

### 2022 Voter's Guide

The Board of Selectmen are pleased to present our residents with the Voter's Guide to assist all voters who plan to visit the polls on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at Pelham High School between the hours of 7:00am and 8:00pm. Please note that voter turnout can be quite high during peak hours, so be sure to follow posted directions and traffic patterns to ensure the safety of all parties. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, **masks are recommended at the polls for your safety, as well as for the safety of others.** 

The purpose of this guide is to help you, the voter, make informed decisions as you cast your ballot. The way the Town operates and how much it spends is determined by you, the voters. 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, should the majority vote "no". The sole exemption is Article 4, the Town Budget. Please refer to Article 4 for explanation.

We strongly encourage you to vote on March 8, 2022, and would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued civic participation and to remind you that, regardless of outcome, we move forward together, as the Town of Pelham.

Sincerely,

Pelham Board of Selectmen

Robert Haverty, Chair - 2023 Doug Viger, Vice Chair - 2024 Kevin Cote - 2022 Hal Lynde – 2022 Jaie Bergeron - 2023

### Town of Pelham State of New Hampshire 2022 Town Meeting

To the inhabitants of the Town of Pelham, in the County of Hillsborough and the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs, you are hereby notified of the following annual Town Meeting Schedule.

#### FIRST SESSION OF ANNUAL MEETING (DELIBERATIVE)

You are hereby notified to meet at the Sherburne Hall, 6 Village Green, Pelham, New Hampshire on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 7:00pm. This session shall consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of warrant articles numbered 2-21. Warrant articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) warrant articles the wording of which is prescribed by law shall not be amended and (b) warrant articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion, as amended.

#### SECOND SESSION OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING (OFFICIAL BALLOT VOTING)

You are hereby notified to meet again at the Pelham High School, 85 Marsh Road, Pelham, New Hampshire on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, between the hours of 7:00am and 8:00pm to vote by official ballot to choose all necessary town officials for the ensuing year and to vote on warrant articles numbered 1-21.

#### -A Citizen's Guide to Understanding Terms-

Appropriations: A sum of money or total of assets devoted to a specific purpose.

Article: Individual numbered items within the warrant.

**Budget Committee:** An elected body of eleven (11) individuals which reviews and elects to approve or not approve all town and school budgets, as well as any and all articles involving the expenditure of funds. The budgets presented are prepared by the Budget Committee.

**CBA:** A Collective Bargaining Agreement is a contract between a group of employees (police, fire, or other municipal employees) and the Board of Selectmen, cost items of which are approved by the voters.

**Capital Reserve Fund:** Essentially a "savings account" created by action of a prior town meeting vote into which funds are placed for a designated purpose, but limited to capital expenditures- such as a piece of major equipment, building, etc.

**Conservation Commission:** A group of appointed officials tasked with "the proper utilization and protection of the natural resources of the Town, per RSA 36-A:2.

**Forestry Committee:** An appointed group of five (5) members who volunteer to plan, preserve, and protect public, forested lands (forests, parks, open space, water courses, wetlands) and the wildlife therein. They often work in conjunction with the Conservation Committee, Planning, the Board of Selectmen, as well as with Parks and Recreation.

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

**Non-Capital Reserve Fund:** The same "savings account" concept as a capital reserve fund, but not specifically tied to buildings or equipment.

**RSA:** Refers to a state law-  $\underline{\mathbf{R}}$  evised  $\underline{\mathbf{S}}$  tatute  $\underline{\mathbf{A}}$  nnotated. These laws can be found on the State of New Hampshire's website under "Laws and Rules"

**Special Warrant Article:** As provided in State law, this designation identifies any appropriation in the article as non-lapsing (having no expiration date) and non-transferable (not to be used for anything other than the specific expressed purpose).

**Unassigned Fund Balance:** The accumulation of revenues over expenditures, accrued over the years. It can be used for any purpose voted on by the Board of Selectmen (with app and has been used to offset tax increases as well as to offset the cost of "big ticket" projects, such as the fire station.

