

**APPROVED**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN – MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 17, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Haverty called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 pm.

**PRESENT:** Robert Haverty, Jaie Bergeron, Kevin Cote, Douglas Viger, Town  
Administrator Brian McCarthy

**ABSENT:** Hal Lynde

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Haverty asked Selectman Viger to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES REVIEW:**

**August 10, 2021**

**MOTION:** (Cote/Bergeron) To approve the August 10, 2021 meeting minutes as written.

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

**OPEN FORUM:**

As no one came forward, Chairman Haverty closed open forum.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:** The Town of Pelham NH Notice of Public Hearing. Legal notice is hereby given that the Board of Selectmen will hold two public hearings, one on Tuesday, August 3 at 6:35 p.m. and one on Tuesday, August 17 at 6:30 p.m. here, Sherburne Hall, 6 Village Green. The hearing is regarding a proposal to update a town ordinance pertaining to the Hawkers & Peddlers Ordinance. The Pelham Board of Selectmen will vote on the acceptance of this ordinance on Tuesday, August 31, 2021. A copy of the proposed ordinance will be available in the town clerk's office, the Board of Selectmen's office and at the town's website at [www.pelhamweb.com](http://www.pelhamweb.com).

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Regarding a proposal to update a town ordinance pertaining to the "Hawkers & Peddlers Ordinance."

Chairman Haverty noted that voting would be in two weeks, not tonight. Tonight's public hearing is just for public discussion. Chairman Haverty asked the board if there were any comments regarding the proposed changes. He noted that everyone has had a chance to review the changes that have been discussed in previous meetings. He also noted that Mr. Cote is happy with the changes. Chairman Haverty believes the changes incorporate what the board has had previous discussions on.

There was no further input from the board.

As no one from the public came forward for this public hearing, Chairman Haverty closed public comment.

## **2022 TOWN BUDGETS**

Chairman Haverty confirmed Mr. McCarthy had sent out a “batting order” for the budgets.

## **TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR**

Chairman Haverty confirmed with Mr. McCarthy that the board was not voting on the budgets tonight and this was just discussion.

Mr. McCarthy confirmed. He said voting would be on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Cote asked if wish list items would be discussed.

Chairman Haverty asked Mr. McCarthy if they would be discussing the wish list items at the end.

Mr. McCarthy said the discussions could come at any point since they were not voting tonight.

Mr. Cote noted the clerk’s office had a wish list item.

Mr. Viger said the board might want to go through wish list items as the members are present in case further discussion needed. Mr. Cote said he thought that way or analyzing all at the end as a group. Chairman Haverty agreed it would be better to discuss the wish list items when the department heads were present. He told Mr. Cote that if he wanted to discuss the wish list items from the town clerk/tax collector, they could be discussed.

Mr. Viger confirmed who had sent the department information wish list items out. Mr. McCarthy said Deb had sent an excel spreadsheet with all of the departments, their wish list items and costs. Mr. McCarthy also noted that when the police department presented their budget, they had salaries but not insurance or retirement costs and Deb had tabulated all of that and the list was pretty complete.

Chairman Haverty confirmed with Mr. Cote whether or not he wanted to discuss a wish list item. Mr. Cote said he just wanted to have a process in place.

There was no board discussion on the town clerk/tax collector budget.

## **ELECTIONS**

Chairman Haverty noted there were no wish list items for elections.

There was no board discussion on the elections’ budget.

## **ASSESSING**

Mr. Cote asked if Sue was present. She was not. Mr. Cote wanted to hear more on the document management item, but Sue was not present for the meeting.

There was no board discussion on the assessing budget.

#### **LIBRARY**

Mr. Viger asked if since the board had no control over that or cemetery are they leaving it up to them to add what they what into their budget or if these groups were looking for feedback or were they waiting for budget committee. Mr. Viger said it didn't matter to him what they did but he was just curious. Chairman Haverty was unsure of the answer. He referred to Mr. McCarthy. Mr. McCarthy said the library trustees run the library. The presentations are done pretty much done out of respect. The board does not vote on the library budget or the cemetery budget. Presentations are out of courtesy. Mr. McCarthy said the wish list items for them would have to be vetted by the budget committee, as well as all wish list items.

There was no further board discussion on the library budget.

