



The Board of Selectmen is pleased to present this Voters' Guide to assist all voters who will be voting on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at Pelham High School from 7 A.M. to 8 P.M. Please note due to changes at the high school, parking is in the south side (student).

The purpose of the guide is to help you make informed decisions as you vote. The way the Town operates and how much it spends is determined by your votes. Please note that the state's "No means no" law prohibits the town from spending any funds for the purposes described in the articles you are voting on if the majority vote no. The sole exception is Article 4, the Town budget. See Article 4 for a further explanation.

We most strongly encourage you to vote on March 8th. Your continued participation is vital.

Sincerely,

*Pelham Board of Selectmen*

Harold Lynde, Chair - 2016  
William McDevitt, Vice Chair - 2017  
Paul Leonard - 2018  
Amy Spencer – 2016  
Douglas Viger – 2017

- *NOTES* -



**TOWN OF PELHAM  
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
WARRANT  
2016 TOWN MEETING**

**ARTICLE 1**

To see what action the Town will take in the election of the following Officers: two (2) Selectman for a term of three (3) years; one (1) Town Clerk/Tax Collector for a term of three (3) years; one (1) Town Moderator for a term of two (2) years; three (3) Budget Committee Member for three (3) years; two (2) Budget Committee Members for two (2) years; one (1) Cemetery Trustee for three (3) years; two (2) Library Trustees for three (3) years; one (1) Library Trustee two (2) years; one (1) Trustee of the Trust Funds for three (3) years; one (1) Trustee of the Trust Funds for one (1) one year; two (2) Planning Board Members for three (3) years; and one (1) Planning Board member for two (2) years.

**ARTICLE 2:**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Pelham Planning Board for the amendment to the Pelham Zoning Ordinance, Article VI, *Mixed-Use Zoning Overlay District (MUZD)* for Pelham Center. This amendment would modify the language within the existing MUZD ordinance. The proposed changes are to section 307-25-3 *Table of Uses within the MUZD* eliminating the *Prohibited Uses* column from the Table leaving the *Allowed Uses* intact, also to remove "Town Houses" from the list of allowed uses and to add the following words at the bottom of the table "ANY USES NOT LISTED ABOVE ARE PROHIBITED WITHIN THE MUZD". Additionally, in section 307-25-6 *Setbacks* the building setbacks are increased from ten (10) to fifteen (15) feet and in section 307-25-7 *Building Height* the maximum building height is reduced from forty (40) feet to thirty (30) feet with the Planning Board having discretion to allow taller heights for cupolas and other unoccupied architectural features. (Recommended by the Planning Board)

**Article 2 Explanation:** *The Planning Board had heard from some citizens that certain portions of the Town Center Mixed Use District (MUZD approved by ballot 3/11/2014) had a maximum building height they felt was too tall and setbacks that they felt were too close. The citizens also felt the allowed density was too great. The Planning Board appointed a Zoning Sub-Committee that took up these questions and presented recommended changes to the Planning Board that reduced the maximum building height from 40 feet to 30 feet. The Zoning Sub-Committee also recommended increasing the building setbacks to 15 feet rather than 10 feet.*

*The Planning Board also considered a recommendation the Table of Uses within the MUZD should only list the Allowed Uses since any proposed use not specifically allowed in that table are disallowed uses. Legal Counsel agreed listing the uses that are not allowed creates confusion since that list can never be complete. The Board approved this change for the ballot and it also removed "Town Houses" from the list of allowed uses. The Planning Board decided not to further restrict the density allowed in the MUZD but would instead address density on a case-by-case as MUZD applications come before them*

### **ARTICLE 3:**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the amendment of the Pelham Zoning Ordinance, Article XV, *Residential Conservation Subdivision by Special Permit*. The proposed language changes to this existing ordinance are: Section 307-95 *Application Procedure*, requires all applicants to provide a conceptual conservation subdivision plan along with their yield plan, Section 307-97 *Special Permit Review* relocates a portion of language formerly located in 307-102 *Density offsets* replacing references to "density offsets" with "special permits" and adding new wording that the Planning Board may require a HOA for a conservation subdivision, Section 307-100 *Parcel Requirements* increases the minimum land area for a conservation subdivision from ten (10) acres to fifteen (15) acres, Section 307-102 *Density Offsets* adds the requirement of sidewalks and connectivity to a Pennichuck East water system when feasible, Section 307-103 *Standards for Approval* requires protection of existing trail systems, and 307-106 *General Requirements* adds several additional requirements, including: In the case of a community water system the HOA docs must prohibit irrigation wells; Roads within a conservation subdivision may be private roads and existing trail connectivity must be protected and if relocated must be within the development parcel. (Recommended by the Planning Board)

