

DRAFT
TOWN OF PELHAM
BUDGET COMMITTEE – MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, January 22nd, 2024

1 **CALL TO ORDER** – Ms. Meg Bressette opened the meeting at approximately 6:32 PM.

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4 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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7 Ms. Bressette called attendance:

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9 **PRESENT:** Chair Meg Bressette
10 Vice Chair Greg Smith
11 Secretary Deborah Ryan
12 Bob Sherman
13 Phil Haberlen
14 David Silva
15 Selectmen Representative Jason Croteau
16 School Board Representative David Wilkerson
17 Recording Secretary Heidi Zagorski

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19 **ABSENT:** Ellen Cormier
20 Garrett Abare
21 Paul Grant

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24 Ms. Bressette welcomed all to the Public Hearing for the Town Warrant Articles. Ms. Bressette stated she would
25 read the warrant articles into the record. She said they were all supported and voted (10-0-0) by the Budget
26 Committee.

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28 Ms. Bressette read the following warrant article into the record as follows:

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30 **Highway Block Grant Aid – Special Warrant Article**

31 “Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$345,000)
32 for repair, maintenance, purchase of equipment and upgrading of Town roads, to be offset by anticipated Highway
33 Block Grant funds. This special article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, IV. No money to be
34 raised by taxation. (Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0-0).”

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36 Ms. Bressette opened this article to the public for comment. Hearing none, she closed the input to the public.

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39 Ms. Bressette read the next warrant article into the record as follows:

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41 **Public Works and Municipal Employees CBA – Special Warrant Article**

42 “Shall the Town vote to approve cost items included in the five (5) year collective bargaining agreement ratified
43 by the Board of Selectmen and the Pelham Public Works and Municipal Employees, Local 1801 of the American
44 Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), which calls for the following increases in
45 salary and benefits and to further raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Forty-Two Thousand, Seven
46 Hundred and Thirteen Dollars (\$142,713) 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 Budget Committee 10-0-0).”

Ms. Bressette said the accumulated cost in all to 2028 is \$554,860. She said this includes three months of 2029. Ms. Bressette said in the first year, it is \$142,713, in 2025 it is \$122,644, in 2026 it is \$98,605, in 2027 it is \$90,784, in 2028 it is \$100,114 including three months of 2029.

Ms. Bressette opened this article to the public for comment. Hearing none, she closed the input to the public.

Ms. Bressette read the last warrant article into the record as follows:

Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program (CMAQ) – Special Warrant Article

“Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three million four hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$3,460,000) to construct two roundabouts at the intersections of Sherburne Road and Mammoth Road and Mammoth Road and Marsh Road. Said appropriation will be offset by a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program (CMAQ) Grant in the amount of two million-six hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$2,680,000) and to be offset with exaction fees on deposit of one-hundred and ten thousand (\$110,000) dollars and to authorize the Selectmen to expend the remainder of the six-hundred and seventy thousand dollars (\$670,000) from the Unassigned Fund Balance. No money shall be raised by taxation. This special article will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, IV. (Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0-0).”

Ms. Bressette opened this article to the public for comment. Hearing none, she closed the input to the public.

MINUTES REVIEW: January 11, 2024

Ms. Bressette asked to change line 533 from \$50,000 to \$51,000.

MOTION: (Sherman/Smith) To place the January 11th, 2024, Budget Committee Meeting minutes on file as amended.

VOTE: (7-0-1) The motion passed.

FUTURE BUSINESS

Ms. Bressette said Deliberative Sessions would be held on February 6th, 2024, for the Town & on February 7th, 2024, for the School with Budget Committee meetings directly following these meetings should there be any changes to the warrant articles that need to be voted on.

Mr. Sherman said the Town position sign-ups open on Wednesday, January 24th, and close on Friday, February 2nd, 2024 at 5 pm. Mr. Smith added that there are four positions open on the Budget Committee, one for a one-year position and three for a three-year position.

Mr. David Silva clarified that he did not rescind his letter that was to be read during the January 11th, 2024, Budget Committee meeting. Mr. Silva said he had wanted his letter to be read as he had written it. He added that all Budget Committee members did receive a copy of the letter so he would not be requesting it be read. Ms. Bressette added that he had previously emailed stating if the letter could not be read in its entirety, then he would not like the letter to be read. Mr. Silva said although he was not able to attend the January 11th, 2024 meeting to

96 read his letter, he was satisfied with the members receiving the letter.
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99 **ADJOURNMENT**

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102 **MOTION:** (Sherman/Smith) To adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:40 PM.

103 **VOTE:** (8-0-0) The motion carried.
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106 Respectively Submitted,

107 Heidi Zagorski

108 Recording Secretary