#### **CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

There was no board discussion on the conservation committee budget.

#### **CEMETARY**

Chairman Haverty noted the cemetery budget was same thing as library budget.

Mr. Bergeron asked if Mr. McCarthy had looked into possibly getting an older truck from the highway department.

Mr. McCarthy said he was in the process of working on that and he had all the numbers, which were pretty close to what Mr. Gleason has priced. Mr. McCarthy is just giving Attorney Ratigan a few days to dig out after coming back from vacation and will get some guidance from him. Once Mr. McCarthy has that guidance, he said he will tell the board what the options are.

#### **CABLE**

There was no board discussion or questions on the cable budget.

#### **PLANNING**

Mr. Cote wanted to talk about their wish list item and add more insight to the board on adding legal line to their budget. He said a member of the planning board had reached out to NHMA regarding what if there were legal conflicts between BOS and Planning Board. Mr. Cote could not remember the lawyer's name from the NHMA but noted that Mr. Bergeron, from the planning board, was the one that had reached out. He noted the gentleman said it was common that conflicts could arise and some towns have line items for that. Mr. Cote said the \$10,000 number is a one-time fee, not recurring. The planning board is just looking

154 to have a budget in case something does arise. He said they can always use NHMA but are looking for a  
155 line item in case something does arise.

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157 Mr. Viger asked if it was talking about a scenario where town would sue the town.

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159 Mr. Cote said basically. He explained the zoning board is different. The zoning board just look at cases.  
160 If the BOS was to appeal a zoning board decision, it's different. He doesn't believe there would be too  
161 much argument. Mr. Cote explained the judges look at how the case was presented and were decisions  
162 made correctly. He said that when it comes to the planning versus selectmen, other issues could be  
163 involved.

164  
165 Chairman Haverty said he had two thoughts are this matter. First of all, the town provides legal services.  
166 He said he understood what Mr. Cote was saying, this would be if the planning board and BOS were at  
167 odds in court and who would represent who. Chairman Haverty said the town counsel represent the town  
168 and the planning board is saying they would need counsel as well. Chairman Haverty said this seems  
169 dangerous. He explained that he doesn't want planning board opinion shopping if they didn't like an  
170 opinion and then the planning board says they'll ask their attorney looking for different opinion. Chairman  
171 Haverty said the town pays for an attorney, which he thinks is a very good attorney. He believes the board  
172 of selectmen are protecting the town's best interests. Mr. Haverty thinks this could set a dangerous sort of  
173 precedent where if the planning board didn't like the first opinion, they could look to get a second.

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175 Mr. Cote said he understands what Chairman Haverty said. He explained that the way he believes the  
176 situation is being portrayed is it should be unique to conflict of interest. Mr. Cote agreed with Chairman  
177 Haverty, the town has a legal budget and a firm that represents a town and they give their opinions, etc.  
178 Mr. Cote noted that he's not an expert. He gave an example of what if board of selectman didn't like  
179 planning board decision on cell tower, could they challenge planning board decision? Mr. Cote said he  
180 knew the board of selectmen could challenge the board of adjustment's decisions, within 30 days. He  
181 questioned if the board of selectmen decided to challenge a planning board decision, how would planning  
182 board represent themselves. Mr. Cote said he was looking for thoughts.

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184 Chairman Haverty asked Ms. Beauregard to address the board. He explained he wanted her thoughts on  
185 this wish list item since it was her budget.

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187 Ms. Beauregard said she thought one of the things the planning board was looking at was instances where  
188 they were looking for an opinion when they have a difference of opinion with board of selectmen, not  
189 necessarily the town suing the town.

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191 Chairman Haverty explained he wanted to be careful. He said he knows why they are asking for this but  
192 wants Ms. Beauregard's opinion since this is her budget. He asked if she thought it was a good idea and  
193 whether she wanted it included in her budget or does she believe they are properly covered by town provided  
194 attorney. Chairman Haverty explained that he knew he was putting Ms. Beauregard on the spot but since  
195 she is the department head, he wanted her opinion.

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197 Ms. Beauregard said she believes she understands why they're looking for it. She doesn't have a problem  
198 with it, if the board of selectmen thinks it's okay as well, if the planning board is using it for the reason they  
199 say they want to use it. Ms. Beauregard is not sure exactly how it will be used until they use it down the  
200 line. She explained that as of right now, if both the board of selectmen and the planning board are looking  
201 for an opinion, a conflict arises if they are both going to the same attorney. She explained that this was the  
202 explanation that she had been given.