**Article 3 Explanation:** *The Planning Board Zoning Subcommittee also made recommendations to make a few changes to the Residential Conservation Subdivision Ordinance (approved by ballot 3/11/2008). These recommendations were needed to address minor problems the Board has identified during many Conservation Subdivision project application reviews over the past 8 years. The biggest change is the minimum lot size for a Conservation Subdivision being increased from 10 acres to 15 acres. This change is based on the belief held by the majority of Planning Board members that the 10 acre requirement is too often waived by variance resulting in Conservation Subdivisions that are too small to achieve the desired goal of maintaining contiguous open space. Other changes add tougher language requiring trail preservation on within the development parcel and allow roads to be private roads not requiring Town maintenance. Additionally, the developer of a Conservation Subdivision would be required to prohibit the drilling of individual irrigation wells by adding that prohibition to the Homeowner's documents which are typically required in Conservation Subdivisions. The logic is private irrigation wells can possibly impact potable water wells serving nearby residents. Another proposed change is whenever feasible Conservation Subdivisions are to be served by Pennichuck East. The thinking is that requiring those connections when they are within reach will help expand Pennichuck's service to Pelham residents.*

**ARTICLE 4: (Town Budget)**

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 Fourteen Million, Two Hundred and Twenty-Nine Thousand, Eight Hundred and Eighty-Seven Dollars (\$14,229,887)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Fourteen Million, One Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand, Five Hundred and Twenty-Four Dollars (\$14,187,524) 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 Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

Department	SELECTMEN 2016 Approved	BUDCOM 2016 Approved
Assessing	\$ 164,874	\$ 164,874
Budget Committee	\$ 4,180	\$ 4,180
Cable	\$ 112,573	\$ 112,573
Cemetery	\$ 144,520	\$ 143,236
Conservation	\$ 3,747	\$ 3,747
Debt Service Interest	\$ 133,490	\$ 133,490
Debt Service Principal	\$ 615,510	\$ 678,875
Elections	\$ 23,227	\$ 23,227
Emergency Management	\$ 8,296	\$ 8,296
Fire Department	\$ 2,021,002	\$ 2,012,977
Health Officer	\$ 43,766	\$ 43,766
Health Services	\$ 60,180	\$ 70,180
Highway Department	\$ 1,415,572	\$ 1,409,354
Human Services	\$ 88,040	\$ 88,040
Insurance	\$ 2,102,981	\$ 2,217,391
Legal	\$ 95,000	\$ 95,000
Library	\$ 291,178	\$ 291,178
Parks & Recreation	\$ 204,333	\$ 202,948
Planning Department	\$ 302,870	\$ 302,430
Police Department	\$ 2,575,854	\$ 2,555,504
Retirement	\$ 1,452,133	\$ 1,452,133
Selectmen's Office	\$ 492,733	\$ 514,233
Senior Center	\$ 111,602	\$ 110,298
Town Buildings	\$ 655,988	\$ 675,984
Town Celebrations	\$ 9,452	\$ 9,452
Town Clerks Office	\$ 228,024	\$ 228,024
Transfer Station	\$ 668,958	\$ 667,314
Treasurer	\$ 11,113	\$ 11,113
Trust Funds	\$ 70	\$ 70
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 14,041,266</b>	<b>\$ 14,229,887</b>

**Article 4 Explanation:** This is the 2016 calendar year operating budget for the Town. The heading "BUDCOM" refers to the Budget Committee. The numbers in the BUDCOM column represent the amounts approved by the Budget Committee after their many weeks of hearings on each individual budget request. The budget you are asked to vote on is the Budget Committee's final number. Should this vote fail, rather than have no budget, State law prescribes a fallback or "default budget" which then takes effect.

**ARTICLE 5: (Trash Compactor for the Transfer Station)**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) for the purpose of purchasing a new compactor and trailer to include a 50 foot by 30 foot wide new steel building to contain them. The breakdown is as follows: new compactor; Forty Eight Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars (\$48,500), new 45 foot compactor trailer; Sixty-Nine thousand and Eight Hundred and Seventy Dollars (\$69,870) and the steel building and site work; One-Hundred and Thirty One Thousand and Six Hundred and Thirty Dollars (\$131,630). This will be installed for the purpose of collecting and processing our single stream recyclables. The \$250,000 required for the cost of construction for this project will come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. This is a non-lapsing Article and will not lapse until 12/31/2020 or until the project is completed, whichever comes first. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

