b>\$61,705</b>

## SCHOOLS

30	Pelham Elementary	\$1,495,877	\$1,574,152	\$1,641,872	\$1,641,872
31	Amherst Pelham Regional	\$1,214,614	\$1,125,782	\$1,035,183	\$1,035,183
TOTAL SCHOOLS		<b>\$2,710,491</b>	<b>\$2,699,934</b>	<b>\$2,677,055</b>	<b>\$2,677,055</b>

		<b>FY2016 Approp.</b>	<b>FY2017 Approp.</b>	<b>FY2018 Request</b>	<b>FY2018 Recom.</b>
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>					
40	Highway Fund				
	Superintendent Salary	\$58,884	\$60,062	\$60,963	\$60,963
	Staff Salaries	\$104,043	\$106,124	\$132,716	\$116,124
	Expenses	\$108,162	\$121,362	\$121,362	\$121,362
41	School Signal Lights	\$900	\$900	\$900	\$900
42	Snow Removal				
	Salaries	\$11,791	\$12,027	\$12,207	\$12,207
	Materials	\$68,432	\$68,432	\$68,432	\$68,432
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS		<b>\$352,212</b>	<b>\$368,907</b>	<b>\$396,580</b>	<b>\$379,988</b>

## PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY

50	Police Department				
	Chief Salary	\$59,091	\$60,273	\$61,177	\$61,177
	Full Time Officer Salary	\$0	\$29,880	\$30,926	\$30,926
	Part Time Officer's Salaries	\$50,576	\$28,646	\$28,601	\$28,601
	Training and Education	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
	Expenses	\$36,201	\$25,701	\$25,701	\$25,701
	Expenses Fuel	\$0	\$12,475	\$12,475	\$12,475
	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	\$24,527	\$25,018	\$25,393	\$25,393
	Firefighter's Salaries	\$39,234	\$40,019	\$40,619	\$40,619
	Expenses	\$23,980	\$23,980	\$23,980	\$23,980
53	Fire Hydrants	\$280	\$280	\$280	\$280
54	Tree Warden Salary	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
	Expenses	\$6,500	\$11,500	\$11,500	\$11,500
57	Ambulance	\$26,000	\$28,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
58	Animal Control	\$1,700	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY		<b>\$284,748</b>	<b>\$304,431</b>	<b>\$310,311</b>	<b>\$310,311</b>

## HEALTH AND SANITATION

60	Board of Health Salaries	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
	Expenses	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
61	Solid Waste				
	Hazardous Household Waste	\$300	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
	Recycling	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
63	Inspector of Animals	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75
65	Quabbin Health District	\$13,049	\$13,841	\$14,841	\$14,841
TOTAL HEALTH AND SANITATION		<b>\$23,524</b>	<b>\$24,316</b>	<b>\$25,316</b>	<b>\$25,316</b>

## BENEFITS AND INSURANCE

70	County Retirement	\$172,830	\$190,942	\$199,376	\$199,376
71	Veteran's Agent Salary	\$5,028	\$5,095	\$5,595	\$5,595
	Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Benefits	\$37,000	\$49,248	\$49,248	\$49,248
72	Workers' Compensation	\$12,600	\$13,860	\$15,360	\$15,360
73	Unemployment Insurance	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
74	Group Health /Medicare	\$157,000	\$172,000	\$189,000	\$189,000
75	OPEB Deposit	\$40,000	\$60,000	\$80,000	\$80,000
TOTAL BENEFITS AND INSURANCE		<b>\$430,458</b>	<b>\$497,145</b>	<b>\$544,579</b>	<b>\$544,579</b>
GRAND TOTAL		<b>\$4,285,413</b>	<b>\$4,405,029</b>	<b>\$4,479,274</b>	<b>\$4,461,952</b>