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Mr. Viger questioned if the planning board uses this the way the board of selectmen and Ms. Beauregard think it is going to be used, for difference of opinions, is \$10,000 enough. Mr. Viger said it seems like that would be eaten up really fast. He questioned where additional money would come from if this budget was used up in the middle of an opinion. Mr. Viger noted, as he discussed before, he also believes it should be legal line item, not planning, but that was for a different conversation. He questioned if they were going after opinions, which they get free from NHMA, or they did not want to use the town's retainer, what kind of information would they be able to get for \$10,000. Mr. Viger said he has no idea what these types of opinions would cost.

Mr. Bergeron asked Mr. Cote if board unanimously requested this, were they all on board. Mr. Cote said yes.

Mr. Cote explained that in some aspects, the planning board is made up of seven elected officials kind of in charge of seeing how the town develops. He believes it is an important job. He doesn't think this decision should be treaded lightly on this and should really be taken a look at. He questioned whether it's worth getting another opinion. He said sometimes the answer could be yes and sometimes no. Mr. Cote noted he's unsure but, in an instance when it comes to putting in another development, another opinion could matter to see how things go and maybe the town's attorney could miss something. Mr. Cote said as previously discussed, NHMA is free, the town has a membership, and using NHMA is good tool. Mr. Cote questioned what would happen if NHMA disagrees with town counsel opinion? He said this would have an unbiased entity looking at a decision and advising the planning board.

Mr. McCarthy said he was trying to think back on whether there been a decision that counsel has rendered to the planning board that they didn't agree with.

Mr. Cote said he didn't say there was. He stated that the attorney from the NHMA thought it was good idea to have that budget there just in case. Mr. Cote said this could be just one time item. He also noted to Mr. Viger's point, lawyers aren't cheap.

Mr. McCarthy asked Ms. Beauregard if she knew if any other towns had this kind of an arrangement. Ms. Beauregard said she didn't know. Mr. McCarthy said he was just curious if other towns did this.

Chairman Haverty said the legal budget is \$96,000 and that paid the retained for the current legal service.

Mr. McCarthy said that was correct. It included employment and everything.

Chairman Haverty asked if the entire budget was expended every year for that retainer?

Mr. McCarthy said the town overspends that but that's the agreed amount and that's what they pay. He explained that before this retainer was secured, the town had done a five-year average and it was about \$140,000 a year that was been expended in legal matters. He said they jumped on the first deal, which he believed was \$97,5000, because it was saving town a lot of money, and then the town got the agreement down to \$96,000. Mr. McCarthy explained that he was trying to think, in the time he has been with the town, whether there was that kind of a conflict where another board needed to have a different legal opinion. He explained that NHMA is great, but he stopped using them because they won't defend the town in court even though they are giving legal advice. He said he questioned what the sense was then. Mr. McCarthy said the issues, as a growing town, got more complex and they steered away from NHMA.

Chairman Haverty said Ms. Beauregard has been around a little bit. He asked if has she seen an instance where this would have been utilized. He questioned whether the town has even been in court with itself.

Ms. Beauregard said she knew the selectmen had challenged a zoning board decision at one time. She wasn't sure of the decision off the top of her head. Ms. Beauregard said she thought it happened maybe twice she has been here, in 22 years.

Chairman Haverty said he believed what the board was saying get all this out, have a discussion and at the next meeting, figure out if the board wants to include it and where is place for it.

## **PARKS & RECREATION**

Chairman Haverty noted a wish list item to increase maintenance from \$12 to \$13 per hour. He asked Mr. Johnson to come up. Chairman Haverty asked if that was a typo.

Mr. Johnson said that was last year's item. He said the two wish list items for this year were to bring the lifeguards to \$15 an hour and to add \$1,000.00 to the skate park maintenance.

Mr. Cote believes the skate park maintenance is no brainer. He said there is lot of money invested in that park already. He started to talk about what is going on in Salem.

Chairman Haverty noted he was concerned that he has incorrect wish list. Mr. Cote said he did as well.