*Article 5 Explanation: Changes in the way outside vendors who take our recyclables are making the current system cost prohibitive. We need to compact all of our recyclables ourselves thereby reducing the number of truck trips. The money we save (approximately \$60,000 dollars) will more than offset the costs we need to start our own compacting. In order to assure no new property taxes, this money, if approved, will come from the Fund Balance.*

**ARTICLE 6: (Highway Block Grant)**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred, Three Thousand and Twenty One Dollars (\$303,021) for repair, maintenance and upgrading of Town roads, to be offset by the State Highway Grant? This will be a non-lapsing account per RSA 32:7, IV. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

*Article 6 Explanation: This is the Town's share of State of N. H. gas tax revenues. If approved the funds will be used to improve and maintain over 100 miles of Town roads.*

**ARTICLE 7: (Senior Center Bus Capital Reserve Fund)**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Senior Center Bus Capital Reserve Fund established in 2003 for the replacement of the Senior Center Bus? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

*Article 7 Explanation: A capital reserve fund was created in 2003 to put money aside for purchasing a replacement bus. The Senior Center bus was purchased in 2007 and is beginning to deteriorate. The goal is to keep putting money aside for the purchase of a replacement bus.*

**ARTICLE 8: (Compensated Absence Fund)**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be placed in the Compensated Absence Trust Fund for the purpose of distributing accrued time (annual earned and paid time off) to terminating employees as required by law or negotiated contracts? The balance of the fund is One Hundred and Ninety-two Thousand Dollars (\$192,000) and the unfunded liability is Four Hundred and Fifty-Six Thousand, Three Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$456,335). (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

**Article 8 Explanation:** *For many years the Town had a practice in place of allowing unused earned time [earned time was the number of days allotted employees each year to cover time off for vacation, sick leave, etc.] to carry over and accumulate up to a fixed maximum which was paid out upon termination of employment. If they were not used the employee was paid the value of this accumulation upon termination of employment. This created an unfunded liability. We no longer allow this accumulation. This article asks approval to add additional funds to the fund created to offset the liability. This would cover potential retirement distributions shortfalls which could occur if long-term Town employee participants retire in the coming year or shortly thereafter.*

**ARTICLE 9: (Highway Department Maintenance Facility)**

Shall the Town vote to establish a Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be placed into that fund for the purpose of constructing a highway maintenance facility to house office and equipment with the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend with one public hearing? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

**Article 9 Explanation:** *The only permanent building at the Highway Department is the salt storage shed. All Highway vehicles are currently stored and repaired outdoors. Outdoor storage had contributed to their deterioration. Further, repairs, often urgently needed in the worst weather must be made outdoors. We were helped several years ago by the donation of a large temporary covered “tent” type structure but this isn’t nearly large enough. If approved, the funds requested will be placed in a fund as a means to save enough money to get this started some year in the future. The Selectmen have formed a study committee to recommend the best solution.*

**ARTICLE 10: (Forest Maintenance Fund, Forest Management)**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-six Thousand Dollars (\$36,000) from the Forest Maintenance Fund for the purpose of forest management, stewardship, security, public education and other costs associated with the maintenance and care of Town Forests? Funds requested come from the revenues produced by timber harvesting, not property taxes. This is a non-lapsing account per RSA 32:7. This is a Special Warrant Article. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Recommended by the Conservation Commission) (Majority Vote Required).

**Article 10 Explanation** *The Pelham Forestry Committee and Conservation Commission have had, for many years, a plan in place to professionally manage each of the Town owned forest lands. Part of these plans include regular timber cuts to allow for healthier tree growth and increased wildlife habitat. Funds raised from sale of timber are placed into the Forest Maintenance Fund. This article seeks approval to withdraw money from the Fund for the purposes stated. None of these funds come from property taxes.*

**ARTICLE 11: (Legal Expenses for the Northeast Energy Direct (NED) Pipeline)**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Nine Thousand (\$49,000) to be expended at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen in opposition to the proposed Northeast Energy Direct high pressure gas pipeline and/or to minimize the impact thereof on the land and people of the Town, including, but not limited to, expenditures for legal representation and consultants, land use planning and consultation, public information purposes, administrative and court filing fees, participation in multi-town coalitions, and any and all other expenses reasonably

## **Article 11 (Continued)**

related to opposing Kinder Morgan pipeline project and/or mitigating the effects thereof. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until December 31, 2020. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

