MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PELHAM HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM

PRESENT: TOWN SUPERVISOR DANIEL MCLAUGHLIN, DEPUTY TOWN SUPERVISOR RAE SZYMANSKI, COUNCILWOMAN KRISTEN BURKE, COUNCILWOMAN MAURA CURTIN, COUNCILWOMAN KARA MCLOUGHLIN

RECORDING SECRETARY: TOWN CLERK ANTOINETTE CLEMENTE; DEPUTY TOWN CLERK MOLLY GIROLAMO

OTHERS PRESENT: TOM KLEINBERGER – TOWN ATTORNEY, CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY TO THE TOWN SUPERVISOR-RUTHANN DESIMONE, AUGUSTA TURNER – LIBRARY DIRECTOR, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

CALL TO ORDER- Town Supervisor Daniel McLaughlin opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Town Supervisor Daniel McLaughlin asked the Board to review and approve the minutes from the meeting held on August 14, 2023.

Legislative meeting minutes:

Motion by: Councilwoman McLoughlin
Seconded by: Deputy Supervisor Szymanski

Vote Taken:
Supervisor McLaughlin- Aye
Deputy Town Supervisor Szymanski- Aye
Councilwoman Burke- Aye
Councilwoman Curtin- Aye
Councilwoman McLoughlin - Aye

Motion passed unanimously

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) DEPUTY TOWN SUPERVISOR SZYMANSKI

a. STATISTICS REPORT
Month of August 2023
Village of Pelham - 31
Pelham Manor- 43
HRP- 4
I95 – 1

Average response time for the ambulance units that back up the flycar was 9 minutes and 56 seconds.

46% of the fly car calls were answered in under 6 minutes. 71% of the fly car calls were answered in under 7 minutes.

Deputy Supervisor Szymanski received the following information from Chief Benkwitt:

23 mutual aid ambulances were provided by Westchester EMS and 1 each from Eastchester, New Rochelle (the rest were Empress).

There was a 10 minute delay on one of the flycar calls because they were already on a call.

b. Deputy Supervisor Szymanski had a call with Mark from EVAC today and although there is not a contract in place yet, they have started weekly meetings with their internal staff to discuss processes. They are also in touch with Lieutenant Bellantoni and Captain DeSimone. We are working on a contract.

c. A quote was provided by Phillip DeSimone for the ambulance. The specs for the ambulance were outlined on the RFP. Senator Fernandez and Assemblywoman Paulin will also receive a copy of the quote with the hope that they can assist in any way.

2) COUNCILWOMAN MCLOUGHLIN- RECREATION/SENIORS

a. Rec soccer started on Saturday with over 500 kids signed up. Fall men's softball started with nine teams- the most ever. There is also an adult soccer league which is at capacity. Registration is still open for programs that are not filled.

b. Summer camps and clinics were very successful. The clinics ran up until the start of school and the camps ended in early August.

c. We have not received the AED machines yet as they are on backorder. In the interim we are working to gain access to the school devices. Councilwoman Burke suggested a training session for coaches and others who will need to use them. The devices are also equipped with step-by-step instructions including an audio component.

d. There were 38 senior van trips in the month of August. There were also two very successful outings in August and an upcoming trip to Arthur Ave. There will be outdoor concerts on September 18 and October 2.

e. There was a moving 9/11 ceremony today led by Joe Durnin.

3) COUNCILWOMAN BURKE – LEGAL

a. Courts were closed for two weeks in the summer – no August court reports yet.

b. The court is getting close to hiring a Court Clerk.

c. Monthly Tax Receiver's Statement – August 2023

Town/County 2023	$18,450.29
Town/County 2022	$0
School Taxes	$0
School Collection Fee	$0
Duplicate Payments	$0
Duplicate Refunds	$0
Penalties and Interest	$2,911.26
Liens	$83,583.45
Taxpayers Agreement	$12,424.03
Misc.	$1,024.00
Pro-Ratas	$3,224.59
Total	**$121,617.62**

4) COUNCILWOMAN CURTIN – LIBRARY

a. September is National Library Sign-up month. The Pelham library will waive late fees for returned books in September. Kindergarten sign up day is September 23.

b. The library is celebrating Hispanic Heritage month with special programming from September 15 – October 15. Check the library website for more information.

c. Storytime takes place outdoors on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:30 – 11.

d. Councilwoman Curtin offered her condolences to the Art Center and the family of Charlotte Mouquin Voznesenskaya.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1. Supervisor McLaughlin attended the Court of Honor Eagle Scout ceremony of Liam Mead. His project was to make safety improvements to the playground at Christ Church.

2. Thank you to the Village of Pelham for assisting with the 9/11 ceremony.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion to hold a Public Hearing to propose Local Law #2 of 2023 (to override the 2% tax cap if needed)

Motion by: Councilwoman McLoughlin
Seconded by: Councilwoman Burke

Vote Taken:
Supervisor McLaughlin- Aye
Deputy Town Supervisor Szymanski- Aye
Councilwoman Burke- Aye
Councilwoman Curtin- Aye
Councilwoman McLoughlin - Aye

Motion passed unanimously

*****Public Hearing will be held on Monday, October 2, 2023**

2. Resolution to reappoint William Clements to the Board of Assessment Review

Motion by: Deputy Supervisor Szymanski
Seconded by: Councilwoman Burke

Vote Taken:

Supervisor McLaughlin- Aye
Deputy Town Supervisor Szymanski- Aye
Councilwoman Burke- Aye
Councilwoman Curtin- Aye
Councilwoman McLoughlin - Aye

Motion passed unanimously

3. Councilwoman Burke reported on the Energy Benchmarking initiative. She thanked Town Comptroller, Samantha Vitarello, for working with NYSERDA to report our energy usage. The benchmarking has allowed us to put in for a $5000 grant. We will continue to participate in the initiative. More information is posted on our website.

4. Councilwoman Burke updated the Board on the Circuit program (electric vehicle rideshare). She has an updated proposal and would like to explore the program as we enter the budget season. She reiterated that the ambulance will be our top priority. The program will be discussed with the Villages and Councilwoman Burke will report back.

5. Councilwoman Curtin reported on the New York State Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act of 2022 has over $4 billion dollars available. This could be an opportunity for us, especially with our recent sustainability efforts.

6. Councilwoman Curtin addressed noise issues, citing the reopening of Memorial Field and cars with large speakers as sources of recent complaints.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Katie Keenan (225 Elderwood) – read a letter from the Pelham Needs an Ambulance Organizing Committee with a comprehensive recap of the new proposed EMS contract with Eastchester EMS including over 100 supporting signatures from the community. They would like to submit the letter to the Pelham Examiner. The Board praised the committee for a well written letter and asked that they just run the numbers by Fire Chief Benkwitt before submitting to the paper.

- Mark Cardwell (86 Reed Ave.) – Pleased with the progress on the ambulance. Asked for clarification of the timeline and expressed concern with reliance on the county with

mutual aide until the new contract is up and running. He thanked the Board for their work.

Town Attorney Kleinberger explained that we are in contract with Empress until the end of the year. There is a sense of urgency and the Board is doing everything they can to address the issue.

Motion to adjourn the Legislative meeting at 7:38 PM

Motion by: Deputy Supervisor Szymanski
Seconded by: Councilwoman Burke

Vote Taken:
Supervisor McLaughlin- Aye
Deputy Town Supervisor Szymanski- Aye
Councilwoman Burke- Abstained due to remote location
Councilwoman Curtin- Aye
Councilwoman McLoughlin - Aye

Respectfully Submitted,
Antoinette Clemente, Town Clerk
Molly Girolamo, Deputy Town Clerk