



The Board of Selectmen is pleased to present this Voters' Guide to assist all voters who will be voting on the Town Warrants on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at Pelham High School from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M. The Pelham School Board decided they will be providing the Pelham School District Voter's Guide in a separate communication.

The purpose of the guide is to help you make informed decisions as you vote. The way the Town and Schools operate and how much they spend is significantly determined by your votes. Historically, this voting is more lightly attended but has a greater impact on our daily lives and local taxes. Thus we strongly encourage you to vote on March 13th.

For Detailed information, please view the town website
<http://www.pelhamweb.com/Warrants/>

Sincerely,

Pelham Board of Selectmen

Edmund Gleason, Chair - 2012
Bill McDevitt, Vice Chair - 2014
Robert Haverty - 2013
Hal Lynde – 2013
Douglas Viger - 2014

THE TOWN OF PELHAM
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
WARRANT
2012 TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 1: To see what action the Town will take in the election of the following Officers: one (1) Selectman for a term of three (3) years; three (3) Budget Committee Members for a term of three (3) years; one (1) Budget Committee Member for a term of two (2) years; two (2) Cemetery Trustees for a term of three (3) years; one (1) Library Trustee for a term of three (3) years; one (1) Town Moderator for a term of two (2) years; one (1) Trustee of Trust Funds for a term of three (3) years; one (1) Supervisor of the Checklist for a term of six (6) years and two (2) Planning Board Members for a term of three (3) years.

ARTICLE 2: 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 \$12,507,402? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$12,427,207 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 Budget Committee) (\$12,520,950 approved by Selectmen)
 (Majority Vote Required)

Department	Selectmen	Budget Committee
	2012 final Dept. approved	2012 final Dept. approved
Assessing	150,115	150,115
Budget Committee	4,166	4,082
Cable	95,060	95,209
Cemetery	143,873	143,193
Conservation Committee	3,747	3,747
Debt Service - Interest	166,365	166,365
Debt Service - Principal	541,310	541,310
Elections	18,785	18,785
Emergency Management	8,809	8,809
Fire	1,838,737	1,838,737
Health Officer	43,766	43,766
Health Services	46,235	46,235
Highway	1,309,233	1,299,233
Human Services	86,480	86,480
Insurance	1,831,084	1,831,084
Legal	85,000	85,000
Library	230,256	230,256
Parks and Recreation	183,828	183,828
Planning Department	286,630	283,697
Police	2,411,149	2,411,149
Retirement	1,149,113	1,149,113
Selectmen	477,738	477,738
Seniors	94,891	94,891
Town Buildings	524,902	524,902
Town Celebrations	9,055	9,055
Town Clerk	208,297	208,297
Transfer Station	563,850	563,850
Treasurer	8,331	8,331
Trust Funds	145	145
TOTAL	12,520,950	12,507,402

Article 2 Explanation: This is the Town's Operating Budget.

ARTICLE 3:

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a 3 year lease-purchase agreement for \$14,004 for the purpose of obtaining a new Ford Focus to replace the current Planning Department vehicle and to further raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,668 for the first year's payment for that purpose? This agreement will have a non-appropriation and non-replacement clause as prescribed by state statute. The current Planning vehicle, a former police cruiser, has over 150,000 miles and will not pass inspection. (Recommended by Selectmen) (Recommended by Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

Article 3 Explanation: This is the replacement vehicle for code/zoning enforcement. It is much more fuel efficient and maintenance costs will be much lower.

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$210,000 for the purpose of purchasing a new, fully equipped ambulance and to authorize the withdrawal of \$87,440 from the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund, \$90,000 from the Ambulance Replacement Revolving Account and \$32,560 from the FEMA account. No funds will be raised through taxation.(Recommended by Selectmen)(Recommended by Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

Article 4 Explanation: This is the regularly planned replacement of one ambulance. We have three sources to fund this such that no money will need to be raised by taxes. The three sources are the ambulance capital reserve fund (see Article 5) from which we are withdrawing the current balance of \$87,440; the Ambulance Replacement Revolving Fund which is funded each year from a portion of the income for ambulance services paid by medical insurance; and the third, the FEMA account which is derived from Federal reimbursements for Town expenses during a declared emergency such as an ice storm. Only \$90,000 is taken from the revolving account so a sufficient balance exists to help meet the higher cost of the next ambulance replacement in six years.