Warrant: The official legal name for a group of articles presented to the voters.

#### 2022 Town Warrant

#### <u>Article 1</u>

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 members for a term of three (3) years; One (1) Budget Committee member for a term of two (2) years, One (1) Cemetery Trustee for a term of three (3) years; Two (2) Library Trustees for a term of three (3) years, One (1) Trustee of the Trust for a term of three (3) years; Two (2) Planning Board members for a term of one (1) year; One (1) Supervisor of the Checklist for a term of six (6) years.

#### Article 2

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Pelham to amend the Pelham Zoning Ordinance Article II, Section 307-6, Definitions; Article III, Section 307-12, Table 1 – Table of Dimensional Requirements; Article III, Section 307-13, A; Article V, Section 307-18, Table 2 – Principal Permitted Uses by District; Article XII, Section 307-73; and Article XII, Section 307-74 to clarify that Workforce Housing is permitted in all districts in which residential dwellings are permitted with the exception of the Rural District as consistent with the requirements of RSA 674:59? (Recommended by the Planning Board).

#### Article 2 Explanation:

The purpose of the Warrant Article 2 is to add updated Workforce Housing verbiage within the Town of Pelham Zoning Ordinance definitions, to clarify where Workforce Housing is permitted within the town and sets forth the criteria any such development would need to meet. This would allow the Town to be in compliance with the Workforce Housing Statute NH RSA 674:58-61. This warrant article will protect the Town and sets forth a clear expectation that any and all builds, including Workforce Housing, needs to be built in line with the character of our Town. The full text of the proposed changes are available at the Pelham Planning Department, Pelham Clerk's Office and online at the Town website at both Planning Board and the Planning Department webpages.

#### Article 3

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Pelham to amend the Pelham Zoning Ordinance Article XII, Special Exceptions to allow attached Accessory Dwelling Units to be allowed by means of a Conditional Use Permit issued by the Zoning Administrator rather than by a Special Exception obtained by the Zoning Board of Adjustment? (Recommended by the Planning Board).

#### Article 3 Explanation:

This proposed article makes the process of obtaining approval for an attached Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) change from currently being issued a Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment to being issued a Conditional Use Permit from the Zoning Administrator in the Planning Department. A Special Exception is a specific, permitted land use that is allowed when clearly defined criteria and conditions contained in the ordinance are met. When all criteria and conditions are met, the Zoning Board must approve the Special Exception. If any of the criteria are not met, the Board cannot approve the Special Exception. If this article passes, this change will allow applicants to obtain approvals through the Planning Department using the same criteria that currently exists but by the Zoning Administrator as a designee of the Planning Board rather than having to appear before the Zoning Board. This would streamline the process making it quicker and less expensive for the applicants. The full text of the proposed changes are available at the Pelham Planning Department, Pelham Clerk's Office and online at the Town website at both Planning Board and the Planning Department webpages.

#### Article 4

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000.00) (gross budget) to purchase land and easements for conservation purposes, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue bonds or notes in compliance with provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended); provided, however, that notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Town shall not issue more than One Million, Five Hundred Thousand

Dollars (\$1,500,000.00) of bonds or notes in any one calendar year; to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof, and to take any other action they deem appropriate to effectuate the sale and/or issuance of said bonds or notes; and additionally to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) for the bond's first year's interest payment and costs. Land or property interests to be purchased with bond proceeds shall be acquired in the name of the Town by the Conservation Commission, subject to the approval of the Selectmen, pursuant to RSA 36-A:4. (Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee) (3/5 Vote Required).

#### Article 4 Explanation:

The Town has now acquired over 1,000 acres of public recreation and conservation land as a result of similar bonds which voters approved in 2004 and 2018. Those funds have now been exhausted. This article asks for a renewal which will allow the Conservation Commission to continue this work of preserving open space. If approved, funds will be borrowed as needed, not all at one time.