***Article 11 Explanation:** The Selectmen have taken a position against the construction of the proposed pipeline. Pelham has joined a coalition of other towns impacted by the proposal. The coalition has hired an attorney with the necessary expertise to represent the coalition towns, including Pelham, in the complex process of dealing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission which has the final say-so on the pipeline proposal. The funds requested represent Pelham's share of legal costs.*

## **ARTICLE 12:**

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell a certain Town owned property shown on Tax Map lot 30 -11-164, approximately a 0.78 acre parcel, located off of Methuen Road, to Kevin and Constance Crooker for the sum of Thirteen Thousand and Three Hundred Dollars (\$13,300)? Further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,300 to be added to the Conservation Fund with \$13,300 to come from the sale of this property. Said property will be sold by the Town on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen deem prudent with cost of survey and land transfer to be borne by the purchaser. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Conservation Commission) (Majority Vote Required)

***Article 12 Explanation:** The Board was approached by a representative of the prospective purchasers with a request to buy this small piece of Town-owned land which abuts their land. The Selectmen determined the land has no use to the Town.*

## **ARTICLE 13: (Sale of Town Owned Land with Proceeds from Sale to Conservation Fund)**

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell a certain strip of unbuildable land, Town owned property shown on Tax Map 16, Lot 13-88-4, approximately 0.83 acre parcel, located off of St. Margaret's Drive, to J & S Investments for the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) with the proceeds from the sale to be deposited into the Conservation Fund? Said property will be sold by the Town on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen deem prudent with cost of survey and land transfer to be borne by the purchaser. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Conservation Commission) (Majority Vote Required)

***Article 13 Explanation:** The Selectmen were approached by an individual who proposed to buy this strip of Town owned land to gain access and frontage for parcels their client owns. The Selectmen determined this strip, which is unbuildable, has no value to the Town but does have value as a taxable parcel and thus are recommending this sale.*

## **ARTICLE 14: (Elderly Exemption) (Submitted by Petition)**

Shall the Town direct the Selectmen to appoint a committee to determine if the current Elderly Exemption should be replaced with a new Elderly Exemption from property tax in the Town of Pelham, based on assessed value, for qualified tax payers as follows: For a person 65 years of age up to and including 74 years of age, \$103,200.00; for persons 75 up to and including 79 years of age, \$133,200.00 and for persons 80 years of age and over, \$233,260.00. To qualify, the person must meet the requirements of State Law as designed in RSA 72:39-a and 72:39-b. In addition, a qualified taxpayer must have a net annual income of not more than \$37,740.00 if single, or if



## **Article 14 (Continued)**

married, a combined net annual income of not more than \$47,760.00, and own assets excluding the value of the persons residence, of not more than \$132,340.00. The adoption of these figures bring us closer to what the 5 surrounding towns of Pelham offer. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Article Submitted by Petition)

***Article 14 Explanation:** The town currently allows qualified seniors age 65 or older a partial "Elderly Exemption" from property taxes. This article, submitted by petition, seeks to make the current "Elderly Exemption" more generous. The Selectmen amended the article to change the first sentence to create a committee to study the tax impact of the proposal rather than allow it to be adopted immediately.*

## **- Guide to Understanding Term -**

***Budget Committee :** Eleven residents elected by the voters to prepare the budget after consultation with the Board of Selectmen, Library Trustees, Cemetery Trustees, and others. The operating budget presented to the voters is the budget approved by the Budget Committee.*

***RSA:** These references are to N.H. State law – Revised Statutes Annotated. Numbers following the RSA designate the exact chapter and section.*

***Warrant:** This is the formal legal name for the complete list of items you are asked to consider and vote upon.*

***Article:** In this use, article refers to the individual items on which you are being asked to vote.*

***Special Warrant Article:** As provided in State law, this designation identifies any appropriation in the article as non-lapsing and non-transferrable.*

***Map/Lot:** This designates the exact location of a parcel of land on the Town tax map.*

# 2016 Town Sample Ballot

# SAMPLE BALLOT



**ABSENTEE  
OFFICIAL BALLOT  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF  
PELHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
March 8, 2016**

BALLOT 1 OF 2

*Dorothy G. Marsden*  
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 TWO

SUZANNE AMY SPENCER

HAROLD V. LYNDE

(WRITE-IN)

(WRITE-IN)

**Town Clerk /  
Tax Collector**

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than ONE

DOROTHY A. MARSDEN

(WRITE-IN)

**Town Moderator**

TWO YEARS Vote for not more than ONE

PHILIP R. CURRIER

(WRITE-IN)

**Budget Committee**

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than THREE

(WRITE-IN)

(WRITE-IN)

(WRITE-IN)

**Budget Committee**

TWO YEARS Vote for not more than TWO

DAVID CRONIN

MICHAEL BILBY

(WRITE-IN)

(WRITE-IN)

**Cemetery Trustee**

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than ONE

WALTER J. KOSIK, SR.