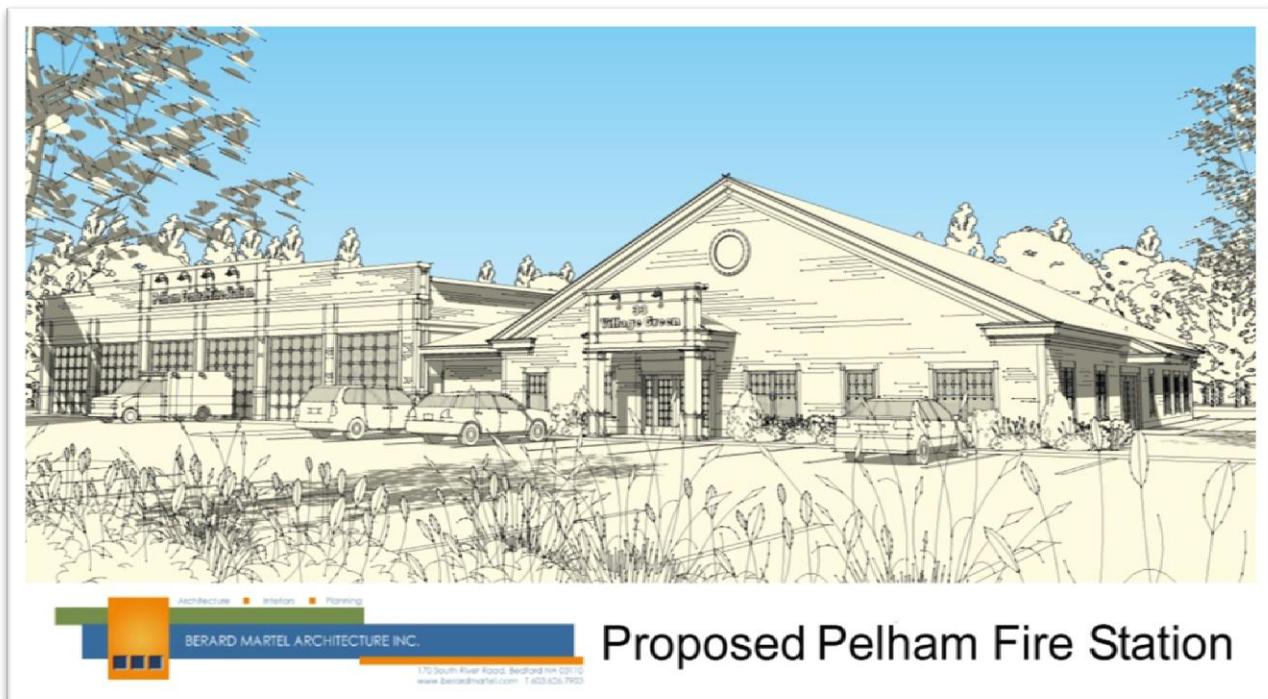
ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote to discontinue the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund? Said funds with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the general fund. (Recommended by Selectmen)(Majority Vote Required)

Article 5 Explanation: This is to close the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund as it has been replaced by the revolving account. Article 4 above withdraws the known balance but there may be a slight amount left in the account, which will be determined by the Town's auditors. This remaining balance of the fund will likely not exceed \$25.00

