



ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF
PELHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
March 11, 2025

Linda Y Newcomb
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- 1. To vote, fill in the oval(s) ☐ opposite your choice(s) like this ☒
- 2. To write-in a candidate not on the ballot, write the name on the line provided for the office and fill in the oval ☐ opposite the write-in line, like this ☐

TOWN OFFICES

BOARD OF
SELECTMEN

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than TWO
JASON CROTEAU 1799 ☒
DANIELLE MASSE QUINN 1516 ☒
(WRITE-IN) ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

BUDGET COMMITTEE

ONE YEAR Vote for not more than ONE
MEGHAN MCGINLEY CROWE 890 ☐
KEN WOONTON 1132 ☒
(WRITE-IN) ☐

BUDGET COMMITTEE

TWO YEARS Vote for not more than ONE
THOMAS GELLAR 940 ☐
NINO GIUFFRIDA 1134 ☒
(WRITE-IN) ☐

BUDGET COMMITTEE

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than THREE
DARRYL HALL JR 1340 ☒
NIKI TRETTEL 426 ☐
LISA BROWN 1070 ☐
MIKE CARTER 1187 ☒
PAUL GRANT 1237 ☒
(WRITE-IN) ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

CEMETERY TRUSTEE

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than ONE
WILLIAM T. HAYES JR. 1608 ☒
(WRITE-IN) Sarah Hurley 91 ☐

CEMETERY TRUSTEE

TWO YEARS Vote for not more than ONE
TIM TRETTEL 1212 ☒
(WRITE-IN) Sarah Hurley 300 ☐

LIBRARY TRUSTEE

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than TWO
LYNN GARCIA 1554 ☒
BECKY HOPKINSON 1523 ☒
(WRITE-IN) ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

PLANNING BOARD

TWO YEARS Vote for not more than ONE
SCOTT SAWTELLE 1635 ☒
(WRITE-IN) ☐

PLANNING BOARD

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than TWO
BRUCE BILAPKA 1377 ☒
TIMOTHY J. DOHERTY 1637 ☒
(WRITE-IN) ☐
(WRITE-IN) ☐

TOWN CLERK /
TAX COLLECTOR

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than ONE
LINDA Y. NEWCOMB 1864 ☒
(WRITE-IN) ☐

TRUSTEE OF
TRUST FUNDS

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than ONE
DEMETRA BERGERON 1665 ☒
(WRITE-IN) ☐

TOWN WARRANT
ARTICLES

Article 2
Are you in favor of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Pelham to amend Pelham Zoning Article II Section 307-6 Definitions to add a definition for Short Term Rentals and to update Article V Permitted Uses, Table 2 to add to the existing language Hotels, motels, inns, rooming houses, or tourist cabins are treated as short term rentals as defined. (Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0)

1570 YES ☒
686 NO ☐

Article 3

Are you in favor of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Pelham to amend Pelham Zoning Article XII Section 307-74 Additional Requirements for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) to add that an interior door shall be provided between the principal dwelling unit and the attached ADU consistent with RSA 674:71-73. (Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0)

1599 YES ☒
694 NO ☐

Article 4

Are you in favor of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Pelham to amend Pelham Zoning Article XII Section 307-76, II Minor Home Occupations to limit minor home occupations that are located in an accessory structure to utilize no more than 25% of the primary dwelling unit total square footage by removing the allowance that an occupation conducted in an accessory structure can be based on the total square footage footprint of all structures on the property? Further, to amend Section 307-76, II to not limit minor home occupations to only single-family residences by allowing minor home occupations in duplexes or multi-family properties if the duplexes or multi-family dwelling met all established criteria. Minor Home Occupations do not require the approval of any Town board or official. (Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0)

1471 YES ☒
778 NO ☐

Article 5

Are you in favor of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Pelham to amend Pelham Zoning Article XVIII Natural Resources Management to clarify that the requirement of all new major subdivisions and commercial/business developments maintain an undisturbed fifty-foot perimeter buffer around the entire parcel with the exception of the entrance into the property is only until such time that the Planning Board has had the opportunity to approve the removal of the buffer and further, to remove the requirement of a

ARTICLE 5 CONTINUED ON
BACK OF BALLOT

ARTICLES CONTINUED

ARTICLE 5 CONTINUED

performance guarantee on the water infrastructure of new major subdivision and commercial/business developments since the implementation of the new Well Ordinance provides adequate assurances for water quality and quantity of all new developments. (Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0)