#### Article 5

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 Million, Three Hundred and Eighty-Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred Ninety-Nine Five Dollars (\$20,389,995)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Nineteen Million, Five Hundred and Sixty-Two Thousand, Four-Hundred and Ninety-Nine Dollars (\$19,562,499) 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).

| <b>Department</b>      | Selectmen                      | Budcom        |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
|                        | <u>2022</u><br><u>Approved</u> | 2022 Approved |
| Assessor               | \$225,563                      | \$225,413     |
| Budget Committee       | \$2                            | \$2           |
| Cable Department       | \$153,731                      | \$153,731     |
| Cemetery               | \$172,983                      | \$174,283     |
| Conservation           | \$5,989                        | \$5,989       |
| Debt Service Interest  | \$46,767                       | \$78,740      |
| Debt Service Principal | \$640,095                      | \$705,845     |
| Elections              | \$31,147                       | \$31,187      |
| Emergency Management   | \$9,041                        | \$9,041       |
| Fire Department        | \$2,875,451                    | \$2,883,761   |
| Health Officer         | \$87,956                       | \$87,956      |
| Health Services        | \$73,700                       | \$73,700      |
| Highway Maintenance    | \$1,844,946                    | \$1,863,582   |
| Human Services         | \$73,820                       | \$73,820      |
| Insurance              | \$2,683,974                    | \$2,890,653   |
| Legal                  | \$106,000                      | \$96,000      |
| Library                | \$564,051                      | \$584,374     |
| Parks & Recreation     | \$275,840                      | \$276,330     |
| Planning Dept          | \$640,282                      | \$641,402     |
| Police Department      | \$3,616,398                    | \$3,642,399   |
| Retirement             | \$2,438,082                    | \$2,440,542   |
| Selectmen              | \$598,742                      | \$630,532     |

| Total                    | \$19,938,158 | \$20,389,995 |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                          |              |              |
| Trust Funds              | \$335        | \$335        |
| Treasurer                | \$15,249     | \$15,249     |
| Transfer                 | \$979,437    | \$980,973    |
| Town Clerk/Tax Collector | \$305,449    | \$306,089    |
| Town Celebrations        | \$9,260      | \$9,260      |
| Town Buildings           | \$994,121    | \$1,036,624  |
| Technology               | \$297,796    | \$297,796    |
| Senior Center            | \$171,950    | \$174,386    |

#### Article 5 Explanation:

This is the operating budget which the Budget Committee is requesting to support all activities of Town government for 2022. Should this budget vote fail, state law allows a default budget to be established automatically rather than have no budget at all. The budget approved by the budget committee is \$20,389,995. The default budget is \$19,562,499, which is last year's budget plus the dollar amount needed to cover previously voted on warrant articles and contractual increases.

#### Article 6

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Twenty Thousand, Three Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars (\$320,372) for repair, maintenance, purchase of equipment 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. No money to be raised by taxation. (Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee).

#### Article 6 Explanation:

This is grant from the state. It is funded by state gasoline taxes. The Town uses the funds to improve town roads and to purchase and maintain highway equipment. This has no impact on local property taxes.

#### <u>Article 7</u>

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) 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? (Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee).

#### Article 7 Explanation:

The Town is legally obligated to keep a balance of 50% of the Towns liability in the Compensated Absence Fund. The sum requested will allow the Town to replaced expended funds (due to retirements & employees who have left our employment) and fund this legal standard. By appropriating this money for the Compensated Absence Fund, the Town is assured of having sufficient funds to cover its obligations.

#### Article 8

Shall the Town vote to re-designate the following wetland systems as prime wetlands as authorized by RSA 482-A:15. These were designated as prime wetlands in 2000 but the boundaries have been re-mapped using modern, GPS technology hence must be re-designated. There is no tax impact. This is a special warrant article. (Recommended by the Selectmen).

| NAME                      | ACRES<br>(2000) | ACRES<br>(2019) |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Little Island Pond        | 24.6            | 26.9            |
| St. Patrick's             | 16.1            | 14.5            |
| Sherburne Road Bog        | 2.4             | 3.7             |
| Sherburne Road Open Water | 17.7            | 19.7            |
| total                     | 60.8            | 64.8            |

#### Article 8 Explanation:

Under RSA 482-A:15 and administrative rules Env-Wt700, individual municipalities may elect to designate wetlands as "prime wetlands" if, after thorough analysis (which the Town had conducted in 2019), it is determined that high-quality wetlands are present. A wetland receives this designation due to a number of factors including size, unspoiled character, and ability to sustain populations of rare or threatened plant or animal species.

