

If approved budget will reflect the following:

Pelham Memorial School will change from \$4,785,633 to \$4,829,793

The General Fund will change from \$30,135,866 to \$30,180,026

The Total Operating Budget for FY2019 will change from \$31,980,811 to \$32,024,971

Ms. Hillsgrove saw in the quote there was work and costs that would be the responsibility of the School District. She asked if those costs were included in the figure provided. Ms. Mahoney replied if the voters approve the article, the School Board would reconsider those additional costs associated with preparing the land and area, within their current operating budget. The work would be done during the summer and be ready for the next school year.

Mr. Cronin questioned if the lease term was five years. Ms. Mahoney replied the original estimates were five years, although they may be looking at a longer term based on different funding options. Mr. Cronin wanted to know if it was a lease to own. Ms. Mahoney stated the estimate was based on a lease to lease; the School Board would have discussion regarding this when determining how they choose to fund it. Ms. Larson stated the intention was a lease to own. She said it was a matter of finding the right funding to make it happen.

Mr. Sherman asked if the voters would be able to review a photo of the exterior and interior of the building. Ms. Mahoney replied they could work on getting something for review.

MOTION: (Hillsgrove/Cronin) To add \$44,160 to the Pelham Memorial School operating budget.

VOTE: (8-0-0) The motion carried.

The School Total Operating Budget for FY2019 will be \$32,024,971. It was noted that the Budget Committee members would need to sign the MS27. Ms. Mahoney informed that the document would be ready for signature as early as January 18, 2018 and located at the Pelham Police Department for such. An instructional email will be forwarded to members. The document will be posted January 26, 2018.

The School District Deliberative Session will be held Wednesday, February 7, 2018 beginning at 7pm inside Sherburne Hall (at the Municipal Building).

Library

Ms. Lori Adams, Library Trustee came forward for the discussion.

Mr. Cate explained that when the Board reviewed and voted on the Library budget they had made an adjustment because he thought they could get funding (\$2,100) from Pelham Community Spirit to pay for maintenance of the grandfather clock at the Library. Unfortunately, that funding didn't come through.

Ms. Adams stated that the grandfather clock in the reading room had been donated to the Town in 1896 and was valued at \$20,000. She explained that the clock worked, but it was losing time. The clock maintenance person indicated the original pins needed to be replaced. She noted there was currently no money in the budget for them to fix the clock.

The proposed \$2,100 increase was to budget line 390 Equipment Repairs – Grandfather Clock Maintenance.

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MOTION: (Bailey/Hillsgrove) To reconsider the Library budget.

VOTE: (8-0-0) The motion carried.

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90 Ms. Hillsgrove confirmed that the additional \$2,100 would be a one-time expenditure. Ms. Adams
91 answered yes.

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93 Mr. Bailey questioned if the value of the clock would decrease if the pins were replaced this year.
94 Ms. Adams replied up until now it had been a working clock. She assumed that a non-working
95 clock was worth less than a working clock. Mr. Cronin wanted to know if the pin replacement
96 would permanently fix the clock. Ms. Adams replied the proposal was to replace all the original
97 pins with new pins for a total cost of \$2,100. She noted they had done maintenance and cleaning
98 every year.

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MOTION: (Hillsgrove/Sherman) To add \$2,100 into the Library budget to fix the
(grandfather) clock.

VOTE: (8-0-0) The motion carried.

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101 **Town Operating Budget**

102

103 Budget figure for reconsideration: \$15,566,331.

104 With the addition of \$2,100 for the grandfather clock repair at the Library the new figure for
105 reconsideration: \$15,568,431.

106

107 The Board reviewed the items for reconsideration in the Town's budget.

- 108 1) Debt Service – increase of \$86,857 for Police cruisers;
109 2) Transfer Station/Highway Department – increase of \$20,551 for salary of Department
110 Director;
111 3) Insurance – decrease of \$49,516 for rate adjustment;
112 4) Cable Department – increase in fees \$840.

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114 Mr. Cate explained that the increase for cruisers was based on the final numbers being received
115 after Budget Committee vote in the fall. He then spoke to the increase in salary for the Transfer
116 Station/Highway Department Director. The increase was based on pay scales from the New
117 Hampshire Municipal Association along with other towns close in population and size to Pelham.
118 Mr. Cate stated there was a decrease in rates for insurance, so that budget line would be reduced.
119 The last item was an increase to the Cable Department due to an increase of Comcast fees.