1724 YES ☒
554 NO ☐

Article 6

Are you in favor of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Pelham to amend Pelham Zoning Article VIII – Floodplain Development Ordinance, Section 307-46 Definitions, to define Floodway vs. Floodplain and Section 307-47 (E) to regulate development within flood-prone areas to ensure that construction and modifications do not increase flood risks by requiring applicants of new development to demonstrate through analysis that their proposed development will not raise floodwater levels anywhere in the floodplain and by prohibiting encroachments (e.g., fill or construction) within designated Floodplains and Floodways unless the developer provides equivalent on-site flood storage to offset the displaced volume of fill inside the floodplain and floodway. The changes would also require that the encroachment complies with standard engineering practices. (Recommended by the Planning Board 7-0-0)

1900 YES ☒
374 NO ☐

Article 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) for the purpose of creating a watershed management plan for Long Pond and to authorize the issuance of not more than One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); and, further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the conditions and the rate of interest thereon; further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for loan funding for the above-referenced amount through the Clean Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF), it being understood that repayment of the loan funds may be, but is not guaranteed to be, eligible for up to 100% principal forgiveness in the amount up to \$100,000. (Recommended by the Selectmen 4-1-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-0-0) (Requires a 3/5 ballot vote)

1402 YES ☒
874 NO ☐

Article 8

Shall the Town vote to approve cost items included in the five (5) year collective bargaining agreement ratified by the Board of Selectmen and the Professional Fire-fighter's of Pelham, International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), Local 4546, which calls for the following increases in salary and benefits and to further raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand, Five Hundred and Twenty One Dollars (\$123,521) to fund this year of the agreement, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels? (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-0-0) (Majority vote required)

Year	Cost	Accumulated Cost
2025	\$123,521	\$123,521
2026	\$128,594	\$252,115
2027	\$ 97,367	\$349,482
2028	\$ 80,737	\$430,219
2029*	\$ 93,503	\$523,722

*Including 3 months of 2030

1747 YES ☒
544 NO ☐

Article 9

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth herein totaling Twenty-Two Million, Three Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand, Three Hundred Twenty-Three Dollars (\$22,377,323)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Twenty One Million, Seven Hundred and Twenty-Seven Thousand, Four-Hundred and Twenty-Seven Dollars (\$21,727,427) which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1335 YES ☒
944 NO ☐

Article 10

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to enter into a three-year lease-purchase agreement in the amount of Four-Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$456,000) for the purpose of leasing and purchasing seven cruisers for the Police Department and to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) for the first year's payment for that purpose. All proceeds from sale of any vehicles to be replaced by the vehicles purchased under this warrant article will be used to offset the cost of the acquired vehicles. This capital lease agreement contains a non-appropriation (escape) clause. (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1571 YES ☒
738 NO ☐

Article 11

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of purchasing fire apparatus and associated equipment and to raise and appropriate the sum of Five-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1730 YES ☒
576 NO ☐

Article 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty-Seven Thousand Nine-Hundred Forty-Nine Dollars (\$87,949), for the purpose of hiring and equipping an additional School Resource Officer effective April 1, 2025. Said amount includes anticipated wages, benefits, taxes, and retirement contributions. If approved, the appropriation for this position will become part of the annual operating budget in subsequent years. (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1267 YES ☒
1050 NO ☐



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BALLOT 2 OF 2

Rinda Y Newcomb

TOWN CLERK

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the purpose of funding the engineering and design costs associated with the development of a public water supply to service the Sherburne Road area of the Town. This sum will be used for the planning, surveying, designing, and engineering necessary to evaluate and create plans for a proposed water supply system to the Sherburne Road area of Town to include all properties beginning at Map 39, Lot 1-103 (including Scenic View Drive) and including all lots reflected on Tax Map 39 Lots on Sherburne Road to the west of Lot 1-103, as well as all Lots on Tax Maps 32 and 38. This appropriation will be considered a non-lapsing appropriation pursuant to RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the monies are expended or December 31, 2030, whichever is earlier. (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 7-4-0) (Majority vote required)

1048 YES ☐

1234 NO ☒

Article 14

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000) for repair, maintenance, purchase of equipment and upgrading of Town roads, to be offset by anticipated Highway Block Grant funds? This special article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, IV. No money to be raised by taxation. (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 9-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1956 YES ☒

342 NO ☐

Article 15

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate an additional sum of Two-Million One-Hundred Four-Thousand and Eight Hundred Thirteen Dollars (\$2,104,813) for the purpose of constructing a roundabout located at Mammoth Road and Marsh Road, of which One-Million Six-Hundred Sixty-Seven Thousand One-Hundred Eighty-Nine Dollars (\$1,667,189) will be funded by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) as a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program Grant, and Four-Hundred Thirty-Seven Thousand and Six-Hundred Twenty-Four Dollars (\$437,624) to be expended from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No money to be raised by taxation. This appropriation is in addition to the non-lapsing appropriation authorized by Article 8 of the 2024 Town Meeting for the construction of two roundabouts at the intersections of Sherburne Road and Mammoth Road and Mammoth Road and Marsh Road. This is a special, non-lapsing warrant article in accordance with RSA 32:7, IV. (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1542 YES ☒