(WRITE-IN)

**Library Trustee**

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than TWO

DARLENE MICHAUD

CAROL S. BELAND

(WRITE-IN)

(WRITE-IN)

**Library Trustee**

TWO YEARS Vote for not more than ONE

LORI ADAMS

(WRITE-IN)

**Trustee of Trust Funds**

ONE YEAR Vote for not more than ONE

(WRITE-IN)

**Trustee of Trust Funds**

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than ONE

DEMETRA BERGERON

(WRITE-IN)

**Planning Board**

THREE YEARS Vote for not more than TWO

PETER J. McNAMARA

PATRICK CULBERT

TIMOTHY J. DOHERTY

(WRITE-IN)

(WRITE-IN)

**Planning Board**

TWO YEARS Vote for not more than ONE

JOSEPH PASSAMONTE

(WRITE-IN)

**OFFICIAL BALLOT  
TOWN WARRANT  
QUESTIONS**

**Article 2**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Pelham Planning Board for the amendment to the Pelham Zoning Ordinance, Article VI, *Mixed-Use Zoning Overlay District (MUZD)* for Pelham Center. This amendment would modify the language within the existing MUZD ordinance. The proposed changes are to section 307-25-3 *Table of Uses within the MUZD* eliminating the *Prohibited Uses* column from the Table leaving the *Allowed Uses* intact, also to remove "Town Houses" from the list of allowed uses and to add the following words at the bottom of the table "ANY USES NOT LISTED ABOVE ARE PROHIBITED WITHIN THE MUZD". Additionally, in section 307-25-6 *Setbacks* the building setbacks are increased from ten (10) to fifteen (15) feet and in section 307-25-7 *Building Height* the maximum building height is reduced from forty (40) feet to thirty (30) feet with the Planning Board having discretion to allow taller heights for cupolas and other unoccupied architectural features. (Recommended by the Planning Board)

YES   
NO

**TURN OVER TO  
CONTINUE VOTING**

SAMPLE BALLOT

<p><b>Article 3</b> Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the amendment of the Pelham Zoning Ordinance, Article XV, <i>Residential Conservation Subdivision by Special Permit</i>. The proposed language changes to this existing ordinance are: Section 307-95 <i>Application Procedure</i>, requires all applicants to provide a conceptual conservation subdivision plan along with their yield plan, Section 307-97 <i>Special Permit Review</i> relocates a portion of language formerly located in 307-102 <i>Density offsets</i> replacing references to "density offsets" with "special permits" and adding new wording that the Planning Board may require a HOA for a conservation subdivision, Section 307-100 <i>Parcel Requirements</i> increases the minimum land area for a conservation subdivision from ten (10) acres to fifteen (15) acres, Section 307-102 <i>Density Offsets</i> adds the requirement of sidewalks and connectivity to a Pennichuck East water system when feasible, Section 307-103 <i>Standards for Approval</i> requires protection of existing trail systems, and 307-106 <i>General Requirements</i> adds several additional requirements, including: In the case of a community water system the HOA docs must prohibit irrigation wells; Roads within a conservation subdivision may be private roads and existing trail connectivity must be protected and if relocated must be within the development parcel. (Recommended by the Planning Board)</p> <p>YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p><b>Article 4 continued</b> 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 Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)</p> <p>YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p><b>Article 7</b> Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Senior Center Bus Capital Reserve Fund established in 2003 for the replacement of the Senior Center Bus? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)</p> <p>YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/></p>
<p><b>Article 4</b> 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 Fourteen Million, Two Hundred and Twenty-Nine Thousand, Eight Hundred and Eighty-Seven Dollars (\$14,229,887)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Fourteen Million, One Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand, Five Hundred and Twenty-Four Dollars (\$14,187,524) which is the same as last year with certain</p> <p>YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p><b>Article 5</b> Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) for the purpose of purchasing a new compactor and trailer to include a 50 foot by 30 foot wide new steel building to contain them. The breakdown is as follows: new compactor; Forty Eight Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars (\$48,500), new 45 foot compactor trailer; Sixty-Nine thousand and Eight Hundred and Seventy Dollars (\$69,870) and the steel building and site work; One-Hundred and Thirty One Thousand and Six Hundred and Thirty Dollars (\$131,630). This will be installed for the purpose of collecting and processing our single stream recyclables. The \$250,000 required for the cost of construction for this project will come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised by taxation. This is a non-lapsing Article and will not lapse until 12/31/2020 or until the project is completed, whichever comes first. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)</p> <p>YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p><b>Article 8</b> Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be placed in the Compensated Absence Trust Fund for the purpose of distributing accrued time (annual earned and paid time off) to terminating employees as required by law or negotiated contracts? The balance of the fund is One Hundred and Ninety-two Thousand Dollars (\$192,000) and the unfunded liability is Four Hundred and Fifty-Six Thousand, Three Hundred Thirty-five Dollars (\$456,335). (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)</p> <p>YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/></p>
<p><b>Article 4 continued on next column</b></p>	<p><b>Article 6</b> Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred, Three Thousand and Twenty One Dollars (\$303,021) for repair, maintenance and upgrading of Town roads, to be offset by the State Highway Grant? This is a non-lapsing Article and will not lapse until 12/31/2021 or until the project is completed, whichever comes first. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)</p> <p>YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/></p>	<p><b>Article 9</b> Shall the Town vote to establish a Highway Department Capital Reserve Fund and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be placed into that fund for the purpose of constructing a highway maintenance facility to house office and equipment with the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend with one public hearing? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)</p> <p>YES <input type="radio"/> NO <input type="radio"/></p>
<p>GO TO NEXT BALLOT TO CONTINUE VOTING</p>		