Mr. McCarthy said Mr. Johnson didn't update his wish list item so that's why Deb pulled those items.

Mr. Johnson said he's gone through the proper budget twice, with the budget committee and the board of selectmen.

Mr. McCarthy said Mr. Johnson's wish list items on his A sheet were those items, salaries and maintenance increase. Mr. McCarthy asked Brian to correct it, when he has a chance, and he would then have Deb change it.

Chairman Haverty said he recalled the discussion of the wish list items Mr. Johnson was talking about.

Mr. Cote said there is a lot invested already at the skate park. He said adding \$1,000 to the budget for maintenance is a no brainer. He referred to what is going on with Salem's skate park and how the town is getting involved because there so much uproar about how dilapidated park has gotten. Mr. Cote said Pelham has a nice facility and it should be maintained. He also said he is all for increasing the pay for lifeguards. He said you can get that at Dunkin Donuts.

There was no further board discussion on the parks and rec budget.

## **SENIOR CENTER**

Chairman Haverty noted the wish list items were a per diem driver and vehicle and a part time, outreach social worker.

Mr. Cote asked if the wish list item was a per diem driver in an all-wheel drive vehicle?

Ms. Landry, director of the senior center, said it was some kind of a four-wheel drive vehicle or a smaller vehicle to supplement the big vehicle if they had per diem for on call or demand service. She explained that if a senior needed a ride to a doctor's appt, etc., they wouldn't have to use whole bus. Ms. Landry said

305 this would be a lot more cost effective. She said they would need 2 vehicles, one for regular pickups to and  
306 from the senior center and the regular grocery store trips and those things, and this would be a small vehicle  
307 to take 1, or 2 seniors for lab work, doctor's appointments, etc.

308  
309 Mr. Cote asked if the \$7,000 was for the vehicle.

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311 Ms. Landry said she doesn't have a price on that. She did not include the vehicle in her wish list. She's  
312 not sure exactly what type of vehicle they would be looking, probably used, but it would probably be closer  
313 to \$15,000 for a four door, four-wheel drive with lower mileage. She said they could also look at leasing.  
314 Ms. Landry said she wanted to see what board wanted her to look into for that particular piece of the wish  
315 list item.

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317 Chairman Haverty said the board short on time and needs to get info together.

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319 Mr. McCarthy asked Chairman Haverty to explain.

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321 Chairman Haverty said the question was asked about the per diem driver and all wheel drive vehicle wish  
322 list item and it was showing as \$7,000.

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324 Ms. Landry said she was unsure where the \$7,000 figure came from.

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326 Chairman Haverty said Ms. Landry said that \$7,000 doesn't include cost of vehicle and she was unsure of  
327 that cost.

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329 Ms. Landry noted again that she wasn't sure where the \$7,000 figure came from.

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331 Mr. Cote said that's why he was asking, because that was the figure they had.

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333 Ms. Landry said she didn't include any pricing in regards to those particular items. She said she wanted to  
334 bring it to board's attention, discuss it and figure out where to go with it. She said there were a lot of  
335 different options, such as leasing, purchasing or even looking into getting donated vehicle.

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337 Mr. Cote said he wanted to point out that Chief Midgley was talking about trading in old Expedition. He  
338 asked Chief Midgley whether the town owned the Expedition

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340 Chief Midgley said yes.

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342 Mr. Bergeron said he was thinking along the same idea because the town has a few cruisers, Explorers, that  
343 might be freed up, too. He asked if the police department was getting another round of Explorers next year  
344 and whether or not there would be any left over.

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346 Mr. McCarthy said he was unsure. He said two are coming from fleet to go to planning. He said he would  
347 have to check with Roark because he wasn't sure of other plans for the cars.

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349 Chairman Haverty asked Mr. McCarthy when the selectmen have to have their budget voted and to budget  
350 meeting.

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352 Mr. McCarthy September 9 is the first budget meeting.

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354 Chairman Haverty said his point was that this concept is kind of half-baked for this point in the process.  
355 He said the board found themselves with a few items last year where they didn't have numbers until the

last minute. He explained that Ms. Landry had a wish list item with no numbers. He said the board will be trying to react to budgets in two weeks. Chairman Haverty explained to Ms. Landry that she needs to tell board she needs a driver, and how much it will cost, and a vehicle and the cost. He said that if a vehicle was going to be taken out of a fleet that it needed to be included in the picture. Chairman Haverty said the board can't vote on wish list item when cost is unknown.

