MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PELHAM HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2024 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM

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

ABSENT: DEPUTY TOWN SUPERVISOR RAE SZYMANSKI

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

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

Motion to open the Public Hearing:

Motion by: Councilwoman McLoughlin
Seconded by: Councilwoman Burke

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

Motion passed unanimously

Local Law No. 1 of the year 2024
Town of Pelham, County of Westchester

A local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Pelham:

Section 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

It is the intent of this local law to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Town of Pelham, pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c, and to allow the Town of Pelham to adopt a town budget for (a) town purposes and (b) any other special or improvement district governed by the Town Board for the fiscal year 2025 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 2. NECESSITY

The need to override the tax levy limit is primarily the result of significant increases in health insurance, liability insurance, retirement system costs and necessary capital improvements. In order to meet these costs, the Town of Pelham is required to override the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 3. AUTHORITY

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes the Town Board to override the tax levy limit for the upcoming fiscal year, through the adoption of a local law approved by vote of not less than sixty percent (60%) of the Town Board.

Section 4. TAX LEVY LIMIT OVERRIDE
The Town Board of the Town of Pelham is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2025 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the limit specified in General Municipal Law, §3-c.

Section 5. SEVERABILITY
If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 6. EFFECTIVE DATE
This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the New York State Secretary of State.

Dated: Pelham, New York
November 4, 2024

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Augusta Turner (Library Director) asked if the ambulance played a big part in the need to increase the budget cap. Supervisor McLaughlin responded that it did.

Motion to pass Local Law #1 or 2024:

Motion by: Councilwoman McLoughlin
Seconded by: Councilwoman Burke

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

Motion passed unanimously

Motion to close the Public Hearing:

Motion by: Councilwoman Curtin
Seconded by: Councilwoman McLoughlin

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

Motion passed unanimously

Supervisor McLaughlin announced that Deputy Supervisor Szymanski is under the weather and is unable to attend the meeting tonight.

CALL TO ORDER- Town Supervisor Daniel McLaughlin opened the Legislative meeting at 7:03 PM

Motion by: Councilwoman Curtin
Seconded by: Councilwoman Burke

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

Motion passed unanimously

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Town Supervisor Daniel McLaughlin asked the Board to review and approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 7, 2024.

Legislative meeting minutes:

Motion by: Councilwoman Curtin
Seconded by: Councilwoman Burke

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

Motion passed unanimously

****Supervisor McLaughlin stated that he received an email from DASNY that our grant is approved and we are waiting for paperwork from Senator Fernandez's office.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) DEPUTY TOWN SUPERVISOR SZYMANSKI (Reported by Supervisor McLaughlin)

a. EMS Statistics:

October: 101 total calls

- Average response time for the ambulance and flycar was under 5.5 minutes .
- The onsite time (the time that the flycar is there until the ambulance comes) was 19.77.
- Transportation time average was 12.93 minutes.
- Turnaround time (the EMS cannot be released to come back until there is a report from the hospital) was an average of 31.33.

b. Pelham EMS is going to have a table at the Winter Wonderland event on November 30.

c. Supervisor McLaughlin reported that a meeting took place October 11 regarding the space for EMS. The Supervisor and Deputy Supervisor Szymanski and Councilwoman Curtin (via Zoom) met with Westchester County representatives. The group discussed entering into a long term lease for the property by the post office that could only be used for housing the EMS. Discussion around the benefits of leasing rather than owning the property – including the increased opportunity for grant money. Supervisor McLaughlin also mentioned that this project will require an architect and he is aware of a company that focuses on municipalities, including the new Pelham municipal center. He will reach out them for a proposal.

d. Supervisor McLaughlin outlined the proposals to put a carport in the Town Hall parking lot for the ambulance and asked for a motion to discuss.

Motion by: Councilwoman McLoughlin
Seconded by: Councilwoman Burke

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

Motion passed unanimously

Discussion around the three proposals which ranged from $7,000 to $8,200. The Board decided to go with the least expensive bid, which happened to come recommended from the EVAC team.