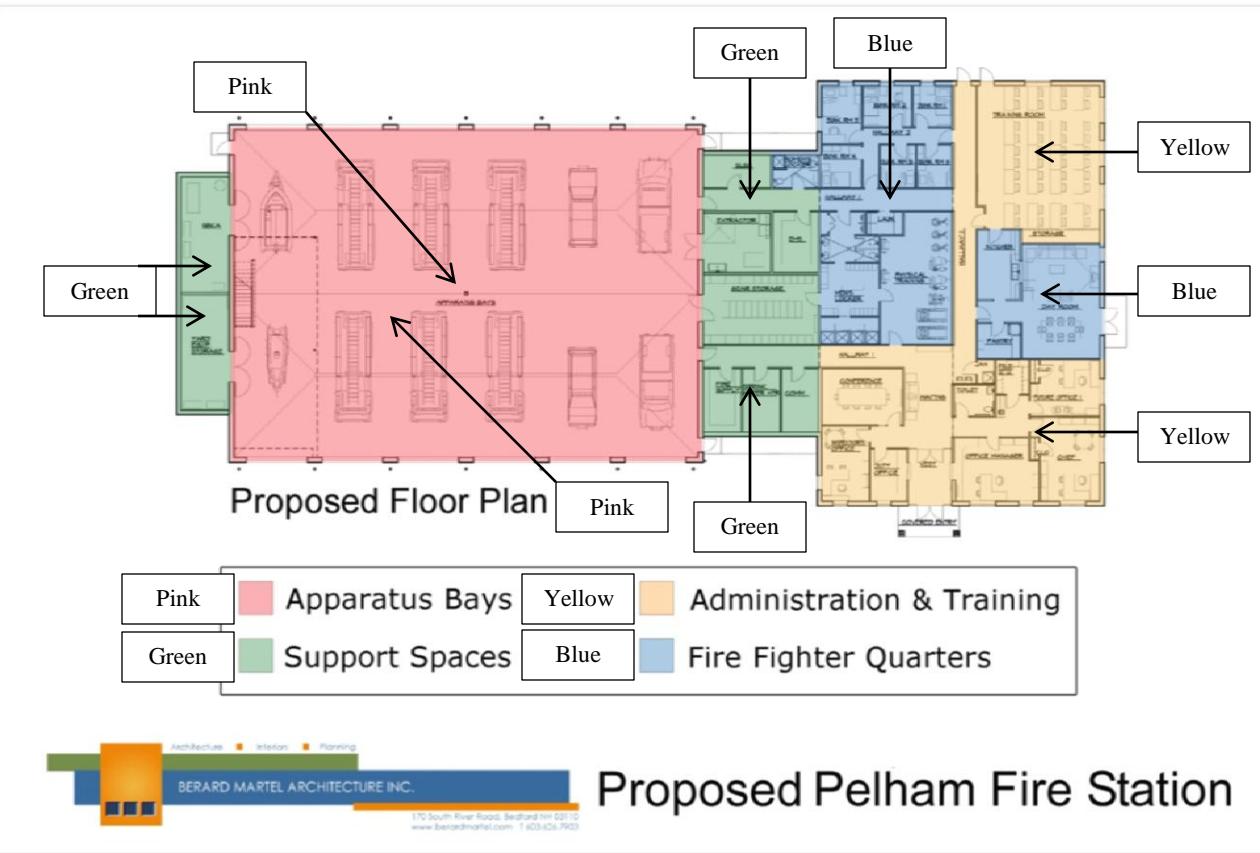
ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,900,000 for the purpose of constructing a fire station and to approve withdrawal of \$2,100,000 of unassigned residual fund balance to offset this cost. Additionally, \$423,393 will be withdrawn from the fire impact fee account, leaving a balance of \$1,376,607 to be raised by taxation. (Recommended by Selectmen)(Recommended by Budget Committee)(Majority Vote Required)

Article 6 Explanation: The Fire Station replacement has been on the Master Plan since 1997 and the Town has been collecting impact fees on the new construction to offset some of the cost since 2002. The bulk of the cost will be offset by a \$2,100,000 withdrawal from the Town's unreserved fund balance. The balance of \$1,376,607, after use of impact fees, will be raised by property taxes. The \$3,900,000 total cost is a guaranteed maximum number. The project will be put out to bid with the expectation the total cost will be less than the guaranteed maximum. Any savings will be added to the unreserved fund balance and could be used to further reduce the tax impact when the 2012 tax rate is set. This will be an excellent time for construction as competition among builders is fierce and the amount raised by taxation, about \$1 per thousand of valuation, will avoid bonding the interest costs and allow payment in full in one year. Please see www.firestationfacts.com.