Mr. Cote said that his point was that it would probably not be for this year but if it was a wish list item, there might be ways to accomplish it.

Ms. Landry said that was kind of her point of putting it in at this point. She said she understood that she didn't have those numbers, but she thinks it is important to discuss with a board. She explained she doesn't have the authority to say you need to look at vehicle because cost can change within 6 months so she doesn't know what the cost will be. She said she could estimate. Ms. Landry said she is looking at other options. She is unsure what the town has in their fleet, but it would be great option to use a vehicle that the town already owns and will be retiring. She said she is on board with that type of option and then it would be just looking at cost of part time versus per diem employee. Ms. Landry said she could get the board those numbers easily. She said she understands not looking at this item for this year but wants board to understand this is a need for seniors. She said she believes there is some discussion that needs to take place regarding this and whether or not that could be done outside of a budget committee meeting. She explained that it would be helpful for her to get that guidance and direction.

Mr. Cote said to speak on what ifs for right now. He said if she was able to get a vehicle that town already owns, is there a possibility of volunteer driver.

Ms. Landry said she was unsure. She said they have some volunteer drivers, but she was unsure how readily they would be available for an on-call system. She said they utilize the Care Givers of Greater Salem for volunteer driving but it's at volunteer's availability. Ms. Landry said she thinks a per diem driver would be more consistent and a safer option because they would have a certified driver, a staff person. She said she wasn't saying she wouldn't look into it but wasn't sure if they could find additional drivers that could do that on a regular basis. Ms. Landry believes they would need to have a pool of drivers and someone to manage the pool and call volunteers when a request comes in. She said the bus driver would possibly be able to manage that. Ms. Landry said she was unsure how that would work with insurance for the town? She said maybe they could come up with a pool of volunteer drivers. She said it was interesting option and worth investigating if town would approve of that.

Chairman Haverty noted there was also a part time outreach, social worker with a cost of \$16,380 with a benefit cost of \$1,253 (total cost of \$17,633).

There was no further discussion on the senior center budget.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Chairman Haverty noted the wish list items were for a forestry vehicle replacement (\$190,000) and an inspector's vehicle replacement (\$69,300).

Mr. McCarthy asked Chief Midgley if they were trading in the fire inspector's car.

Chair Midgley said it was going with the deputy and deputy's car could possibly be used.

There were no further questions or comments regarding the fire department budget.



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409 **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
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411 Chairman Haverty noted there were no wish list items and the budget was fairly straightforward.  
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413 There was no discussion or questions from the board regarding the emergency management budget.  
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416 **POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
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418 Mr. Cote asked if AFIS can be sorted out this year.  
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420 McCarthy said it probably can be and he has spoken with Chief Roark about it. He said as they get closer  
421 to October, November, they'll have better idea of where Chief Roark will sit with his budget. Mr. McCarthy  
422 said he wouldn't recommend doing it right now because there is still quite a bit of time left in the year. Mr.  
423 McCarthy said that closer to November, there is typically a clearer picture of where the budget will end up  
424 financially and if Chief Roark has the funds, he can make purchase.  
425

426 Mr. Cote said he thinks the department should have that system.  
427

428 Chairman Haverty said we see number of bookings and arrests in the biweeklies. He questioned what it  
429 would do to the budget process if this is left until November, what does that mean?  
430

431 Mr. McCarthy said changes can be made to the budget right up until deliberative session. He said his last-  
432 ditch plan is at reconsideration. He said at reconsideration, there has been a pretty good of vetting of all  
433 the budgets and lots of discussions. He noted that there are times something comes up and they have to go  
434 to the budget committee. The budget committee has the final say on the budget. Mr. McCarthy said there  
435 has been an occasion or two where he's had to go to them and asked for a change due to something  
436 unanticipated and he's explained it. If the budget committee agrees, the change can be made. Mr. McCarthy  
437 said they really have until January to sort it out before making the final submittal. He said they would like  
438 to have everything done within time constraints but sometimes things come up.  
439

440 Chairman Haverty believes they are putting too much thought in \$18,000 and it should probably just be  
441 done.  
442