2) COUNCILWOMAN MCLOUGHLIN- RECREATION/SENIORS

a. A very successful Rec Soccer season ended last Saturday. Winter Basketball registration is open and numbers are higher than they have ever been.

b. The Recreation department Marshall Award will be given out on November 12 at 7PM at Daronco Town House. Breda Bennett is being honored.

c. The Halloween parade was a huge success with record numbers of participation.

d. Afterschool program sign ups start next week. More information can be found on the Recreation website.

e. There will be four Rec teen nights at the New Rochelle YMCA (December, January, February and March).

f. Indoor soccer clinic for grades K-3 will take place at the Hutch school on Saturday mornings.

g. Adult pickleball will be held on Saturday mornings at Level Fitness.

h. Seniors were busy in October with 30 round trips to medical appointments, a Civics sponsored luncheon, Recreation sponsored luncheon, arts and crafts, Arthur Ave., Westchester Community College Culinary School Trip, bingo, cards, birthday celebration, exercise/yoga and pokeno.

i. Small business Saturday and Town Tree lighting will be held on November 30th, preceded by the Civics run.

j. Councilwoman received a proposal for the space planner and will go through it to see if we can pare it down.

3) COUNCILWOMAN BURKE – LEGAL

a. The Court has purchased better recording equipment because the transcribers were having trouble hearing.

b. We have been awarded $30,000 in grants from the clean energy communities (NYSERDA). We have been looking into getting EV chargers and are receiving various quotes from state approved contractors. The grants must be submitted by December, but we can apply now to receive the funds and purchase them and install them at a later date. Councilwoman Burke will follow up on the details. Supervisor McLaughlin mentioned implementing a program to charge a fee if the vehicles are left at a charging station after fully charged. If the EV chargers are not an option at this time, the Board will look into alternatives.

c. Justice Report –

September 2024

Justice Kagan - $37,235.00

Justice Gardner - $65,095.00

d. Monthly Tax Receiver's Statement – October 2024

Town/County 2024	$17,614.27
Town/County 2023	$0
School Taxes	$8.178,672.37
School Collection Fee	$68,742.61
Duplicate Payments	$0
Duplicate Refunds	$(10,555.45)
Penalties and Interest (Town)	$1,761.43
Penalties and Interest (School)	$15,158.40
Penalties and Interest (Liens)	$1,411.29
Liens	$15,664.05
Taxpayers Agreement	$5,110.64
Misc.	$202.00
Pro-Ratas	$11,093.71
Total	**$8,304,875.32**

4) COUNCILWOMAN CURTIN – LIBRARY

a. November 5th is Election Day and the Town Hall will be closed.

b. Great programming continues at the library including: crafty adults, canine story time for emerging readers, story time with the Pelham Larks, adult coloring, fiber Fridays and picture scanning/digitizing. All details can be found on the library website.

c. The Friends of Pelham Library Board is looking for new volunteers. Interest can be directed to friendsofpelhamlibrary@gmail.com.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1) On October 17th the Board presented Ida Petro a proclamation in celebration of her 100th birthday.

2) Supervisor McLaughlin attended the Children's Center Pumpkin Fest fundraiser on October 19th.

3) Supervisor McLaughlin will speak to our landscaper about the condition of the lawn at Gazebo Park.

4) We received a proposal from Millennium Strategies for grant writing consultation. They require a $5,000 annual retainer fee, and the Town will be alerted to available grants on a weekly basis. If we want them to write the grant we would pay on an hourly rate. Supervisor McLaughlin suggested we try this to see if it is beneficial and asked for a motion to approve.

Motion by: Councilwoman Burke
Seconded by: Councilwoman Curtin

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

Motion passed unanimously

NO OLD/NEW BUSINESS

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion to adjourn the Legislative meeting at 7:41 PM to go into Executive Session

Motion by: Councilwoman Curtin
Seconded by: Councilwoman Burke

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

Motion passed unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,
Molly Girolamo, Deputy Town Clerk