

**PRELIMINARY MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF PELHAM HELD ON JUNE 3, 2013
AT THE TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

ABSENT: TOWN COUNSEL THOMAS KLEINBERGER

RECORDING SECRETARY: TOWN CLERK TIMOTHY CASE

OTHERS PRESENT: 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. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approval of the minutes – Supervisor DiPaola asked for a motion to approve the
minutes from the regular meeting held on May 6, 2013.

Motion by: Councilman Szymanski
Seconded by: Councilman McLaughlin

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

Motion carried unanimously.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Councilman O'Connor

- 1) Councilman O'Connor read into the record the monthly statement of the Receiver of Taxes. For the month of April 2013 the taxes, assessments, penalties and money collected during the month were as follows: Town and County taxes for 2013 11,253,410.34; Town and County taxes for 2012 95.50; school taxes 22,180.21; school collection fee 119.80; credit card fee 386.75; duplicate payments (Town) 19,716.82; penalties and interest 2,345.28; taxpayer agreement 581.13; misc. 60.00; pro-ratas 3,440.84. The total received for the month of April 2013 was \$11,302,336.67.

- 2) Councilman O'Connor read into the record the Justice court report for April 2013:

Judge John Gardner - collections - \$ 40,140.00

Judge John DeChiaro - collections - \$ 44,281.70

- 3) Councilman O'Connor then mentioned that on Saturday, June 1st, the Pelham Community Rowing Association held a dinner to celebrate their 10-year anniversary. During the speeches at the dinner, various speakers recognized the Pelham Town Board and the Pelham Recreation Commission for the support they both provided by helping to fund the PCRA when it was first getting started. They also put up a plaque in the boathouse thanking the Town Board and Town Rec. commission.

Councilman McLaughlin commented that the PCRA has been very successful, winning several awards in its' fairly short history.

Supervisor DiPaola then thanked the PCRA for their recognition of the Pelham Town Board and the Rec. commission and congratulated the PCRA on all of their success.

B. Councilman Szymanski – Flycar

- 1) January 2013 - 83 total EMS calls for the Town of Pelham with 35 in the Village of Pelham and 28 in Pelham Manor. Included in these numbers were 3 calls on the Hutchinson River Parkway. We also received 17

requests for mutual aid from New Rochelle and 3 requests for mutual aid from Eastchester.

February 2013 – 61 total EMS calls for the Town of Pelham with 30 in the Village of Pelham and 25 in Pelham Manor. Included in these numbers were 8 calls on the Hutchinson River Parkway. We also received 4 requests for mutual aid from New Rochelle and 2 requests for mutual aid from Eastchester.

March 2013 – 71 total EMS calls for the Town of Pelham with 29 in the Village of Pelham and 38 in Pelham Manor. Included in these numbers were 3 calls on the Hutchinson River Parkway and 1 call on 95. We also received 4 requests for mutual aid from New Rochelle.

April 2013 - 54 total EMS calls for the Town of Pelham with 28 in the Village of Pelham and 23 in Pelham Manor. We also received 1 request for mutual aid from New Rochelle and 2 requests for mutual aid from Eastchester.

Councilman O'Connor then commented that he had the opportunity to observe the flycar and ambulance respond to a call at the Pelham train station. The flycar got there right away and stabilized the patient and the ambulance was there two minutes later. Both did a great job.

- 2) **Pelham Guidance Center** – The Pelham Guidance Center annual meeting is this coming Thursday night at Christ Church. PGC board president Melissa Ronan will be the speaker.

Last Saturday Councilwoman Szymanski spent the entire day with PCG's board to discuss their vision of what PCG should be going forward. Pelham's Julie Roche was the facilitator for the day. It was a very productive day and details are forthcoming once everything is finalized.

C. Councilman McLaughlin – Library report

The library board has not had a meeting since our last Town Board meeting. The library was closed for a week from May 6th to May 12th for maintenance. The roof and painting projects are now both completed and there should be no capital funds spent on the library in at least the next few years.

D. Councilman Bell – Recreation Department Report

The last Recreation Dept. meeting was held on May 13th. Some of the subjects discussed were:

- 1) Rec. soccer has saved money by purchasing equipment through the Town
- 2) The Recreation Dept. is working with the School board on improving the lighting on the top of the hill near Friendship Field. The Rec. board is asking the Town to allow the Rec. commission to set aside \$3,200 from their own budget to install a permanent light pole on the hill.