Article 4 was read by section. A hold for discussion was placed on line item 3 for the Records /Information Clerk and line item 8 Town Legal Services. Discussion on Records Access Clerk included: who the person was, how many records being requested. Town Clerk Kathy Martell stated the position had not been filled and she is currently doing that job and that the number of requests is escalating. James Doubleday noted that the cost of non compliance is punitive to towns and in favor of position. Kathy Martell cited a recent request for information for persons on their ethics and conflict of interest information. Another comment was that it was a lot of money for just a few records. Answered, that the other part of the job was to make more records available for review by scanning them into accessible files. Also noted that our web site will not hold records but we will be getting a new web site thanks to Pelham BOS signing of the Municipal Modernization Plan and will hopefully have a cloud based web site. Also a question was added about the Archivist position. The town doesn't have an Archivist or Historian and the Town Clerk is currently trying to do that as well but without salary as cannot collect two salaries. Motion to call the question was made, but was not allowed by moderator as the whole of Article 4 had not been discussed. Next hold on legal services included the question of who holds the Town insurance policies and Questions of Attorney Klein. William Martell Selectman noted that the Town of Pelham through the BOS Contracts with MIIA and they cover all forms of insurance. Attorney Klein in answer to direct questions stated she believed her \$175-\$180 salary per hour and her mileage which is charged from KP Law's closest regional office (in this case Northampton) was reasonable. Boards and Commissions and Schools had no holds. Public Works had holds on Staff Salaries and School Signal Lights. It was noted that the amount requested for salaries was more than recommended. This was answered that adding more to salaries was a staged approach as another employee adds to insurance costs as well as salary. The School Signal Lights discussion included the fact that it costs about \$30.00 per month to run lights and also repairs necessary to lights. It was questioned having a radar speed added to the lights and it was estimated that it would cost about \$1200 - \$1400 per light. Another question was about replacing the power with small solar panels and it was estimated that it would cost about \$12,000 to replace each light. With no further discussion moved on the protection of persons an property. No holds at first, but there was a later question on the increase in fuel which was noted there was no increase. Also a question added about the ambulance costs. John Trickey answered that it was a contract with Amherst and every couple years the contract was reviewed but now wants the BOS to look at costs. Gary Thomann answered that a paramedic staffed ambulance is expensive. Discussion included previous talks to contract with Belchertown which failed and the fact that we are lucky Amherst keeps us as Amherst covers a lot of towns. Donald Clark asked that after his experiences, that we not fight about the ambulance. Moved on to Health and Sanitation which had no holds so continued to benefits and insurance with a hold and a question on Veterans Agent. John Trickey answered that Pelham is part of a cooperative for services and that 75% of benefits paid to Veterans is reimbursed. A question on what is OPEB which is Other Post Employment Benefits. Another question was if it includes school teachers which was answered that school budget covers teachers and County Retirement pays for retirees now and cost is a mix of retirees and current employees.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Article 5.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote pursuant to Section 16B of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws and any other enabling authority to amend the Amherst Pelham Regional School District Agreement such that, notwithstanding Section VI, for Fiscal Year 2018 only, 10% of the operating budget assessment shall be allocated to each town based on proportionate shares of a five year average of statutory minimum contributions (FY14-18) and the other 90% will be allocated to the member towns in accordance with the per-pupil method found in the Amherst Pelham Regional School District Agreement. Since FY18 minimum contributions will not be finalized at the time of this vote, the District will use the state's preliminary figures with estimated corrections provided by the State. Discussion

included the cost paid for school choice and the cost for Pelham Per Pupil John Trickey stated that this was about the Regional School and that the discussion was about how to pay for regional school students. Shutesbury wants to use the Statutory method, but this method is was being voted on for one year only. He stated that there will be a full report at Fall Town Meeting.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 6.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to hold the Annual Town Meeting on the second Saturday in May. It was stated that the Northampton Pride Parade is always on the first Saturday in May and it was a hard decision which to attend for some people. It was also noted that the Second Saturday in May is commencement at UMASS and also Mothers Day weekend. Other discussion was to leave it the way it is in the code on the first or second Saturday in May and in the hands of the BOS. A question was asked when would this change, town Counsel stated until a vote at a Town meeting changed it. Motion to call the question Vote to call question was 65 in favor and 16 opposed. Vote in favor of article with 21 Opposed **PASSED**

**Article 7.** A Motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,022.22 and transfer \$12,657.78 from Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Funds for the payment of the Town's (General Fund) indebtedness. **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 8.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$13,509.00 from Free Cash to the School Department for FY2018, this money representing an amount equal to that received by the Town as Medicaid reimbursements for services provided by the School Department.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 9.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$6,200.00 from Free Cash to purchase three projectors and 20 monitors for the Pelham Elementary School. Mr Trickey noted that this would be needed if costs could not be covered by the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund account.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 10.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,790.25 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.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 11.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$19,065.96 from the Capital Stabilization Account for payment of the Regional School Debt Assessment.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 12.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 from Free Cash to be deposited in the General Stabilization Account.

