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APPROVED
TOWN OF PELHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN - MEETING MINUTES
April 2, 2019
APPROVED – April 23, 2019

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CALL TO ORDER - approximately 6:30PM

PRESENT: Mr. Hal Lynde, Mr. William McDevitt, Mr. Doug Viger, Mr. Kevin Cote,
Town Administrator Brian McCarthy

ABSENT: Ms. Heather Forde

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. McDevitt indicated the Board would skip over the usual agenda items because they had previously indicated they would not conduct a meeting.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Lynde recused himself from the discussion.

Discussion regarding the appointment of the Town Treasurer

Mr. McDevitt read aloud a statement. He said at the 2018 Town Meeting the voters approved an article making the Town Treasurer an appointed, not elected position. In reading the article, he realized with its passage, the Treasurer would become an appointed position effective at the Town Meeting following the passage of the article; meaning after the 2019 Town Meeting. Mr. McDevitt said the impact was effective at the conclusion of voting March 12, 2019 they were to appoint a Treasurer which they had not done due to their oversight. Thus, they were without a Treasurer while important business needed to be conducted daily by the Treasurer.

Mr. McDevitt explained they placed the article on the ballot, not because they were displeased with Charlene Takesian (the current Treasurer), but rather the Selectmen and Ms. Takesian were worried that the position with its responsibility would require more vetting than might happen if the position were elected and she decided not to run for such. It was the Board's intention expressed publicly that they were not trying to 'oust' Ms. Takesian. He believed the article was her idea in the first place.

Mr. McDevitt stated the Selectmen scheduled the current meeting because they had an issue where they needed to appoint a Treasurer as soon as possible as they didn't have a Treasurer effective midnight at Town Meeting. He informed the public that they spoke with Town Counsel. According to counsel, the Board could appoint retroactive to March 12, 2019. He was willing to entertain a motion to appoint Charlene Takesian as Pelham Town Treasurer retroactive to March 12, 2019, at the current pay rate of \$4,470 annually, which said appointment shall expire May 1, 2020. He said he put that date because it was approximately the time the normal elected time would expire. He said they could always appoint Ms. Takesian beyond that date, but at least it would be the normal term.

Mr. Viger made the motion. Mr. Cote seconded. Mr. Viger questioned if the Board had the purview to appoint a term longer than one year if they saw fit to do so. He said he understood Mr. McDevitt

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48 was trying to maintain the schedule. Mr. McDevitt replied he didn't see anything in the laws that would
49 constrain them one way or another. Mr. Cote stated the Board could appoint other commissions for
50 more than one year. Mr. McDevitt said they could; however, it seemed consistent to have the motion
51 as it was put forth.

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53 Mr. McDevitt spoke about the changes in the Town's finance office (employee and computer software)
54 during which Ms. Takesian stepped forward to assist with training and had gone beyond the call of duty
55 to ensure the computer system was working properly. None of which were required of the Treasurer
56 position.

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MOTION: (Viger/Cote) To appoint Charlene Takesian as Pelham Town Treasurer retroactive
to March 12, 2019, at the current pay rate of \$4, 470 annually, which appointment
shall expire May 1, 2020.

VOTE: (3-0-0) The motion carried.

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59 Mr. Lynde returned.

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61 **ADJOURNMENT**

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MOTION: (Viger/Cote) To adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: (4-0-0) The motion carried.

63 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:42pm.

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65 Respectfully submitted,
66 Charity A. Landry
67 Recording Secretary