# If approved, NHDES will review the submission and apply laws and rules that are applicable to future projects that are within the prime wetland.

#### Article 9

Shall the Town vote to re-designate the following wetland systems as prime wetlands as authorized by RSA 482-A:15. These were designated as prime wetlands in 1987 but the boundaries have been re-mapped using modern, GPS technology hence must be re-designated. There is no tax impact. This is a special warrant article. (Recommended by the Selectmen).

| NAME               |       |      | ACRES<br>(2019) |
|--------------------|-------|------|-----------------|
| Lower Golden Brook | 7     | 2.7  | 98.8            |
| Upper Golden Book  | 8     | 5.3  | 64.0            |
| Camp Runels        | 3     | 8.0  | 32.1            |
| Dunlop             | 7     | 9.5  | 88.0            |
| Cranberry Bog      | 1     | 6.7  | 20.9            |
| Mountain Orchard   | 2     | 8.2  | 21.3            |
| Harris Brook       | 1     | 4.2  | 29.6            |
| Тс                 | tal 3 | 34.6 | 354.7           |

#### Article 9 Explanation:

Under RSA 482-A:15 and administrative rules Env-Wt700, individual municipalities may elect to designate wetlands as "prime wetlands" if, after thorough analysis (which the Town had conducted in 2019), it is determined that high-quality wetlands are present. A wetland receives this designation due to a number of factors including size, unspoiled character, and ability to sustain populations of rare or threatened plant or animal species. If approved, NHDES will review the submission and apply laws and rules that are applicable to future projects that are within the prime wetland.

#### Article 10

Shall the Town vote to place 100% of the revenues of all future payments collected from the Land Use Change Tax into the Conservation Fund in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 III, as authorized under the provisions of RSA 79-A:25 II, said monies to be used for the acquisition of conservation land, conservation easements, development rights and the costs associated therewith? Currently, 75% of the revenues from the Land Use Change Tax are placed into the Conservation Fund so this would be an increase from 75% to 100%. (Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee).

#### Article 10 Explanation:

Currently, 75% of the revenues from the Land Use Change Tax are placed into the Conservation Fund. The Conservation Committee would like to increase the revenues from 75% to 100% to enable them to acquire more conservation land for Pelham residents to enjoy.

#### Article 11

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Conservation Commission to purchase, for conservation purposes, approximately 36.3 acres of land on Tax Map 31, lots 11-32, 11-34 and 11-35, in the vicinity of Blueberry Circle, which is adjacent to a 20-acre Town owned conservation parcel, with said purchase in the amount of Two Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$225,000) to be funded by the Town's Conservation Bond Fund approved in 2018. Per the terms of the Town's Purchase and Sales Agreement, Lot 11-33 (3.7 acres) shall be transferred at no cost to the Town for conservation purposes once this lot is no longer used for telecommunications purposes, subject to the acceptance of the Selectmen at that time. (Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee).

#### Article 11 Explanation:

The Conservation Commission and Planning Board recommend the purchase and hence preservation of these 40 acres of open space which abut another 20-acre Town Forest. If approved, 36.3 acres will immediately become open to the public and protected from development. In time, after the existing cell tower is no longer in use, an additional 3.7 acres will become public land at no additional cost to Pelham.

#### Article 12

Shall the Town vote to appoint the Forest Management Committee as agents to expend, as authorized by RSA 31:19-a, I, from the Forest Maintenance Fund, previously established in 1980? No money to be raised by taxation. (Recommended by the Selectmen).

#### Article 12 Explanation:

Currently, The Forest Management Committee cannot expend funds without the approval from the Legislative body (Town vote). This change would allow the Forest Management Committee to be the agents to expend these funds.