*Municipal Modernization allows this vote to be a majority vote to put money into a stabilization account but 2/3 vote to take it out.*

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 13.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 from Free Cash to be deposited in the Other Post Retirement Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund. Discussion was to put extra funds into this account to meet a goal of total funding for this account in the future. It was asked why this was not in Article 4 and was answered that Article 4 can increase taxes as it is raise and appropriate tis does not as it comes from free cash.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 14.**

A motion was made and seconded 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 by 100 percent of taxpayers qualifying for exemptions under Clauses 17C, 22, 37 or 41C of G.L. c. 59, §5.

Discussion asked what does this mean? Answered by James Doubleday former Assessor. He stated that this means the town can give 100% of allowable amount of deductions to qualifying taxpayers but need to vote on this. In past there was time of hardship for town and amount was at 50% but has since changed. Jeffrey Eisemen made an Amendment to the article changing the wording to: To see if the town will vote to accept the provision of GL c59§ 5c1/2 inserted by Section 14 of Chapter 62 of the Acts of 2014, for the purpose of increasing the Real Estate Tax exemptions to 100% for taxpayers qualifying for exemptions under Clauses 17C, 22, 37 or 41C of G.L. c. 59, §5 or take any other action related thereto. Attorney Klein suggested that there be a friendly amendment to change the by 100% to up to 100%. No vote was taken on the friendly amendment. Call the question vote **passed unanimously**. Vote on Article as amended **Passed with 3 Nays**

#### **Article 15.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the following sum of money from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues for Community Preservation Committee administrative expenses in FY2018 in the amount of \$3,300.00.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Article 16.**

A motion was made and seconded 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; \$14,350.00 for Open Space; \$14,350.00 for Community Housing; \$14,350.00 for Historic Resources; and \$40,200.00 to the FY2018 Community Preservation Fund Budgeted Reserve

Discussion included a question on Community housing and was noted that it was being put in reserve for future.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Article 17.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$6,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of updating the Code of Pelham books

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Article 18.**

A motion was made and seconded 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 2018 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. Discussion asked the possibility of postings added to web site. Answer: Currently unsupported web site not able to do this but probably in the future with new web site.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Article 19.**

A motion was made and seconded 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 2018, 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.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Article 20.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c.44, ss. 53E1/2, as most recently amended, to (1) authorize revolving funds for certain Town Departments for FY2018, (2) and further, to amend the Town bylaws by inserting a new bylaw entitled, "Revolving Funds", and to establish fiscal year spending limits; all as set forth below

Chapter      Revolving Funds

1.      Purpose. This bylaw establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by the Town Departments, Boards, Committees, Agencies or Officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2.

2.      Expenditure Limitations. A Department or Agency head, Board, Committee or Officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this bylaw without appropriation subject to the following limitations:

- A. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund, except for those employed as school bus drivers.
- B. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.
- C. The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall be subject to the limitation established by Town Meeting or any increase therein as may be authorized in accordance with G.L. c.44, ss.53E 1/2.
- D. Interest. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this bylaw shall be credited to the general fund.

3.      The following is a list of the authorized revolving funds setting forth the name of the fund, the entity authorized to expend such funds, the revenue source and the use of such fund.