The Town Board all agreed that permanent lighting in this area was needed.

Supervisor DiPaola asked for a motion to approve the expenditure.

Motion by: Councilman McLaughlin
Seconded by: Councilwoman Szymanski

Vote taken:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

- 3) The work to install the new turf field on Glover Field was scheduled to begin today. They have worked out a better way to stage the turf project so less of the complex will have to close during the construction.
- 4) The Rec. commission has voted to eliminate funding for Pelham hockey and has asked for this year's money to be returned due to the very poor handling of how a young player was excluded from the program. The Rec. commission is extremely angry and has also requested that the Pelham hockey officials appear before the commission.

- 5) John Marshall award – The Rec. commission received numerous nominations for the John Marshall award and have voted to give the award to Dennis and Julie Roche for their work with Rec. Soccer.
- 6) Bram Fierstein has officially stepped down as chairman of the Rec. commission as he is moving to New Rochelle. Vinny Mazzaro has been elected as the new chairman.

III. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

A. Field Committee

- 1) Supervisor DiPaola stated that a permanent solution to the lighting problem near Friendship field is long overdue and he wished that we had acted sooner to fix the problem.
- 2) Supervisor DiPaola then announced that there is going to be a field committee meeting this coming Friday at 7:30am. He asked Councilman McLaughlin and Councilman Bell if they could attend to represent the Town board at this meeting. Both agreed to attend.

B. Trotta Park

Supervisor DiPaola then discussed the progress on Trotta Park. We are about to receive samples of the materials. The bid documents will also be distributed very soon. Construction is expected to start after the Pelham street fair (June 23rd) and should be completed by September.

C. Flycar response time

Supervisor DiPaola talked about the flycar situation at St. Catherine's Church that was brought to the Town Board's attention at our last meeting. In this situation it took at least 5 minutes for the flycar to arrive at the scene. This is longer than everyone would like it to be. Supervisor DiPaola then explained that sometimes there is a delay in the direct notification process through either 911 or County control. Supervisor DiPaola stated that this process needs to be streamlined and he promised to meet with Empress and improve this communication process.

There was also discussion amongst the Board about educating Pelham residents to call our local police instead of 911, especially from cell phones.

This will help to make sure the emergency calls get routed to the correct place so response times will be quicker.

D. Constables

Supervisor DiPaola then discussed that the Town Constable's job list is being modified and expanded. The Constable's now need to patrol the outside areas around the Town House on nights that the Town House is in use (almost every night). This area included Gazebo Park and the surrounding area. There is a need to protect our investment in the park area and make sure the park does not continue to get destroyed by skateboarders and soccer players. There is also a plan to install cameras around the Town House for surveillance purposes.

E. Power outages

Deputy Supervisor O'Connor discussed that the Town Board has instituted a few measures in the wake of Hurricane Sandy to help residents. One problem/issue that keeps resurfacing is the Highbrook Avenue has more power outages than other parts of Pelham. One problem, according to Con Edison is that some of the transformers in the area around Highbrook are outdated and need to be replaced. Deputy Supervisor O'Connor suggested that the Town re-engage Con Ed to update their equipment to help solve the power outage issue.

Catherine Page, 220 Highbrook Ave spoke in regards to the power problems. Mrs. Page mentioned that she has a list of 24 or so houses in her neighborhood that lose power whenever the temperature rises to over 90 degrees and power demand increases.

Supervisor DiPaola agreed to work together with the Village of Pelham Mayor Tim Cassidy and NY State Senator Jeff Klein to try to push Con Ed to fix the problem as quickly as possible.

F. Public comments

Xaira Ferrara, 201 Highbrook Ave, asked about a downtown development plan. The Town Board directed her to the Village of Pelham board meeting that is being held June 4, 2013. Each village is responsible for their own development plans.

IV. MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING

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

Motion by: Councilman O'Connor
Seconded by: Councilwoman Szymanski

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

Motion carried unanimously and the meeting ended at 7:50pm

Respectfully submitted.

Timothy Case
Town Clerk
Pelham, New York