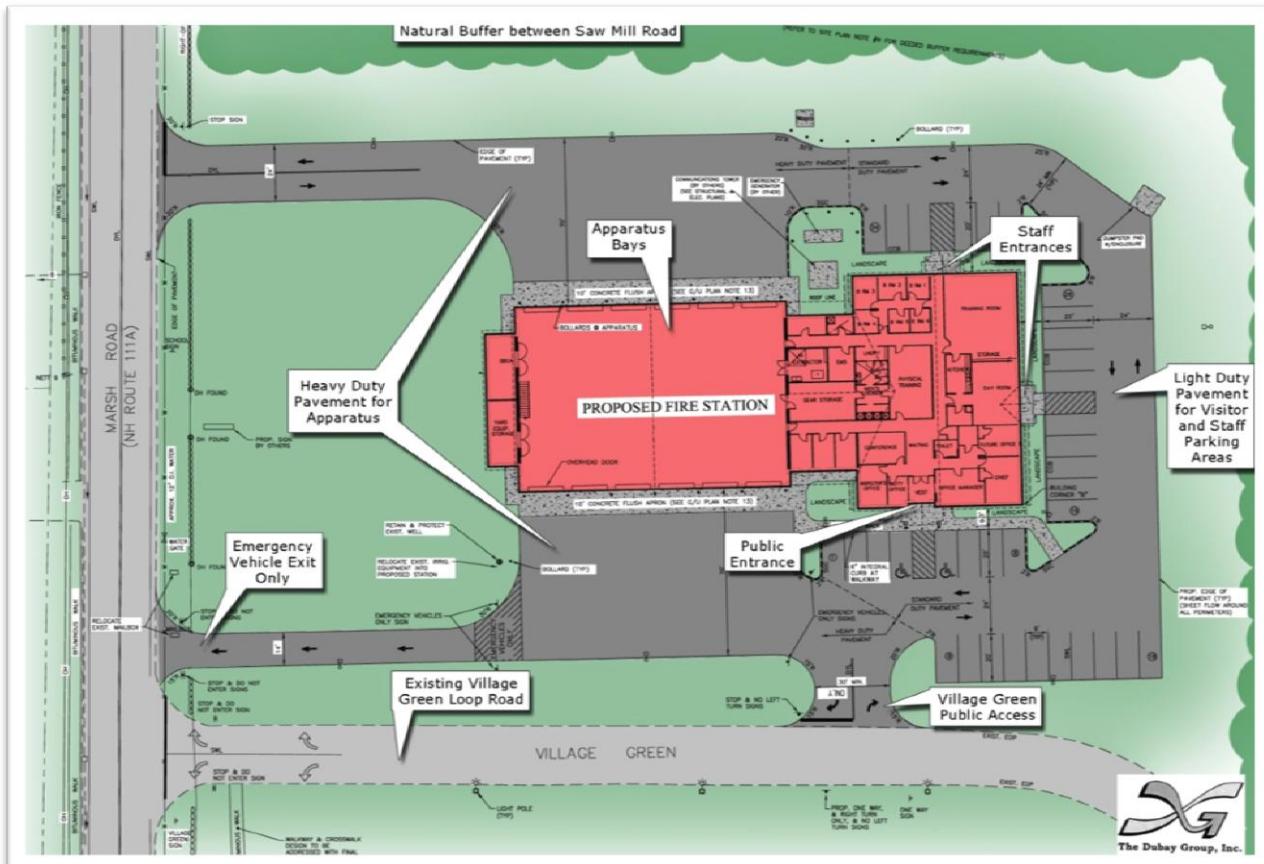
Artist Conceptual Drawing of Proposed Station



Proposed Floor Plan



Proposed Site Plan



ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$196,057 for the purpose of equipping and funding an additional police officer for three years with the condition the town must fully fund that officer in the fourth year? This appropriation of \$196,057 shall be totally offset by a Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grant in the amount of \$196,057. (Recommended by Selectmen)(Recommended by Budget Committee)(Majority Vote Required)

Article 7 Explanation: The Town has received a grant to fully pay for one new Police Officer for three years. The grant stipulation is that we must fund the costs in the fourth year. The estimated cost of salary plus benefits in the fourth year (2016) is \$80,000. Thus the estimated cost over the four years is \$276,000 of which \$196,057 is offset by the COPS grant with no tax impact for the first three years. Our long stated goal has been to have 3 Police officers patrolling Pelham 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Currently, many shifts are covered by two officers. By patrolling with three officers, the town gains better protection, less civil liability and some reductions in overtime based shifts.

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$275,418 for repair, maintenance and upgrading of Town roads, to be offset by the State Grant for highway maintenance? This is a Special Warrant Article. (Recommended by Selectmen)(Recommended by Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

Article 8 Explanation: This Article allows for a state grant to be received in 2012 to be spent on the repair and maintenance of Town roadways. This grant is equivalent to a \$0.20 savings on the Town's tax rate.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,350 from the Raymond Park Capital Reserve for the purpose of forest management, trail maintenance, security and other costs associated with the maintenance and care of Raymond Park? Funds requested come from the net revenues produced by timber harvesting. NO PORTION OF SAID AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY LOCAL TAXES. This is a non-lapsing account per RSA 32:7. (Recommended by Selectmen)(Recommended by Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