SAMPLE BALLOT



**ABSENTEE  
OFFICIAL BALLOT**  
**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
TOWN OF  
**PELHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
March 8, 2016

BALLOT 2 OF 2

*Dorothy G. Munster*  
TOWN CLERK

**Article 10**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-six Thousand Dollars (\$36,000) from the Forest Maintenance Fund for the purpose of forest management, stewardship, security, public education and other costs associated with the maintenance and care of Town Forests? Funds requested come from the revenues produced by timber harvesting, not property taxes. This is a non-lapsing account per RSA 32:7. This is a Special Warrant Article. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Recommended by the Conservation Commission) (Majority Vote Required).

YES   
NO

**Article 11**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Nine Thousand (\$49,000) to be expended at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen in opposition to the proposed Northeast Energy Direct high pressure gas pipeline and/or to minimize the impact thereof on the land and people of the Town, including, but not limited to, expenditures for legal representation and consultants, land use planning and consultation, public information purposes, administrative and court filing fees, participation in multi-town coalitions, and any and all other expenses reasonably related to opposing Kinder Morgan pipeline project and/or mitigating the effects thereof. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until December 31, 2020. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

YES   
NO

**Article 12**

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell a certain Town owned property shown on Tax Map lot 30 -11-164, approximately a 0.78 acre parcel, located off of Methuen Road, to Kevin and Constance Crooker for the sum of Thirteen Thousand and Three Hundred Dollars (\$13,300)? Further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,300 to be added to the Conservation Fund with \$13,300 to come from the sale of this property. Said property will be sold by the Town on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen deem prudent with cost of survey and land transfer to be borne by the purchaser. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Conservation Commission) (Majority Vote Required)

YES   
NO

**Article 13**

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell a certain strip of unbuildable land, Town owned property shown on Tax Map 16, Lot 13-88-4, approximately 0.83 acre parcel, located off of St. Margaret's Drive, to J & S Investments for the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000)? Further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Conservation Fund with \$5,000 to come from the sale of this property. Said property will be sold by the Town on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen deem prudent with cost of survey and land transfer to be borne by the purchaser. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Recommended by the Conservation Commission) (Majority Vote Required)

YES   
NO

**Article 14**

Shall the Town direct the Selectmen to appoint a committee to determine if the current Elderly Exemption should be replaced with a new Elderly Exemption from property tax in the Town of Pelham, based on assessed value, for qualified tax payers as follows: For a person 65 years of age up to and including 74 years of age, \$103,200.00; for persons 75 up to and including 79 years of age, \$133,200.00 and for persons 80 years of age and over, \$233,260.00. To qualify, the person must meet the requirements of State Law as designed in RSA 72:39-a and 72:39-b. In addition, a qualified taxpayer must have a net annual income of not more than \$37,740.00 if single, or if married, a combined net annual income of not more than \$47,760.00, and own assets excluding the value of the persons residence, of not more than \$132,340.00. The adoption of these figures bring us closer to what the 5 surrounding towns of Pelham offer. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Article Submitted by Petition)