#### Article 13

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Six Thousand, One-Hundred Dollars (\$56,100) for the purpose of forest management, stewardship (signage, trail building, maps, parking, etc.), security, public education and other costs associated with the maintenance and care of Town forest land? Said funds to come from the Forest Maintenance Fund, which is funded from revenues produced by timber harvesting in connection with forest management. No amount to be raised through taxation. This is a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 and shall not lapse until 12/31/2027 or until project is completed. No money to be raised by taxation. This is a Special Warrant Article. (Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee).

#### Article 13 Explanation:

The Forestry Committee has for years worked with a professional forester to manage most Town owned woodlands. This includes carefully controlled cutting of selected trees according to detailed plans prepared by the forester. Proceeds from the sale of wood is placed in the Forest Maintenance Fund and, if this article is approved, expended as requested in this article. This has no impact on property taxes.

#### Article 14

Shall the Town vote to modify the current Elderly Exemption limits from property tax in the Town of Pelham pursuant to RSA 72:39-a based on assessed value for qualified taxpayers as follows:

For persons aged 65 to include 74 years of age: \$106,000 For persons 75 to including 79 years of age: \$152,000 For persons 80 year and above: \$196,000 To qualify the person(s) must meet the requirements of State Law as designated in RSA 72: 39-a and 72:39-b.

In addition, a qualified taxpayer must have an annual net income of not more than \$44,000 if single and not more than a combined net income of \$54,000 if married, and own assets (excluding the value of the person's residence) not more than \$250,000. (Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee).

#### Article 14 Explanation:

If approved, this will replace the existing exemption which has lower income limits, asset limits, and exemption amounts.

#### Article 15

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the additional sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) for the purpose of constructing the Old Bridge Street Flood Relief Bridge adjacent to the Old Bridge Street (Abbott) Bridge in response to construction escalation costs of which 80%, Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) will be reimbursed by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) as a State Aid Bridge Project, and One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be expended from the Unassigned Fund Balance. The total cost for this project is Two Million, Two Hundred Ninety-Four Thousand Dollars (\$2,294,000). One Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand, Eight Hundred Five Dollars (\$122,805) has been expended from the 2015 appropriations for engineering study for the project. Currently the project is being funded from the 2019 appropriations for design, permitting, bidding and construction. This is a special, non-lapsing warrant article in accordance with RSA 32:7, VI and, this appropriation shall not lapse until fulfillment of the purpose or completion of the project and or at the end of the 2027 fiscal year, whichever occurs first. (Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee).

#### Article 15 Explanation:

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, construction materials have significantly increased (Concrete, steel etc.) thus increasing the costs for this project. This \$500,000 increase will cover the additional costs to complete this project.

#### Article 16

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$190,000) for the purchasing and equipping of a forestry fire fighting vehicle.

This vehicle will replace a 2005 forestry vehicle currently in the department. (Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee).

#### Article 16 Explanation:

As mentioned above, this cost will replace an aging fire truck that is beyond its end of life usage. This new vehicle will enhance the fire department's ability to better address brush fires in remote areas in our community.

#### Article 17

Shall the Town vote to increase the annual contribution to the ambulance replacement revolving fund from Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) to Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) to be funded from the ambulance fees collected in each calendar year. This Fund was established in 2005 pursuant to RSA 31:95-h. These funds are held by the Treasurer and may only be expended with town vote approval for the replacement or major refurbishment of an ambulance. No money to be raised by taxation. (Recommended by the Selectmen) (Recommended by the Budget Committee).

#### Article 17 Explanation:

The costs to replace our ambulances has increased thus the \$60,000 annual contributions is no longer sufficient. The requested increase to \$75,000 will meet our needs in addressing these cost increases.

