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APPROVED
TOWN OF PELHAM
BUDGET COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 5, 2020

CALL TO ORDER – at approximately 7:00pm

Chairman David Cronin opened the meeting and read aloud “A Checklist To Ensure Meetings Are Compliant With The Right-to-Know Law During The State Of Emergency” (*regarding access to the meeting*)

Mr. Cronin asked Committee members, when their name is called, to please confirm their presence and to please identify as the right to know law requires, who, if anyone, was in the room.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

PRESENT: David Cronin – Present in person
Amber Capone – Present in person
Bob Sherman – Present in person
Meg Bressette – Present in person
Kannan Sasi – Present via Zoom
School Board Representative Deb Ryan – Present in person
Board of Selectmen Representative Bob Haverty – Present via Zoom

ABSENT: Jas Moorjani – excused
Eduardo Martony - excused
Philip Haberlen – excused
Jason Croteau

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES REVIEW:

October 29, 2020:

MOTION: (Sherman/Ryan) To approve the October 29, 2020 meeting minutes as amended.

ROLL CALL VOTE: David Cronin – Yes
Amber Capone - Yes
Bob Sherman – Yes
Meg Bressette – Yes
Kannan Sasi – Yes
Deb Ryan – Yes
Bob Haverty - Yes

(7-0-0) The motion carried.

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2021 SCHOOL BUDGET REVIEW

Joining the meeting via Zoom were Superintendent Chip McGee along with Business Administrator Deborah Mahoney and Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Sarah Marandos.

28 The Committee went through the proposed budgets beginning with Pelham Elementary. Mr. Cronin
29 confirmed the Special Education Coordinator would become a full-time position. Mr. McGee answered
30 yes. Mr. Cronin also saw the second nurse position would go from half-time to full-time. Mr. McGee
31 replied that was correct.

32
33 Ms. Capone asked for clarification regarding the seal coat/asphalt project. She questioned why they would
34 not pursue doing asphalt this year rather than seal coating. Mr. McGee replied funding the \$40,000 would
35 allow them to get more life out of the existing parking lot. In trying to keep their portion of the Town's
36 Capital Improvement Plan in sync, he didn't feel this was the year to make a request for the whole parking
37 lot.

38
39 Mr. Cronin reviewed the proposed budget for Memorial School. In reference to the architectural request
40 (\$50,000) he asked if there were new renovations/changes coming forward. In general, Mr. McGee said
41 their hope was the project would go forward. While the architectural fees will be part of the soft costs in
42 the bond, the request (for \$50,000) would help for other unforeseen impacts and design questions that were
43 impacts from the project. Ms. Mahoney explained they had budgeted the fund last year should the project
44 not pass in March so they would have an available budget for what they might need to do to rework the
45 design, or other related work to move the project forward. They have requested a level budget for this
46 purpose and to make sure they have funding to do what they need prior to the July 1st budgetary period
47 when the project starts. Mr. Cronin mentioned his feeling that the building was 'in need'.

48
49 Mr. Sherman pointed out a lot of the increases were related to contractual salary items.

50
51 The Committee then went through the proposed high school budget.

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53 Mr. Cronin moved review into the proposed District Wide budget. He saw there were changes in positions
54 and a request to contract out certain services. Ms. Mahoney explained they were looking to replace a
55 speech aide with a speech pathology assistant position. Mr. Cronin also saw the request to have a half-time
56 certified occupational therapist and eliminate a contracted service. Mr. McGee said that was correct. Mr.
57 Cronin then mentioned his intent to come back with an adjustment to the School Board services under
58 Section 110.

59
60 The Committee then reviewed the remaining budgets. Mr. Cronin stated the reason for very few questions
61 at this point was because the proposed budget was very clear and detailed. He thanked Mr. McGee, Ms.
62 Mahoney and Ms. Marandos and everyone responsible for making the budget.

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64 **ADJOURNMENT**

65
MOTION: (Sherman/Capone) To adjourn the meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: David Cronin – Yes
Amber Capone – Yes
Bob Sherman – Yes
Meg Bressette – Yes
Kannan Sasi – Yes
Deb Ryan - Yes
Bob Haverty - Yes

(7-0-0) The motion carried.

66 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40pm.

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Respectfully submitted,
Charity Landry, Recording Secretary