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121 The total amount for reconsideration: \$58,731.

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MOTION: (Sherman/Hillsgrove) To reconsider the Town budget (increase/decrease) as
proposed.

VOTE: (8-0-0) The motion carried.

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MOTION: (Sherman/Hillsgrove) To accept the proposed increase of \$58,731 for the
Town's reconsidered budget.

VOTE: (8-0-0) The motion carried.

The Town budget figure for approval: \$15,625,063 plus \$2,100 (Library increase) = \$15,627,163

MOTION: (Cronin/Hillsgrove) To approve \$15,627,163 as the 2018 Town operating budget.

VOTE: (8-0-0) The motion carried.

WARRANT ARTICLE RECONSIDERATION

Mr. Cate read aloud a proposed warrant article that would raise and appropriate \$660,000 for the purpose of replacing the existing boiler system at the Municipal Building. The project will be offset by taking \$260,000 from the unassigned Fund Balance. The remaining \$400,000 would be paid through a 10-year lease agreement. The agreement will contain a non-appropriation clause.

Mr. Viger spoke to the proposed article and explained that the boiler was approximately 45 years old and in catastrophic condition. He said natural gas was being brought through town and they found an engineer that provided prices for the project. He noted they didn't have the figures when the committee was reviewing warrant articles.

Mr. Sherman wanted to know if the Library and Fire Station would be included. Mr. Viger replied the Fire Department had remaining money for the project. Mr. McCarthy said the money was left over from a warrant article to offset the cost for the Fire Station and Library. He noted it would be a minimal cost for them to transfer over from propane to natural gas. Mr. Sherman asked about the status of the Senior Center heating. Mr. McCarthy replied that the Senior Center just got a new heating system approximately six months ago, which was oil based. He noted if the gas line was extended up Nashua Road he may come back to the Board.

Mr. McCarthy discussed the efficiency of the new system which would allow individual zone control throughout the building. He noted that Liberty Utilities has offered to perform a free thermal audit of the building to ensure that the building was secure. They will also get the Town involved in a rebate program for the equipment.

Mr. Bailey questioned if fuel cost savings had been estimated for the new system versus the old system. Mr. McCarthy replied he didn't know which system would be installed, but if the voters approve the article he would have information in the fall. Mr. Viger said gas was more efficient than oil, but the company wouldn't put information in writing until a system was installed.

MOTION: (Sherman/Hillsgrove) To reconsider the proposed warrant article.

VOTE: (8-0-0) The motion carried.

MOTION: (Sherman/Hillsgrove) To recommend the article for the municipal building boiler replacement project.

VOTE: (8-0-0) The motion carried.

GENERAL DISCUSSION / CLOSING COMMENTS

Mr. Sherman wanted to know the status of the CMAQ grant. Mr. McCarthy replied the request to accept the grant would be on the ballot. Mr. Viger said if they don't get the grant it might be too late to pull it off the warrant; they didn't know yet. Mr. Sherman questioned if the Fire Department had heard anything regarding the Safer Grant. Mr. McCarthy believed they would have the answers to the questions about the grants within the next couple weeks. He said the warrant would be posted January 29th and hoped to have answers by that time.

Mr. Cate inquired about the status of the Willow Street Bridge project. Mr. McCarthy replied the bridge had gone out to bid. The plan was for construction to begin in spring, 2018. Willow Street will be closed for eight months and reopen by the time school begins in September 2018.

Mr. Sherman was concerned about the number of vacancies on the Board for next year. Mr. McCarthy stated January 22nd -February 2nd were the submission dates to running for office. Anyone interested should fill out an application at the Town Clerk's office.

The Town Deliberative Session will be Tuesday, February 6, 2018, 7pm at Sherburne Hall.

The School Deliberative Session will be Wednesday, February 7, 2018, 7pm at Sherburne Hall.

The Budget Committee will conduct their organizational meeting April 19, 2018, 7:30pm at Sherburne Hall.

Mr. Cate thanked the Department Heads, Selectmen, School Board, Mr. McCarthy, Ms. Larson and those involved with preparing the budgets. He announced that he would not be seeking re-election.

The Board applauded Mr. Cate for his dedication and volunteerism with the Town. Everyone wished him well.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Sherman/Hillsgrove) To adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: (8-0-0) The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Charity A. Landry
Recording Secretary