

**PELHAM BUDGET COMMITTEE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2006
MINUTES**

APPROVED

ATTENDANCE: Greg Farris, Ed Gleason, Eric Estevez, Doug Viger, Marti Lowe, Joe Puddister, Bob Sherman, Eleanor Burton, Dennis Viger, John Lavalley, Phil McColgan
ALSO PRESENT: Michael Conrad - School Board Chairman, Brian Gallagher, Linda Mahoney, Eleanor Burton, Bruce Couture, Fire Chief Michael Walker, Members of the Press and General Public

The Budget Committee Meeting of October 30, 2006 was called to order at 7:30 PM in the Pelham Elementary School Media Center.

This Special meeting was requested by the Pelham School Board

AGENDA: Safety Proposal for Pelham High School regarding serious life and safety concerns at the Pelham High School and Pelham Memorial School.

Mr. Conrad read into the record the Safety Proposal Memo provided by the School Board which outlined the serious life and safety issues both at the Memorial School and Pelham High School. The fire alarm system at the Pelham Memorial School has been addressed and the unexpended funds have been identified from the current operating budget in the amount of \$70,000.00.

Highlighting various points of the School Board's memo, "*Major concerns at the high school include egress issues, excess student capacity and excess combustible loads. A most timely solution is using modular classroom that will remove students from the dangerous areas of egress and fire/life safety*".

Last year the Pelham School Board brought forward a warrant article for modular classrooms that did not receive voter support. *The Pelham School District consulted with legal counsel to determine what legal provisions were available in an emergency situation. The School District has been advised that the alternative is RSA 32:1, which requires the budget committee's written approval of an application to the Commissioner of Education for the expenditure of funds to temporarily lease portable classrooms.*

The Pelham School Board voted unanimously to lease a modular six-classroom building for two years. The initial cost which is identified under this request is \$210,620.00, which covers the first six months of the lease plus installation and will be funded the current year's operating budget. Subsequent years of the lease will be funded under future budgets. The breakdown is as follows:

FY 06/07	\$210,620.00	FY 07/08	\$88,000.00	FY 08/09	\$44,000.00
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The School Board asked for the Budget Committee's support for this request.
Motion made by Doug Viger, seconded by Eric Estevez to postpone vote until Thursday night.
Vote: 5-6 (Gleason, Puddister, Lowe, Burton, McColgan, Sherman) Motion fails.

Motion by Ed Gleason, seconded by Joe Puddister. To grant Budget Committee approval and signature on written application to the Commissioner of Education for the expenditure of funds to temporarily lease portable classrooms as requested by the Pelham School Board.
Vote: 11-0 - Motion carries.

Adjournment: Motion (John Lavalley/Doug Viger) to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/S/ Marti Lowe
Marti Lowe, Secretary