Revolving fund	Authorization to spend fund	Revenue source	Use of fund
Archivist	Town Clerk	Archivist and genealogy fees	Research and miscellaneous research fees
Building Inspector	Building Inspector	Building inspection fees	Inspections, supplies, & required professional courses
Community Garden Committee	Garden Committee	Plot use donations & any other donations	Fertilizer, general garden equipment, & soil testing
Community Hall	Community Hall Committee Chair	rental fees	Repairs, improvements, and purchases
Fire Department	Fire Chief	Fire inspection permit fees & fines	Inspections, supplies, & required professional courses
Gas Inspector	Gas Inspector	Gas inspection fees	Inspections, supplies, & required professional courses
Department of Public Works	DPW Superintendent	Permit Fees (Trench, driveway, curb cut)	Equipment, supplies, & required professional courses
Plumbing Inspector	Plumbing Inspector	Plumbing inspection fees	Inspections, supplies, & required professional courses
Police Department	Police Chief	Pistol permits and report requests	Equipment
Wiring Inspector	Wiring Inspector	Wiring inspection fees	Inspections, supplies, & required professional courses
Zoning Board of Appeals	Zoning Board of Appeals	Application & consultation fees	Administrative costs, including mailings & supplies

And to set Fiscal Year spending limits as follows:

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
Plumbing Inspector	\$1,500
Police Department	\$7,500
Wiring Inspector	\$3,000
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$1,000

*A hold for discussion was placed on Community Hall*

Discussion of use of Community Hall. It was stated that a lot of money was put into Community Hall by the Lions Club and now difficult to be able to use that building. It was noted that Joanne Levine (Jodi) is now the Administrator of use of Community Hall. There is a calendar to schedule use in the Library Hallway just put event on the calendar and pick the key up in the library, use the hall and return the key.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 21.**

A motion was made and seconded 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.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 22.**

A motion was made and seconded 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.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 23.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 from Free Cash for maintenance of the Historic Complex.

Discussion question what take any other action thereto means? Allows residents to see what will be considered but allows leeway in the scope. The warrant article is not exact but the moderator controls scope.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 24.**

A motion was made to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,500.00 from Free Cash to defray the cost of consultants to the Planning Board.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 25.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 from Free Cash to defray the cost of consultants to the Zoning board of Appeals.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 26.**

A Motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 from Free Cash for preservation of Town Clerk Records. Discussion of change in amount from \$250.00 to \$500.00

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 27.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 from Free Cash to be used by the Cemetery Commission in making repairs to the Pelham cemeteries.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 28.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer \$488.00 from the Hampshire County Dog fund to the Elementary School Library fund. Discussion of Hampshire County Dog Fund Name as in past funds were sent to county and reimbursed after license fees were subtracted by the county. Now license money is put into the account and the costs deducted and reimbursed to Town Clerk and balance transferred to Elementary School Library fund as in past.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 29.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to continue membership in the Hampshire Council of Governments for Fiscal Year 2018 with an annual dues assessment of \$661.69 Discussion included what if any savings are gained by membership in the COG. This year there was an estimated \$15,000 in savings.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 30.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$33,420.00 from Free Cash to cover the balance of an early retirement incentive for the Pelham Elementary School. Explanation of article was that 2 teachers are retiring and this allows paying the balance of their early retirement from free cash and not adding it to the spending that increases the tax rate.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 31.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000.00 to pay for the required property reassessment.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 32.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Capital Plan Stabilization Fund the sum of \$225,000.00 to purchase and equip a new heavy duty dump truck with snow fighting equipment. Discussion included a question of research looking for fuel efficiency in this purchase, answered by Rich Adamcek Highway superintendent. He did research. No electric versions available there was some experimental versions on utility trucks but none for dump trucks. Engines are now more fuel efficient in general and tier 4 emissions which are in this new truck are better. There was a question of potential revenue from old truck but old truck has frame issues as it has a double frame and salt gets into the frame. Three people looked at old truck and offered \$1,000- \$3,000. Max.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 33.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$35,000.00 to make repairs to the Community Center to prepare the Community Center for future painting. A question was what building this is Community Center/Community Hall? This building is the building with Police and Fire Dept. Rick noticed that the siding was separating from the building and need an architect to look at it and determine the needed repairs and give an estimate. Now we need to decide to do the sashes now and paint the building later. Should have been vinyl sided. Comment was made that this building is a money pit. A question asked if this includes interior painting and answer is no only exterior