443 Mr. Viger confirmed they were talking about the fingerprinting system. He said he doesn't know why this  
444 isn't just paid for now with the existing budget. He said it would have been done if it was a copy machine.  
445 Mr. Viger explained this is vital for the operation of the police department.  
446

447 Chairman Haverty said he's had two board members speak in favor, but he does not have a motion.  
448

449 Mr. Viger made a motion to leave up to the discretion of the police chief whether or not he can afford those  
450 funds out of this year's budget to purchase it immediately.  
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452 McCarthy asked if they can include BolaWraps, too.  
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454 Mr. Viger said his personal opinion would be to wait on the BolaWraps, or at least keep them separate.  
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456 Mr. Cote said he wanted to second the motion, but he wanted to make sure it was right. He asked Mr. Viger  
457 to say it again.

Mr. Viger said it was to authorize the chief to expend \$17,625 out of his existing 2021 budget for the AFIS fingerprinting system provided he can afford to spend it out of his budget, leave it up to the chief to make the decision.

Mr. Cote seconded the motion.

Chairman Haverty noted that he had a motion and a second.

**MOTION:** (Viger/Cote) To authorize the chief to expend \$17,625 out of his existing 2021 budget for the AFIS fingerprinting system provided he can afford to spend it out of his budget, leave it up to the chief to make the decision.

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

Mr. Cote wanted to talk about the new patrolman position. He stated he is very much in favor of new position, another position. He said he reads weekly reports and he thinks the problem in Pelham is external issue. He said there is rapid growth around us. Mr. Cote said if there was no detail on Sherburne Road, the department would most likely respond to accident. He said a lot of things are happening in Pelham that we can't control and public safety will eventually be affected and he thinks this should be looked at. The new Hudson facility is going to be going in. Amazon is building a monstrosity in North Andover. Tuscan Village is only 25% built out and a big Brigham and Women's facility is being built. Mr. Cote said he's been hearing a lot of different things on the plan for the mall eventually. He said as far as traffic and public safety is concerned that they are looking at hiring at least one more patrolman long term.

Mr. McCarthy agreed. He said as he spoke of last time, there have been an inherent 2 officers every night and the department needs to grow. Mr. McCarthy said he would ask board to consider hiring 2 officers and give it good thought and consideration. He noted that as Chief Roark spoke to, the department should have at least 28 to 29 officers to adequately provide for the town. Mr. McCarthy said they already provide great service but that would be closer in line to where the town should be. He said the department has been behind with staffing for years and the town needs to look at closing gap. Mr. McCarthy explained this job becoming more complex and the board needs to take hard look at this position and make that consideration.

Mr. McCarthy asked would board consider creating a motion, as Mr. Viger did for the AFIS, for the motorcycle request, to give Chief Roark the authority, if he has funds from this year, for the motorcycle purchase.

Chairman Haverty asked what the reason would be for doing that in advance.

Mr. McCarthy said it would meet the need, as Chief Roark explained in his presentation, for that vehicle. Mr. McCarthy said if it could get done with this year's budget, having two items cleared from the wish list might pave the way for stronger consideration for a second officer.

Mr. Cote said he hates motorcycles and he doesn't like the thought of a police officer flying down road on motorcycle for something. Mr. Cote asked Captain Perriello and Captain Toom to speak to why a motorcycle is important for department. He noted that he sees motorcycle crashes all the time and he wants to understand the importance.

Captain Toom said both he and Captain Perriello are certified to ride and they have in their careers. He explained they are a great community tool, people like them and they allow children to be approachable. Captain Toom explained that they are not allowed to pursue vehicles on their motorcycle and they're not allowed to go code 1.

Captain Perriello said code 1 means lights and sirens and there's a felony in progress. The motorcycle is to just to go without lights and respond to calls. She said over and above being a community tool, it is a huge tool with traffic enforcement. She explained that it is not as visible as a cruiser with the lights on top and they can be a little bit more stealth running radar in neighborhoods and some of the main roads.

Mr. Cote said he thought they talked about adding it to next year's lease.

Captain Perriello said when it was presented, they talked about adding to lease and gave a solid number, she believed to be around \$21,000. She said Chief Roark said it was an option to put it in with the leasing, which might lower interest rate. Captain Perriello said Chief Roark gave that as an additional option.