YES   
NO

**VOTING IS COMPLETE**

- *NOTES* -

# School Administrative Unit #28

*Pelham School District*

Amanda Lecaroz  
*Superintendent*

Deborah Mahoney  
*Business Administrator*

Mary Beth Goodell, M.Ed..  
*Director of Student Services*

Joan Cote  
*Director of Human Resources*

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• 59A Marsh Road, Pelham, NH • Phone: (603) 635-1145 • Fax: (603) • 635-1283 • [www.pelhamsd.org](http://www.pelhamsd.org)

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Dear Pelham Residents,

As we enter into a new cycle of town budget discussions, I wanted to first thank you for your on-going support for Pelham Schools and our young people. Your investments in our children are making a tremendous difference in their lives and offering each of them the chance to pursue their dreams. Our facility improvements have provided an inspiring new learning environment for students which will pay dividends well into the future.

As we move forward, I am sure you seek value for your tax dollars, which is why the Pelham School Board has prepared this Voter Guide for your review. We wish to be transparent and clear in providing the community with an explanation of the School District Warrant. The articles presented are designed to assist the district in achieving its long-term vision: "The Pelham School District, in collaboration with our community, provides high-quality instruction with rigorous expectations in a supportive and safe environment. We prepare all our students for life-long learning and critical thinking, inspiring them to become contributing citizens of the ever-changing global community." We believe the school warrant articles reflect our long-term goals.

The Pelham School Board members, school administrators, and members of the SAU staff are available to discuss any of the warrants with members of the community. We urge all citizens to be informed about issues and programs in the schools. Please exercise your right to vote on March 8, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Pelham High School.

Respectfully yours,

Amanda Lecaroz  
Superintendent of Schools  
SAU #28

Further information can be obtained by contacting the SAU 28 office at 603-635-1145 or by visiting the Pelham School District website at [www.pelhamsd.org](http://www.pelhamsd.org) and choosing the 2016 Election Information link.

**ARTICLE A**

To elect by ballot the following School District Officers:

School Board Member  
School Board Member

3-Year Term  
3-Year Term

**ARTICLE 1**

Shall the Pelham School District 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 the vote at the first session of the annual school district meeting, for the purposes set forth herein, totaling Thirty Million, Six Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand, Forty-Four dollars (\$30,692,044)? Should the article be defeated, the default budget shall be Thirty Million, Three Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand, Six Hundred Eighty-Seven dollars (\$30,336,687), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Pelham School District or by law; or the School Board 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? (*Majority vote required*).

*Recommended by the School Board  
(5-0-0)*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee  
(9-1-0)*

**Article 1 Explanation:** *The School Board is requesting the voters to fund the budget for Fiscal Year 2017 in the amount of amount of \$30,692,044; an increase of approximately 1.44% over the current year. Our goal as a school district is to maintain a fiscally responsible budget while still achieving the school district goals.*

*Approximately 2.31% of the budget increase is due to increases in the Special Education budget and non-discretionary items such as contractual obligations, transportation, benefits, and energy costs. The School District was able to reduce spending on discretionary items by approximately .65%. Discretionary costs include, but are not limited to, supplies, technology, and textbooks.*

*The increase in the Special Education budget was \$441,976. By Board policy, the Special Education budget is handled separately. These services are required by law and a shortfall would be funded from the general budget. However, a surplus cannot be transferred from the Special Education section of the budget without board approval. Any surplus in the Special Education section is returned to the taxpayers.*

## **ARTICLE 2**

Shall the Pelham School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Pelham School District and the Pelham Education Association (PEA) which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year at current staffing levels:

<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Estimated Increase</u></b>
2016-2017	\$ 245,454
2017-2018	\$ 283,660
2018-2019	\$ 283,660

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Forty-Five Thousand, Four Hundred Fifty-Four dollars (\$245,454) for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement that would be paid at current staffing levels? *(Majority vote required).*

*Recommended by the School Board  
(5-0-0)*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee  
(6-3-1)*

**Article 2 Explanation:** *Warrant Article 2 asks voters to fund the increased costs for teacher salaries for the upcoming three school years. The collective bargaining agreement reached between the Pelham School District and the Pelham Education Association (PEA) calls for an average 2.31% increase in each year. The first year includes a health care insurance cost reduction of \$51,039. If approved, this agreement will replace the current CBA which expires on 8/31/16 and will protect the District's ability to recruit and retain quality teaching staff in a competitive environment.*

## **ARTICLE 3**

Shall the Pelham School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand, Nine Hundred Ninety three (\$150,993) dollars for the installation of alarms and security cameras, at Pelham Elementary School and Pelham Memorial School? *(Majority vote required).*