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 34.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$7,000.00 to repair, paint/stain all (67) window sashes at the Community Center, including all incidental and related expenses. Discussion included question if this includes Air sealing or caulking windows and answered yes.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 35.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$6,500.00 to powerwash, repair, paint/stain the exterior of the salt shed, including all incidental and related expenses. Discussion of building placement and answered Salt Shed is by the Highway Garage.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 36.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$15,000.00 to purchase and apply up to 200 tons of Bituminous Concrete in various locations around Town. Discussion included what is bituminous concrete. Answered Blacktop. How is this going to be done, answered that vendor has own box like those used for driveways, to apply it. There is a lot to do to catch up. Chapter 90 (Road) money, while being level funded is actually decreasing as costs of supplies etc. have increased. John Trickey stated

he is working to make a long range plan for all roads but the cost is in the millions. There will be a report for Fall Town Meeting for an article for next Spring Annual Town Meeting.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 37.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 from Free Cash for reimbursement of unanticipated special education charges, which reimbursement would require the approval of the School Committee, Finance Committee, and Board of Selectmen. Cara explained that there is often a need for increased special needs funding that cannot be anticipated when the budget is made. This is a new way to have money available. This is just creating the account but not putting money in it at this time.

**Article 38.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$10,000.00 for paint and to replace furniture in the gym and cafeteria and other areas in the elementary school.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 39.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to accept the recommendation of the Conservation Commission to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000.00 to hire a part time Town Conservation Agent for about 20 hours a month for \$20.00 an hour. This is necessary because of the amount of time and a tremendous amount of paperwork and site visits. The agent could file the DEP paperwork etc. They have meetings twice a month for 3-4 hours but lots of work in preparation for the meetings.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 40.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to adopt the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate from the Community Preservation Act Fund Balance the sum of up to \$50,000 for the acquisition of a Conservation Restriction land labeled "premises" on attached sketch map known as 36 acres of the existing Map 7 Lot 1 on the Pelham Assessor's Map, and more particularly described as "Parcel No. 9 & Parcel No. 10" on the recorded plan dated September 21, 1953, recorded as Book 43 Page 31 at the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, and by way of landowner donation, to own in fee, an additional 16 acres of the full parcel (Map 7 Lot 1). This acquisition will be completed in combination with Commonwealth of Massachusetts EEA Conservation Partnership Grant, and private donations to conserve 52-acres of the Pemberton parcel to own in fee and manage via Conservation Restriction. There was a motion and seconded made to accept the language rewrite on suggestion from Town Counsel. Language is as follows:

**Article 40:**

I move that the Town vote to authorize the Conservation Commission to acquire, by gift, purchase, or otherwise, a conservation restriction upon a certain parcel shown as "premises" on a sketch plan, being 36 acres, more or less, and being Pelham Assessor's Map 7, Lot 1, and more particularly described as "Parcel No. 9" and "Parcel No. 10" on a plan dated September 21, 1953, recorded with the Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 43, Page 31; and further to authorize the Conservation Commission to accept a gift of a fee interest in an additional 16 acres, more or less, shown as "Donated Fee to Pelham" on the aforesaid sketch plan, more particularly described as "Parcel No. 6," "Parcel No. 7" and "Parcel No. 8" on the aforesaid plan, excepting those parcels as recorded with the Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Book 2095, Page 148, Book 2047, Page 134, and Book 1545, Page 173; and, further, to appropriate from the Fund Balance of the Community Preservation Fund the sum of \$50,000 for the acquisition of the conservation restriction upon the parcel shown as "premises" on the aforesaid sketch plan, which acquisition shall further be funded by monies from a Commonwealth of Massachusetts EEA Conservation Partnership Grant and private donations; and, further, to grant a conservation restriction upon the parcel shown as "Donated Fee to Pelham" on the aforesaid sketch plan, in accordance with G.L. c. 44B, §12.