Mr. Viger said he wasn't clear from the presentation if the department's intent was to run 2 motorcycles or trade original in.

Captain Toom said they would keep the original and use for training or if there 2 motor officers, they would run 2 at the same time. He explained that the old motorcycle is beat up and they would have it as a training bike. He said they wouldn't put the new motorcycle through the training courses because they are really rigorous and stressful on the bike.

There were no other questions or comments for the captains.

Mr. Cote said he doesn't think he's willing to support making a motion on motorcycle right now. He thinks adding it to the lease program is probably best option in his opinion. He explained that he does support the motorcycle and likes the police department's motorcycle.

McCarthy said doesn't like interest and that's why he'd say pay it out and not have to pay interest. He said it's up to the board.

Mr. Bergeron said it looks like the interest \$624.

Mr. Cote said he is more worried about the AFIS system.

Mr. Viger said he is more worried about having \$40,000 extra in the budget. He said if the department can spend both on both the fingerprint system and the motorcycle then the budget is loose. Mr. Viger said he is not comfortable taking that amount of money out of the budget at this time in the year. He said maybe look at it closer to end of year and plan for spring arrival. Mr. Viger is afraid of sticking the budget that short.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Chairman Haverty noted the wish list item for network and security. He said he thinks it's important to address the changing landscape for cyber security attacks and it's not matter of if, but when. Chairman Haverty said he thinks those proposed items help prepare for the inevitable and the challenges that are already seen in the network monitoring and auditing.

Mr. Cote said he thinks those items are a no brainer.

There were no other questions or comments from the board on the technology budget.

## **HIGHWAY/TRANSFER STATION**

Chairman Haverty noted there were no wish list items.

Mr. Cote said he was surprised there are no wish list items.

Mr. McCarthy said this is an evaluation year.

There were no other questions or comments from the board on the highway/transfer station budget.

## **SELECTMEN'S BUDGET**

Mr. Cote asked if there was anything to get like pens or frisbees. Mr. Cote said he wanted pens and Mr. Bergeron was talking about getting frisbees.

Chairman Haverty said there was no wish list item for it.

There were no questions or comments from the board regarding the selectmen's budget.

## **LEGAL**

Chairman Haverty said they had discussed this a little earlier. He noted there were no wish list items and it was pretty standard.

There were no questions or comments from the board regarding the legal budget

## **BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Chairman Haverty noted this was pretty standard.

There were no questions or comments from the board.

## **DEBT SERVICES**

Mr. McCarthy said there were no wish list items.

There were no questions or comments from the board.

## **HEALTH OFFICER**

There were no questions or comments from the board.

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**HEALTH SERVICES/HUMAN SERVICES**

There was no discussion or questions from the board.

**TOWN INSURANCE**

Mr. Cote asked if those were the actual numbers?

Mr. McCarthy explained the insurance number is placeholder until November. The retirement numbers have been confirmed and the number in the budget will be the number.

**TOWN CELEBRATIONS**

There were no questions or comments from the board.

**TOWN BUILDINGS**

There were no questions or comments from the board.

**TREASURER**

There were no questions or comments from the board.

**TRUST FUNDS**

There were no questions or comments from the board.

**RETIREMENT**

There were no questions or comments from the board.

Mr. McCarthy asked if they talked about conservation and cemetery and the board said they had.

Chairman Haverty noted they would be voting on the budgets at the 8/31 meeting. At that time, they will have opportunity for motions and put things into budgets. He said Mr. Demers would have to be there to make the changes on fly and give them the new numbers. He noted they are due to budget committee on 9/9.

Mr. Viger had one comment, late, for the senior center. He said he wished Ms. Landry was still here. Mr. Viger explained he thinks the senior center is evolving quicker than anticipated and they were throwing things out like part time workers, new vehicles etc., and talked about charging or not and bringing people

to doctors' appointments, hair appointments, etc. He said it may be time to take a look at the direction of where the senior center may be going in next few years. Mr. Viger said he is afraid to throw line items in without a definitive plan and have them be bigger than anticipated down the road.