Article 9 Explanation: The Forestry Committee is logging a portion of Raymond Park. By covenant, income produced must be deposited in this account and can only be used at Raymond Park. This Article will fund repairs and maintenance to roads, trails and waterways in the Park.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town vote to approve cost items included in the three year collective bargaining agreement ratified by the Board of Selectmen and the Pelham Public Works and Municipal Employees, Local 1801 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), which calls for the following increases in salary and benefits and to further raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,407 to fund this year of the agreement? (The sum of \$32,359 (health and dental benefits) is required to be in the operating and default budgets as an ongoing contractual expense).(Recommended by Selectmen)(Recommended by Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

Article 10 (continued)

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>ACCUMULATED COST</u>
2012	\$ 59,766	
2013	\$ 38,476	\$ 98,242
2014	\$ 64,856	\$ 163,098

Article 10 Explanation: This three year agreement with the Support Union (Highway and Transfer workers plus office staff in Planning, Recreation, Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office, Police, and Fire Departments, the assessing assistant and a bookkeeper in the Selectmen's office). The agreement provides regular step increases for those that qualify during the contract's life and a 1.5 % wage increase in 2014 only. The actual increase in 2012 is \$27,407 since the balance, \$32,359 would still be required to fund health and dental benefits under the existing contract.

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to fund a professional study of the causes of the frequent flooding of Beaver Brook and the neighborhoods, homes, roads, and businesses in proximity to the brook? The study will identify those actions the Town and State or both should take to reduce flooding and estimate the costs of these actions. It will also identify those actions of the Town or State which contribute to the flooding and which the Town or State or both should modify or stop. This study is to be paid from the FEMA account and will have no impact on the tax rate. (Recommended by Selectmen)(Recommended by Budget Committee)(Majority Vote Required)

Article 11 Explanation: This study, paid for from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) funds, would suggest steps the Town might be able to take to reduce flooding along Beaver Brook and thereby reduce flooding effects on exposed properties.

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town vote to change the purpose of the existing Library Renovation – Americans with Disabilities Act Expendable Trust Fund to include any construction/ renovation at the Library and to appoint the Library Trustees as agents to expend. This warrant has no tax impact to the taxpayers of Pelham. (This Article requires a 2/3 majority vote per RSA 35:16.)

Article 12 Explanation: The Library Trustees would like to make structural changes to the Library and approval of this Article would allow them access to funds previously dedicated to ADA related improvements, which have already been made.

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town vote to establish as Town Forests pursuant to RSA 31:110-113 the following parcels or add them to existing Town Forests as follows: Add tax map 8 lot 9-64 (formerly owned by Ivers) to the Kirby Town Forest and rename it the Kirby-Ivers Town Forest totaling approximately 87 acres; and establish the Cutler-Spalding Town Forest to be made up of tax map 26 lots 2-66, 2-67 and 2-76 and tax map 27 lots 2-65 and 2-77 and tax map 32 lot 1-145 totaling approximately 170 acres? No tax impact. (Majority Vote Required)

***Article 13 Explanation:** The article will dedicate recently acquired property as Town forest land and allow for forest management which will provide for healthy woodlands and improved forest environment and utility.*

ARTICLE 14: Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:14-b to delegate the determination of the town default budget to the municipal budget committee which has been adopted under RSA 32:14? (Submitted by Petition) (3/5 Majority Vote Required)

***Article 14 Explanation:** This Petitioned Article would designate the Budget Committee to officially set the Default Budget. The Selectmen currently have that responsibility. The Default Budget is prescribed by existing State law and is described as "Last year's operating budget, plus or minus and contractual changes, less one time expenditures from the prior year budget." Currently the default budget is determined by the Town's finance director because of their knowledge of the Town's contractual commitments and projected cost estimates from our insurance carriers, fuel suppliers, etc. The default budget is then presented to the Selectmen and the Budget Committee at the time of the Town's budget is prepared.*

PLEASE SEE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR THE
2012 SAMPLE BALLOT

-----SAMPLE BALLOTT-----



ABSENTEE OFFICIAL BALLOT

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

TOWN OF
PELHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

March 13, 2012

Dorothy A. Marsden

DOROTHY A. MARDEN, 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 OFFICIALS

For Selectmen

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than **ONE**:

EDMUND J. GLEASON

VICTOR DANEVICH

WRITE-IN

For Budget Committee

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than **THREE**:

DAVE CATE

WRITE-IN

WRITE-IN

WRITE-IN

For Budget Committee

TWO YEARS Vote for not more than **ONE**:

DARYLE HILLSGROVE

WRITE-IN

For Cemetery Trustees

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than **TWO**:

DAVID PROVENCAL

NATE BOUTWELL

RICHARD W. JENSEN

WRITE-IN

WRITE-IN

WRITE-IN

For Library Trustee

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than **ONE**:

CAROLYN THOMPSON

WRITE-IN

WRITE-IN

WRITE-IN

For Town Moderator

TWO YEARS Vote for not more than **ONE**:

PHILIP R. CURRIER

WRITE-IN

WRITE-IN

WRITE-IN

For Trustee of Trust Funds

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than **ONE**:

MARY GLEASON

WRITE-IN

For Supervisor of Checklist

SIX YEARS Vote for not more than **ONE**:

LAURIE A. HOGAN

WRITE-IN

For Planning Board

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than **TWO**:

ROGER J. MONTBLEAU

TIMOTHY J. DOHERTY

WRITE-IN

WRITE-IN

OFFICIAL BALLOT TOWN WARRANT QUESTIONS

ARTICLE 3:

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into a 3 year lease-purchase agreement for \$14,004 for the purpose of obtaining a new Ford Focus to replace the current Planning Department vehicle and to further raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,668 for the first year's payment for that purpose? This agreement will have a non-appropriation and non-replacement clause as prescribed by state statute. The current Planning vehicle, a former police cruiser, has over 150,000 miles and will not pass inspection.
(Majority Vote Required)
(Recommended by Selectmen) YES
(Recommended by Budget Committee) NO

ARTICLE 4:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$210,000 for the purpose of purchasing a new, fully equipped ambulance and to authorize the withdrawal of \$87,440 from the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund, \$90,000 from the Ambulance Replacement Revolving Account and \$32,560 from the FEMA account. No funds will be raised through taxation.
(Majority Vote Required)
(Recommended by Selectmen) YES
(Recommended by Budget Committee) NO

ARTICLE 5:

Shall the Town vote to discontinue the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund? Said funds with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal are to be transferred to the general fund.
YES
(Majority Vote Required)
(Recommended by Selectmen) NO

TURN OVER TO
CONTINUE VOTING

----SAMPLE BALLOTT----

ARTICLE 6:

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(Recommended by Selectmen) YES
(Recommended by Budget Committee) NO

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(Recommended by Selectmen) (Recommended by YES Budget Committee) NO

ARTICLE 8:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$275,418 for repair, maintenance and upgrading of Town roads, to be offset by the State Grant for highway maintenance? This is a Special Warrant Article. **(Majority Vote Required)**
(Recommended by Selectmen) (Recommended YES by Budget Committee) NO

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(Recommended by Selectmen) (Recommended by Budget NO Committee) NO

ARTICLE 10:

Shall the Town vote to approve cost items included in the three year collective bargaining agreement ratified by the Board of Selectmen and the Pelham Public Works and Municipal Employees, Local 1801 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), which calls for the following increases in salary and benefits and to further raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,407 to fund this year of the agreement? (The sum of \$32,359 (health and dental benefits) is required to be in the operating and default budgets as an ongoing contractual expense). **(Majority Vote Required)**
(Recommended by Selectmen)
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YEAR	COST	ACCUMULATED COST	
2012	\$59,766		YES <input type="radio"/>
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(Majority Vote Required)
(Recommended by Selectmen) (Recommended by Budget NO Committee) NO

ARTICLE 12:

Shall the Town vote to change the purpose of the existing Library Renovation – Americans with Disabilities Act Expendable Trust Fund to include any construction/ renovation at the Library and to appoint the Library Trustees as agents to expend. This warrant has no tax impact to the Taxpayers of Pelham.

(This Article requires a 2/3 majority vote per RSA 35:16.) YES
NO

ARTICLE 13:

Shall the Town vote to establish as Town Forests pursuant to RSA 31:110-113 the following parcels or add them to existing Town Forests as follows: Add tax map 8 lot 9-64 (formerly owned by Ivers) to the Kirby Town Forest and rename it the Kirby-Ivers Town Forest totaling approximately 87 acres; and establish the Cutler-Spalding Town Forest to be made up of tax map 26 lots 2-66, 2-67 and 2-76 and tax map 27 lots 2-65 and 2-77 and tax map 32 lot 1-145 totaling approximately 170 acres? **YES**
No tax impact. **(Majority Vote NO Required)**

ARTICLE 14:

Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:14-b to delegate the determination of the town default budget to the municipal budget committee which has been adopted under RSA 32:14? **(3/5 Majority Vote Required) YES**
(Submitted by Petition) NO

VOTING IS COMPLETE