- Majority Vote

This a more precise land description and removes the words "up to" before \$50,000 which is the actual sum. Discussion included the amendment wording which doesn't change the article;

what about costs of Preservation answered Kestral Trust manages the stewardship of the land. John Trickey stated that the Finance Committee did not recommend the article because it takes the land off the tax rolls. Becky Carrol made a motion to call the question which was seconded . **Vote on Ammendment Passed Unanimously** Continued discussion on Article: There was a question on land use and Judy Eiseman answered that the landowner wanted to preserve rare species habitat and trails which connects Amherst Road to Harkness Road and even to Belchertown. Open land and is assessed at \$69,000. Karl Martini said we only have one planet we should preserve species. Tilman Lukas of the Conservation Commission stated the habitat protection is under open space. The Housing committee looked at the land and there is some wetlands but there are high slopes and bedrock issues and the land failed to perk in the past. Abigail Jenks from Planning Board said that while they agree with the Finance Committee , their work on lot sizes etc, they preferred development not be on this land . William Pula questioned the hunting ban which was hushed and not being addressed. Joe Larson who lives on Arnold Road has hiked on this land and hunted on it, thought there was more to process as there were no discussions of land restrictions but after the death of Jack Pembertown, the family wanted no hunting. The Conservation Commission had a meeting the past Thursday about land and other access being discussed and the the limited hunting was a compromise with Kestral Trust and Conservation Commission that the land be closed to hunting except the 2 week deer season to decrease deer browsing issues. Joe Larson made a motion to table this article to a special town meeting to the first week of June to be set by the Board of Selectmen, but answered that one of the major granting funds must have everything done before June 30<sup>th</sup> . Moving the meeting would allow for a public hearing for full discussion as every taxpayer is a donor because of the use of CPA money. There was no controversy when this was first decided but has developed since, and makes procedural sense to do this special town meeting. David Gross stated he was not in favor to tabling because the agreement was made and the time crunch was too close. Joe Larson thought the controversial issues should be resolved before we write the check, and the management plan was not a an open meeting but should be if CPA money involved. Laurie Godfrey stated she was in favor of the land purchase because she works in Madagascar where there are tremendous extinction events at the hands of humans and we are in a global crisis. Judy Eiseman then stated that there was a signed purchase and sale agreement now with the inclusion of the 2 weeks of hunting. There needs to be a survery and conservation restriction and referendum access plan is an open meeting. Michael Hussein said to keep the forest canopy. Joe Larson withdrew his amendment, Bill Pula agreed and seconded the withdrawal of the amendment. Andy Beal made a motion to call the question which was seconded. Vote on Calling the question passed with 4 Nays **Vote on Amended Article Passed with 4 Nays**

#### **Article 41.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to accept the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate from the Fund Balance of the Community Preservation Fund the sum of \$21,790.00 to address safety and protection issues at the Town Hall/Meetinghouse and the Historical Society Museum as follows:

1. Hire a structural engineer experienced in historic architecture to evaluate and report on the current structural condition of the Town Hall/Meetinghouse and Horse Sheds. \$2,500.00
  2. Hire a preservation carpenter to make structural king post and ceiling joint repairs recommended by the consultants in the 2016 Town Hall Interior Report. \$10,000.00
  3. Install a lightning protection system on the Town Hall/Meetinghouse and upgrade the lightning protection on the Historical Society Museum to meet the current building code.  
Town Hall \$6,790.00      Museum \$1,800.00
  4. Purchase photo-luminescent exit signs for the Town Hall, to be installed by the Historical Commission \$100.00
  5. Bring the current handicap access entrance and approach ramp and paths at the Town Hall and Museum up to meet the current handicap access code, to be done by the by town Public Works Department \$600.00
- Question on lighting, but corrected the article stated lightning protection.