Chairman Haverty said he agreed. He thinks for long time that senior center was building with some programs and now they are seeing an evolution into senior program comprised of a building, programs, services and it is very much evolving. He explained that when he first became a selectman, it was building where lunch was served daily and they had a few programs inside. Chairman Haverty said he understood and agreed with Mr. Viger and thinks that the board need to take a look with strategy and work with Ms. Landry and agree on vision.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Chairman Haverty had one discussion item. He said he spoke with the health officer, Karen McGlynn, last night. The numbers from Pelham last coming into last Tuesday's meeting were 14 positive cases. Coming into tonight's meeting there are 39 positives, a threefold increase in a week, attributed largely to the Delta variant, which is far more contagious and transmissible. Chairman Haverty said Ms. McGlynn admitted that while we have seen far higher numbers of people who are positive, what's concerning now is the exponential increase in positivity in short period. Ms. McGlynn asked Chairman Haverty to ask the board to considering moving from mask recommendation in town buildings to a mask requirement in all town buildings. Chairman Haverty said he believes the library is moving towards a mask requirement. He said Ms. McGlynn has been in discussions with the school and they are going with masks are strongly recommended but not required to start the school board. He said Ms. McGlynn asked him to bring to the board for discussion about whether or not to have a mask requirement in town buildings or leave as recommendation.

Mr. Cote said he is not in support of masks. He said he got his vaccine and is done with masks. If 43% is the vaccination rate in Pelham, he believes that is a message that the 57% are not getting because no reason not to because there are no lines, etc. Mr. Cote said it is up to each person to get vaccine. "You do you," is the message he's getting.

Chairman Haverty noted that as of last night, 44% of the town's population has received both shots and 49% have gotten their first shot.

Mr. Cote said that's not even a one percent increase in two weeks. We are now hearing if you got the vaccine, might need booster. He said we don't know who to believe anymore. One doctor says you need a mask, another doctor says you don't. Mr. Cote said speaking for himself, he got vaccine and is done with masks. If you don't want to get vaccine, up to you and that's the beauty of the country. Mr. Cote said he has a hard time believing that the Delta variant is the reason for the uptick in cases. He said this makes no common sense because when you reopen and only small percentage of people have the vaccine, you will see upticks and now we'll see more upticks because there are more openings, weddings, parties, concerts, etc. Mr. Cote thinks people are done. He said he is done. He got his vaccine, did what he was told to do and is not wearing mask.

Mr. Bergeron said he thinks we should strongly encourage people to wear masks but not make it a requirement.

There was no further discussion by board members.

Chairman Haverty said the board's policy remains same. The policy and signage will continue to say we recommend you wear a mask, but we leave up to the individual.

**SELECTMEN/TOWN ADMINSTRATOR REPORTS**

**Mr. Bergeron** no report.

**Mr. Viger** no report.

**Mr. Cote** no report.

**Mr. McCarthy** said the 2020 audit was completed by Melanson and are getting a very good audit report, which he is happy to say. The company was in and out in 3 days, which was a record. Mr. McCarthy said he can remember them being there for 2 weeks in his early years. He thinks that Deb Padykula, the new finance director, has taken hold of the finance department and did great job with the audit. He said the auditors impressed with her skill set and knowledge of the accounting and the audit process. Mr. McCarthy said they'll be back in the fall to address the board. He said there are some clean ups, like every year, but no significant deficiencies. Mr. McCarthy said the auditor was very pleased and he is pleased and happy and the board should be, too.

**Chairman Haverty** no report.

**REQUEST FOR NON-PUBLIC SESSION**

**MOTION:** (Cote/Bergeron) Request for a non-public sessions per RSA 91-A:3, II (A), personnel

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Selectman Bergeron – yes  
Selectman Cote - yes  
Vice Chair Viger – yes  
Chairman Haverty - yes

(4-0-0) The motion carried.

It was noted that when the Board returned, after the non-public session, the Board would not take any other action publicly, except to seal the minutes of the non-public session and to adjourn the meeting. The Board entered a non-public session at approximately 7:35 pm.

**MOTION:** (Cote/Bergeron) To leave the non-public session.

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

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**MOTION:** (Cote/Bergeron) To indefinitely seal the minutes of the non-public session.

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

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**MOTION:** (Cote/Bergeron) To adjourn the meeting.

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

764 **ADJOURNMENT**

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Respectfully submitted,  
Jill Atkinson  
Recording Secretary