MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PELHAM HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2025 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

Motion to open the Public Hearing:

Motion by: Councilwoman Burke
Seconded by: Councilwoman McLoughlin

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

Motion passed unanimously

Local Law No. 1 of the year 2025
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 2026 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 10, 2025

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Mike Gutch (133 Iden Ave.) asked why a cap exists if we can just override it. Supervisor McLaughlin explained that this is not uncommon county wide and that the 2% cap is a suggested guideline from Westchester County but is often unrealistic due to rising healthcare insurance, liability insurance, and EMS service costs. The Board clarified that the cap can only be exceeded by passing a local law.

Vote to pass Local Law #1 or 2025:

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

Motion passed unanimously

Motion to close the Public Hearing:

Motion by: Councilwoman Curtin
Seconded by: Deputy Town Supervisor Szymanski

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

Motion passed unanimously

CALL TO ORDER- Town Supervisor Daniel McLaughlin opened the Legislative meeting at 7:04 PM

1) Supervisor McLaughlin took a moment at the beginning of the meeting to acknowledge Paul Satorius, former Pelham Manor firefighter, who was added to the 9/11 New York State Fallen Firefighters Memorial; the loss of Billy "Wise" Weinblatt (owner of Wise Hardware for more than 41 years) who will be missed by the community and the loss of Judge Anthony Pasquantonio (Town Justice for 40 years) at the age of 95.

2) SWEARING IN OF NEW LIBRARY TRUSTEE, DIANE GUTCH (Term: November 10, 2025 through September 30, 2028)

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Town Supervisor Daniel McLaughlin asked the Board to review and approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 6, 2025.

Legislative meeting minutes:

Motion by: Deputy Town Supervisor Szymanski
Seconded by: Councilwoman McLoughlin

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

Motion passed unanimously

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) DEPUTY TOWN SUPERVISOR SZYMANSKI

a. The Employee Handbook is being finalized with the lawyers. Final copy will be circulated to the Board for approval at the December meeting.

b. The Certificate of Need final hearing will be held on November 19th. Deputy Supervisor Szymanski encouraged the Board to attend the meeting.

c. EMS stats for October 2025: 98 calls

Pelham – 41
Pelham Manor – 49
I-95 – 1
Hutch – 4
Eastchester – 3

Transports primarily went to NYP and 17 went to Sound Shore. The ambulance will take patient to the hospital of their choice within reason.

- Average response time for the ambulance and flycar was 5 minutes and 6 seconds.
- The onsite time (the time that the flycar is there until the ambulance comes) was 17 minutes.
- Transportation time average was 14 minutes 7 seconds.
- Turnaround time (the EMS cannot be released to come back until there is a report from the hospital) was an average of 30 minutes.

2) COUNCILWOMAN MCLOUGHLIN- RECREATION/SENIORS

a. The Seniors were very active in October. Activities included: luncheons hosted by the Civics and the Rec. Department, birthday celebration, trip to Westchester Community College Culinary School lunch, exercise, yoga and the walking club, cards and bingo.

b. The John Marshall Award will be presented to Joanne Case on Tuesday, November 18th. The ceremony will start at 7pm and will be held at the Town House.

c. Last Friday a successful "Mindful Sports" program was held for differently abled children. High School students volunteered to help with the program. The special needs holiday party will be held on Wednesday, December 3rd.

d. Basketball registration is open and the program will begin the week after Thanksgiving. Winter Rec program registration will open at the end of November. Brochures will be sent home in back packs with students and will be on the Rec website.

e. There will be a chess tournament on Saturday, November 15th at the Town House and a Veteran's Day soccer tournament on November 11th at Glover Field.

f. Adult Winter programs will include more Mahjong, Volleyball, Basketball and Pickleball. See the Rec website for more information.

g. The Chamber Small Business Saturday and Town Tree Lighting will be held on Saturday, November 29th. This will follow the Civics Half Marathon which takes place that morning.

3) COUNCILWOMAN BURKE – LEGAL

a. The Court is putting in for a JCAP grant and they are getting estimates to install bullet proof glass in the new court clerk area. They are also putting in for two security related grants.

b. We received an initial draft of the Glover Field report, the final draft should be available soon. More to come.

c. We are still waiting to be able to share the final NYSERDA transit mobility study.

d. Monthly Tax Receiver's Statement – October 2025

Town/County 2025	$7,893.85
Town/County 2024	$0
School Taxes	$5,515,273.56
School Collection Fee	$46,326.09
Duplicate Payments	$0
Duplicate Refunds	$29,629.62
Penalties and Interest (Town)	$618.90
Penalties and Interest (School)	$12,399.08
Penalties and Interest (Liens)	$0

Liens	$0
Taxpayers Agreement	$1,705.74
Misc.	$273.00
Pro-Ratas	$1,166.83
Total	**$5,556,027.43**

a. Justice Report:

September 2025:

Judge Kagan - $11,230.00

Judge Gardner - $14,815.00

4) COUNCILWOMAN CURTIN – LIBRARY

a. The auditors attended the Library Board meeting last week and presented their report. Councilwoman Curtin gave a presentation on the relationship between the Town and the Library at the meeting.

b. A resident expressed a concern about the location of story time on the Library lawn. The Director and Board will take a closer look.

c. All regular programming continues at the Library.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1) **CON ED rate case update** – 40 municipalities came together and contributed $2500 each to fight the recent ConEd rate hike and as a result the electric increase was reduced from 13.4% to 2.8% and the gas was reduced from 19% to 2%. This was an unprecedented result.

2) **Tax Penalty forgiveness request**

The residents at property #05/161.61.6 are asking for their property tax penalty be waived due to check fraud. **The Board discussed and concluded that under the law they are unable to take action in this case** – regardless of the fraudulent situation.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Councilwoman Curtin is working with our website vendor, Town Web, to upgrade to the newest platform. This will include some redesign and the Recreation site will be housed on the website as well. We will also evaluate other features, such as a space reservation system.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion to adjourn the Legislative meeting and go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel situation at 7:43 PM.

Motion by: Councilwoman Curtin
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

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