*Recommended by the School Board  
(5-0-0)*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee  
(6-2-0)*



## ARTICLE 4

Shall the Pelham School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-five Thousand (\$45,000) dollars for architectural and engineering fees for the redesign of main entrances for security improvements at Pelham Elementary School and Pelham Memorial School? *(Majority vote required).*

*Recommended by the School Board  
(5-0-0)*

*Recommended by the Budget Committee  
(7-1-0)*

**Articles 3 & 4 Explanation:** *As a result of a full assessment of our school safety plan with the New Hampshire Office of Emergency Management, the School Board is recommending a number of upgrades to further increase the safety and security of our students. The assessment indicated we should redesign and upgrade the entrances at our elementary and middle school buildings, install secure doors at all entrances of those two schools, as well as install cameras and electronic locks. These improvements will allow us to control and track more effectively who enters and exits our facilities each day.*

**Warrant Article 3** *requests \$150,993 for door monitoring hardware and security cameras at the Pelham Elementary School, The School District Office/Classroom Space Portable and Pelham Memorial School.*

*The Pelham Elementary School and School District Office/Classroom Portable Space currently have 1 external camera in operation. This proposal would increase the amount of internal and external cameras to 33 for a cost of \$ 46,047. To install electronic locks and upgrade to more secure exterior doors in both these location the costs associated with these changes would be \$50,365.*

*The Pelham Memorial School currently has 3 external cameras in operation. We propose increasing that number to 24 internal and external cameras at a cost of \$32,888. The electronic locks and secure doors upgrade would cost \$22,192.*

**Warrant Article 4** *requests \$45,000 to redesign and reengineer the main entrances of Pelham Elementary School and Pelham Memorial School to make them more secure as recommended by the New Hampshire Office of Emergency Management in conjunction with the Office of Homeland Security. If this warrant article is passed by the voters the architectural and engineering drawings would commence in the summer of 2016, finalized in the fall, and be considered as warrant articles on the ballot in March 2017.*

# 2016 Pelham School District Sample Ballot

# SAMPLE BALLOT



**ABSENTEE  
OFFICIAL BALLOT  
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING  
TOWN OF  
PELHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
March 8, 2016**

*Melinda Bastoni*  
MELINDA BASTONI,  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 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

**SCHOOL OFFICIALS**

**For School Board Member**

THREE YEARS Vote for TWO

**THOMAS GELLAR**

**G. DAVID WILKERSON**

(WRITE-IN)

(WRITE-IN)

**OFFICIAL BALLOT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT WARRANT**

**ARTICLE 1**

Shall the Pelham School District 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 the vote at the first session of the annual school district meeting, for the purposes set forth herein, totaling Thirty Million, Six Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand, Forty-Four dollars (\$30,692,044)? Should the article be defeated, the default budget shall be Thirty Million, Three Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand, Six Hundred Eighty-Seven dollars (\$30,336,687), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Pelham School District or by law; or the School Board 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. *(Majority vote required).*

*Recommended by the School Board (5-0-0)  
Recommended by the Budget Committee (9-1-0)*

**YES**   
**NO**

**ARTICLE 2**

Shall the Pelham School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Pelham School District and the Pelham Education Association (PEA) which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits over the amount paid in the prior fiscal year at current staffing levels:

Year	Estimated Increase
2016-2017	\$ 245,454
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and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Forty-Five Thousand, Four Hundred Fifty-Four dollars (\$245,454) for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement that would be paid at current staffing levels? *(Majority vote required).*

*Recommended by the School Board (5-0-0)  
Recommended by the Budget Committee (6-3-0)*

**YES**   
**NO**

**ARTICLE 3**

Shall the Pelham School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand, Nine Hundred Ninety three (\$150,993) dollars for the installation of alarms and security cameras, at Pelham Elementary School and Pelham Memorial School? *(Majority vote required).*

*Recommended by the School Board (5-0-0)  
Recommended by the Budget Committee (6-2-0)*

**YES**   
**NO**

**ARTICLE 4**

Shall the Pelham School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-five Thousand (\$45,000) dollars for architectural and engineering fees for the redesign of main entrances for security improvements at Pelham Elementary School and Pelham Memorial School? *(Majority vote required).*

*Recommended by the School Board (5-0-0)  
Recommended by the Budget Committee (7-1-0)*

**YES**   
**NO**

- *NOTES* -

Board of Selectman  
6 Village Green  
Pelham, NH 03076

Standard Mail  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Pelham, NH 03076  
Permit #6

Current Resident  
Pelham, NH 03076