#### Article 18

Shall the Town vote to discontinue as a public roadway that portion of Arlene Drive adjacent to 184 & 188 Arlene Drive that formerly was dedicated, constructed, and utilized as a cul-de-sac, but today is no longer needed for a public highway purpose now that this portion of Arlene Drive is a through street and the paved circle portion of the cul-de-sac no longer exists? If this portion of the former cul-de-sac has been deeded to the Town, the Selectmen shall be authorized to deed that portion of the cul-de-sac that is no longer needed for a public highway purpose to the abutting property owners. (Recommended by the Selectmen).

#### Article 18 Explanation:

Arlene Drive is now a through street and the old cul-de-sac is no longer needed. This article will authorize the Board of Selectmen to deed that portion of the culde-sac that is no longer needed for a public highway purpose to the abutting property owners.

#### Article 19

Shall the Town vote to reclassify Tower Hill Road, which is an unpaved Class VI Highway (a Class VI Highway is a public roadway that the Town has no obligation to maintain), to a Class A trail, beginning 2,400 feet from Gumpas Hill Road to the Hudson town line, in accordance with RSA 231-A. A Class A trail is a full public right-of-way subject to public trail use restrictions imposed by Board of Selectmen, including locked gates to limit impermissible motorized vehicular access by the public. It may not be used by the public for vehicular access to any new building or structure, or by any motorized vehicles other than snowmobiles. It may be used by owners of land abutting the trail to provide access for agriculture and forestry uses and to any building or structure existing on this highway prior to its designation as a Class A trail. The Town shall bear no responsibility for maintaining the trail for such uses by abutting landowners. (Recommended by the Selectmen).

#### Article 19 Explanation:

In the last year, the Town's conservation property has been significantly damaged as a result of Off Highway Recreational Vehicles (OHRV) and large four-wheel drive vehicles. Changing the classification of this road from a Class VI Road to a Class A trail will allow the Town to install large gates that will lock and prohibit these vehicles from entering our conservation properties. Our goal is to protect our conservation trails, eliminate vehicle traffic and preserve these areas.

#### Article 20

Shall the Town vote to reclassify the unpaved Class VI section of Spaulding Hill Road, beginning 300 feet from the end of the Class V section of Spaulding Hill Road to Tower Hill Road (a Class VI Highway is a public roadway that the Town has no obligation to maintain), to a Class A Trail in accordance with RSA 231-A. A Class A trail is a full public right-of-way subject to the public trail use restrictions imposed by the Board of Selectmen, including locked gates to limit impermissible motorized vehicular access by the public. It may not be used by the public for vehicular access to any new building or structure, or by any motorized vehicles other than snowmobiles. It may be used by owners of land abutting the trail to provide access for agriculture and forestry uses and to any building or structure existing on this highway prior to its designation as a Class A trail. The Town shall bear no responsibility for maintaining the trail for such use by abutting landowners. (Recommended by the Selectmen).

#### Article 20 Explanation:

In the last year, the Town's conservation property has been significantly damaged as a result of Off Highway Recreational Vehicles (OHRV) and large four-wheel drive vehicles. Changing the classification of this road from a Class VI Road to a Class A trail will allow the Town to install large gates that will lock and prohibit these vehicles from entering our conservation properties. Our goal is to protect our conservation trails, eliminate vehicle traffic and preserve these areas.

#### **Petition Article 21**

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish an advisory committee for the period of one year to study the feasibility of allowing OHRV on certain Town-owned parcels. This committee would consist of one Forestry Committee member, one Conservation Commission member, one Selectmen, and two members appointed by the Board of Selectmen, both shall be residents of the Town of Pelham, with the purpose of advising the Selectmen on appropriate OHRV usage within Town Property. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen).

#### **Petition Article 21 Explanation:**

We do not explain petition articles because we do not always know with accuracy what was in the mind of the petitioners. There is some risk the explanation is inaccurate or lacking in some important points the petitioners feel should be emphasized.

Given under our hands this 24th day of January 2022

Robert Haverty, Chair Doug Viger, Vice Chair Hal Lynde, Selectman Kevin Cote, Selectman Jaie Bergeron, Selectman

# Notes

# Notes

# Notes

Board of Selectmen 6 Village Green Pelham, NH 03076

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

Current Resident Pelham, NH 03076