#### **Article 42.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to accept the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate from the Fund Balance of the Community Preservation Fund the sum of \$35,995.00 to preserve and digitize selected historic Town Record Books that are under the care of the Town Clerk. A question about putting records on the web, but web site not available at present, maybe in the future.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Article 43.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$45,000.00 from the Capital Equipment Stabilization account to purchase and equip a new four wheel drive vehicle, replacing the 2009 Ford Taurus. A question was who does this vehicle belong to answered Police Department and would be for everyday use as a marked patrol cruiser. **Passed with one Nay**

**Article 44.**

A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 13E to establish a special education reserve fund which money may be appropriated or transferred to be utilized in the upcoming fiscal years, to pay, without further appropriation, unanticipated or unbudgeted costs of special education, out-of-district tuition or transportation. This is currently an unfunded article and once funded would be spent with a vote of the Select Board and School Committee. John Trickey stated this covers regional and elementary and the limit is not listed but may be up to \$33,000 dependent on percent of the school budget. The Finance Committee is against this. Motion made and seconded to call the question. Passed Unanimously. Should be more discussion and answers and may be presented at Fall Town Meeting.

**Vote on the Article 12 Failed with only 12 Yes votes**

**Article 45.**

A motion was made and seconded to accept the citizens petition

Climate Change Resolution

Pelham recognizes that greenhouse gas emissions generated by fossil fuels have already set climate change in motion, and that arresting these changes will require actions at every level of society, including federal, state, local and individual to:

- become more water- and energy-efficient in our homes, businesses, schools and town facilities.
- incorporate water- and energy-efficiency into all buildings and new infrastructure.
- rapidly adopt clean, local renewable energy sources to reduce our carbon footprint.

Pelham Town Meeting hereby tasks every elected and appointed town official to implement measures that conserve vital water and energy resources, and minimize carbon emissions.

Discussion answered from town counsel that there is no legal efficacy so is non binding.

**Passed Unanimously**

**Article 46.** A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will accept the citizens petition as written below.

Michael Hussein made a motion that there be an amendment from what was in the warrant to correct the House and Senate Bill numbers (House number H3269 and Senate number 1305) and add in the last paragraph at the top to have town officials sign and send to State officials. Questioned what he meant by officials and Town Clerk stated that usually things sent after town meeting were sent with a copy of the cover page of town meeting information with a copy to the article with town seal and true attest of Town Clerk and he agreed to that form of submission. Michael Hussien stated he wants this to get Massachusetts to become a safe state. This is not the same as a Sanctuary City it is a Safe City. Amendment was seconded and vote passed unanimously. Discussion about threats and legal jeopardy. Motion made and seconded to call the question. Voted Unanimously **Vote on Article 46 Passed as amended Unanimously**

The Town of Pelham hereby resolves to support **The Safe Communities Act**, *An Act to protect the civil rights and safety of all Massachusetts residents* (SD1596/HD3052), and urges our elected officials including our state representative, senator, and the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to support this Act which would prohibit state collaboration with the federal government for the purposes of creating a Muslim registry, and ensure that state resources are not used to enforce federal immigration law. We further resolve that copies of this resolution be sent in to our state senator and representative, and to the Governor as quickly as possible in order to effect a judicious and speedy consideration and passage of this Act.

The Safe Communities Act includes the following provisions:

- **Ensures that police resources are used to fight crime, not assist federal immigration enforcement.** Ensures that state, local and campus police do not participate in federal immigration enforcement activities, including participation in inquiries, investigations, raids, arrests or detentions that are based solely on immigration status. The bill expressly permits police to arrest or detain a person in the course of a criminal investigation or prosecution supported by probable cause of a crime, consistent with constitutional standards applicable to all people in the Commonwealth.
- **Prohibits state support for any Muslim registry.** Prohibits law enforcement agencies and the Registry of Motor Vehicles from allowing access to databases or records for enforcement of any federal registry program based on national origin, religion or other protected characteristics.
- **Prohibits collaboration agreements** between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and law enforcement agencies that deputize state and local officers as immigration agents, like those recently concluded by Bristol and Plymouth counties.
- **Ensures Basic Due Process Rights** for immigrants detained in state and local facilities by requiring that detainees be informed - in a language they understand - that they have the right to decline an interview with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents, and to have their own attorney present (at their own expense) if they so choose.
- **Conforms with federal law.** The bill contains several provisions ensuring compliance with federal law, specifically 8 U.S.C. § 1373, which prohibits state and local governments from restricting the exchange of information about citizenship or immigration status.
- The bill does not provide immunity to crimes. The Safe Communities Act simply ensures that the civil rights of all our residents are protected.