747 NO ☐

Article 16

Shall the Town modify the provisions of RSA 72:39-a for the elderly exemption from property taxes, based on the assessed value, for qualified taxpayers to be as follows:

For persons aged 65 to include 74 years of age, \$116,000

For persons 75 to including 79 years of age, \$167,000

For persons 80 years and above, \$216,000

To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 3 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$48,000, if single, not more than a combined net income of \$58,000, if married, and own assets (excluding the value of the person's residence) of not more than \$250,000. (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1890 YES ☒

394 NO ☐

Article 17

Shall the Town of Pelham vote to modify the current exemption from property taxes for inhabitants who are legally blind, as determined by the blind services program, pursuant to RSA 72:37, to increase the exemption from \$57,800 to \$59,000 on the assessed value of the inhabitant's residential real estate, provided all other eligibility criteria shall remain unchanged. (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1831 YES ☒

454 NO ☐

Article 18

Shall the Town adopt the provisions of RSA 72:37-b, Exemption for the Disabled from property tax, based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers to be \$116,000. To qualify the person must be eligible under Title II or Title XVI of The Federal Social Security Act for benefits to the disabled. Additionally, to qualify, the person: must be a resident of the state for at least five (5) years; must occupy the property as his/her principle place of abode; must own the property (as defined in RSA 72:37-b (IV) individually or jointly, or if owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least five (5) consecutive years; had in the calendar year preceding April 1 a net income from all sources, of not more than \$48,000, if a single person, and \$58,000, if married; and own net assets not in excess of \$250,000, excluding the value of the person's residence as described in RSA 72:37-b (III)(b). (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1778 YES ☒

491 NO ☐

Article 19

To see if the Town vote will vote, in a non-binding advisory capacity, to support the Pelham Water Commission continuing plans to design and build, using any combination of state, federal and private funding and local taxation, the necessary infrastructure to supply public water to the Sherburne Road area of Town to include all properties beginning on Tax Map 39 Lots on Sherburne Road to the west of Lot 1-103, as well as all Lots on Tax Maps 32 and 38? (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1172 YES ☒

1104 NO ☐

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 20

To see if the Town will vote, in a non-binding advisory capacity, to support the Pelham Water Commission continuing plans to design and build, using any combination of state, federal and private funding and local taxation, the necessary infrastructure to supply public water along the Route 38 commercial area from Main Street south to the Massachusetts State Line? (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1265 YES ☒
978 NO ☐

Article 21

To see if the Town will vote, in a non-binding advisory capacity, to support the Pelham Wastewater Commission continuing to seek publicly funded wastewater treatment solutions for the Town? (Recommended by the Selectmen 5-0-0) (Majority vote required)

1260 YES ☒
979 NO ☐

Article 22 – Citizens Petition

Shall Pelham study the partisan official ballot system to understand implications on taxpayers, administrative staff & volunteers for the election of town officers as provided under RSA 669:12?

RSA 669:12 states:

Any town may vote to adopt the partisan official ballot system for election of town officers under an article in the warrant for any town meeting, and may rescind such action in like manner. The partisan ballot system shall not be in effect until the town election first following the town meeting at which such system is adopted. A plurality shall elect in towns using the partisan ballot system.

Source: 1979, 410:1, effective July 1, 1979.

In addition, by accepting this petition, the town may be responsible for any costs associated with additional primaries required by this ballot system. (Not Recommended by the Selectmen 0-3-2) (Majority vote required)

365 YES ☐
1849 NO ☒

Article 23 – Citizens Petition

Per RSA 289:6, II-a(a), shall the Town of Pelham delegate the duties and responsibilities of the Cemetery Trustees to the Board of Selectmen? A majority vote in the affirmative shall delegate these duties to be effective 90 days after adoption and shall continue until rescinded by vote of the Town meeting. (Recommended by the Selectmen 4-0-1) (Majority vote required)

1420 YES ☒
798 NO ☐

Article 24 – Citizens Petition

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) for the Pelham Trails Subcommittee, for the purpose of funding expenditures directly related to the development, improvement, and maintenance of Town trails infrastructure, including but not limited to trail repairs, signage, construction of new trails, and maintenance of existing trails. This appropriation shall be funded by taxation and shall be non-lapsing, with any unexpended funds to be carried forward into subsequent years for the same purpose. (Not Recommended by the Selectmen 0-3-2) (Not Recommended by the Budget Committee 0-10-0) (Majority vote required)

611 YES ☐
1648 NO ☒

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING THIS BALLOT