

**PRELIMINARYMINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PELHAM HELD ON FEBRUARY 4, 2013AT THE TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 7:00P.M.**

**PRESENT:** SUPERVISOR PETER DIPAOLA, DEPUTY SUPERVISOR WILLIAM O'CONNOR, COUNCILMAN BLAKE BELL AND COUNCILMAN DANIEL MCLAUGHLIN

**ABSENT:** COUNCILWOMAN RAE SZYMANSKI

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** TOWN CLERK TIMOTHY CASE.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** TOWN COUNSEL THOMAS KLEINBERGER, DEPUTY TOWN CLERK JESSICA HYNES, CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY TO SUPERVISOR RUTHANN DE SIMONE AND A FEW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

**CALL TO ORDER** - Town Supervisor Peter DiPaola called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**I. Oath of Office – Swearing in Ceremonies**

**A. Library Board -**

Councilman McLaughlin introduced new library board member, Cameron Potts. Mr. Potts has lived in Pelham since 2008. He is an executive at IBM and will be helping out with budgeting for the library.

Supervisor DiPaola then conducted the swearing in of Mr. Potts to a five-year term on the library board beginning in September.

**B. Board of Assessment –**

Supervisor DiPaola then conducted the swearing in of Tim Fisher to the Board of Assessors for a five-year term. This will be Mr. Fisher's third five-year term on the Board of Assessors.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**A. Approval of the minutes** – Supervisor DiPaola asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the organizational meeting held on January 7, 2013.

Motion by: Councilman Bell  
Seconded by: Councilman McLaughlin

Vote taken:  
Supervisor DiPaola                      Aye  
Councilman Bell                          Aye  
Councilman McLaughlin                Aye  
Councilman O'Connor                 Abstain  
Councilwoman Szymanski             Absent

Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Approval of the minutes** – Supervisor DiPaola asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the legislative meeting held on January 7, 2013.

Motion by: Councilman McLaughlin  
Seconded by: Councilman Bell

Vote taken:  
Supervisor DiPaola                      Aye  
Councilman Bell                          Aye  
Councilman McLaughlin                Aye  
Councilman O'Connor                 Abstain  
Councilwoman Szymanski             Absent

Motion carried unanimously.

### **III. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **A. Councilman Bell – Recreation Department Report**

Councilman Bell's gave a report from the January 14, 2013 Recreation commission meeting:

- 1) The Rec commission formally voted Bram Fierstein in as chairman and Vinnie Mazzaro in as vice chairman. Both will serve two-year terms.

- 2) The Rec department revenue is up considerably in 2012 vs. 2011 mainly due to the expansion of programs. In 2011, revenue was \$375,809 and in 2012 revenue stands at \$418,855.
- 3) The Rec commission has met with both village police departments and is working on a list of senior citizens and other people that might need assistance during emergencies.
- 4) Councilman Bell will have an issue to discuss today in executive session relating to a contract negotiation.
- 5) The Rec department is working on an initiative to come up with new programs to assist downtown merchants in Pelham to try to give back to them for all of the support they provide Pelham.

**B. Councilman O'Connor -**

- 1) Councilman O'Connor read into the record the Justice court report for December 2012:

**Judge John Gardner** - collections for - \$42,221.40

**Judge John DeChiaro** - collections for - \$34,830.51

- 2) **Town of Pelham Facebook page:** Councilman O'Connor announced that our Facebook page is getting a good response and a lot of people are viewing it. Councilman O'Connor then asked newly appointed administrator to our Facebook page, Ruthanne DeSimone to post meetings and agendas on the page to let more people see it.

**C. Senator Klein meeting -**

Maggie Klein from the Pelham Weekly ask about the recent meeting that Senator Klein held with Con Edison to discuss the storm response.

Supervisor DiPaola mentioned that the meeting was not well advertised and that he only found out about it three days prior. He also said that Senator's Klein's office only reached out to a few people in the community and there were only about 15 people in attendance. Supervisor DiPaola and Councilman O'Connor suggested that Ms. Klein include the supervisor's e-mail in the Pelham Weekly story about the meeting for anyone that has more information or input on the Con Ed subject.

**D. Councilman McLaughlin**

**Library report -**

Councilman McLaughlin discussed how the library board has had a lot of turnover in the past five years. He feels that the change has been for the best as new members bring new ideas and enthusiasm to the board.

Councilman McLaughlin then mentioned that the new roof project is almost complete and now they are working on the lighting. The lighting project cost is \$25,700 of which New York State funded half of that number. In 2011, the Town of Pelham agreed to put in \$5,000 toward the project and the remaining cost would come from the library's reserves. The library is now looking for the \$5,000, which the Town will honor.

Supervisor DiPaola then discussed that there are a few issues with the roof project from five years ago. The flat roof section has a few leaks now that are difficult to repair. We might have to move the air conditioning units off of the roof in order to fix the problem correctly.

**Fields and grounds report –**

Councilman McLaughlin has spoken to Will Cavanagh from the Pelham School Board about reconvening the field maintenance committee to help with the turf field project. Several members of the committee are retiring or potentially retiring soon.

Supervisor DiPaola spoke to Mr. Cavanagh and feels this is a good idea and that we should move forward with it.

**IV.SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

**A. Trotta Park update**

Eberlin & Eberlin is going to do three of four potential designs for the park project and then Supervisor DiPaola will have a meeting with them to discuss the designs.

**B. Preparedness plan**

Supervisor DiPaola offered that our preparedness plan is continuing to take shape and that the villages are welcome to participate. Supervisor DiPaola continues to work with Eagle Scout candidate, Brett Bell to develop the plan. Supervisor DiPaola is also in contact with a Red Cross representative in Westchester to help us in our emergency planning going forward. We have

received 50 emergency kits from them. The next step is to secure cots for our disaster relief site.

**C. PACT meeting**

Supervisor DiPaola attended the PACT meeting of the community advisory council. It was a well-run meeting, which was attended by members of PACT and two sophomores from Pelham High School. One of the main topics discussed was keeping children away from drugs/alcohol and how to prioritize objectives to best accomplish these goals.

**D. Pelham Children's Center**

Supervisor DiPaola reported that Town attorney Tom Kleinberger has been working to complete the PCC lease. We are making progress and are down to one issue to resolve.

**E. Councilman O'Connor commented** that he recently read something in a prepared statement made by the Village of Pelham trustee that was involved in taking money. She made a statement that the past Town Supervisor 'vetted' her arrangement. Councilman O'Connor stated that the trustee's statement was untrue and that nothing was vetted by the past Town Supervisor or the Pelham Town Board.

**F. Gazebo Park**

A member of the public, John Cassone asked about the condition of Gazebo Park.

Supervisor DiPaola answered that he is going to have representatives from Eberlin & Eberlin look at the park to see if they have any ideas that would help us improve the park.

Councilman McLaughlin suggested that we put in obstacles in the park to deter people from using it as a soccer field. Obstacles could include park benches, potted plants, etc.

**V. MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**

The Supervisor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting and enter into executive session to discuss a personal issue.

Motion by: Councilwoman McLaughlin  
Seconded by: Councilman Bell

Supervisor DiPaola	Aye
Councilman Bell	Aye
Councilman McLaughlin	Aye
Councilman O'Connor	Aye
Councilwoman Szymanski	Absent

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting ended at 7:42pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Timothy Case  
Town Clerk  
Pelham, New York