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**Article 47.** A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will accept the citizens petition as written below: A motion was made and seconded that the moderator allow Attorney John Bonifaz to speak. Passed Discussion that Attorney Bonifatz was the author of this petition. Town voters were in agreement with this petition **Article 47 Passed Unanimously**

**Resolution in Support of Congressional Investigation regarding  
Impeachment of President Donald J. Trump**

WHEREAS, the Foreign Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution provides that "no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under [the United States], shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State," thereby prohibiting conflicts of interest that could influence the conduct of the foreign affairs of the United States,

WHEREAS, the Domestic Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution provides that, besides the fixed salary for his four-year term, the President "shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them," thereby prohibiting conflicts of interest that could influence the conduct of the domestic affairs of the United States,

WHEREAS, the term "emoluments" includes a broad range of financial benefits, including but not limited to monetary payments, purchase of goods and services even for fair market value, subsidies, tax breaks, extensions of credit, and favorable regulatory treatment,

WHEREAS, Donald J. Trump, the President of the United States, owns various business interests and receives various streams of income from all over the world,

WHEREAS, many of these businesses receive, and streams of income include, emoluments from foreign governments, states of the United States, or the United States itself,

WHEREAS, leading constitutional scholars and government ethics experts warned Donald J. Trump shortly after the November 2016 election that, unless he fully divested his businesses and invested the money in conflict-free assets or a blind trust, he would violate the Constitution from the moment he took office,

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2017, nine days before his inauguration, Donald J. Trump announced a plan that would, if carried out, remove him from day-to-day operations of his businesses, but not eliminate any of the ongoing flow of emoluments from foreign governments, state governments, or the United States government,

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2017, Donald J. Trump took the oath of office and became President of the United States,

WHEREAS, from the moment he took office, President Trump was in violation of the Foreign Emoluments Clause and the Domestic Emoluments Clause of the United States Constitution,

WHEREAS, these violations undermine the integrity of the Presidency, corruptly advance the personal wealth of the President, and violate the public trust,

WHEREAS, our democracy is premised on the bedrock principle that no one is above the law, not even the President of the United States,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TOWN OF PELHAM RESOLVES to call upon the United States House of Representatives to support a resolution authorizing and directing the House Committee on the Judiciary to investigate whether sufficient grounds exist for the impeachment of Donald J. Trump, President of the United States, including but not limited to the violations listed herein; and,

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted officially to the Member of the United States House of Representatives who represents the Town, namely, Congressman Jim McGovern (MA-2); as well as the remaining representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, namely,

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Congressman Richard Neal (MA-1), Congresswoman Niki Tsongas (MA-3), Congressman Joseph Kennedy III (MA-4), Congresswoman Katherine Clark (MA-5), Congressman Seth Moulton (MA-6), Congressman Michael Capuano (MA-7), Congressman Stephen Lynch (MA-8), Congressman William Keating (MA-9); as well as Congressman Jamie Raskin (MD-8); and to the members of the United States Senate representing Massachusetts, namely Senator Elizabeth Warren and Senator Edward Markey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted officially within three weeks of approval by the Town of Pelham.

William Martell, Chairman William Martell

Alisa Pearson, Vice-Chairman Alisa Pearson

Karen Ribeiro, Clerk Karen Ribeiro

Date Signed by Board of Selectmen: April 10, 2017

Date posted: April 13, 2017 Constable Donald G. Clark Donald G. Clark

Fire Station/Police Station and Rhodes Building



Also it is noted that Cara Castenson Gave a School Options Committee update during Town Meeting. The Committee was formed after last Annual Town Meeting and was to be appointed by the Moderator. Members are Cara Castenson also chair of the School Committee, Ronald Mannino, Jeffrey Eiseman, Richard Fanning, Venuta Carulli and Michael Hayes. I am attaching it here for the record.

Also the Energy Committee Chairman Stan Sweircz gave a talk and he submitted his format to me which is attached here, though he states he did not do it verbatim.

Motion to adjourn at 3 PM Seconded **Passed Unanimously**

Respectfully Submitted

Kathleen Martell  
Town Clerk