

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF  
THE TOWN OF PELHAM HELD ON AUGUST 12, 2013 AT THE TOWN  
HALL COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M.**

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

**ABSENT:** TOWN CLERK TIMOTHY CASE

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** DEPUTY TOWN CLERK JESSICA HYNES

**OTHERS PRESENT:** CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY TO SUPERVISOR RUTHANN DE SIMONE, TOWN COUNSEL THOMAS KLEINBERGER 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.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE** - Supervisor Peter DiPaola ask for a moment of silence for Peter Lombardi and Carol Deere, who both passed away recently.

**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 July 1, 2013.

Motion by: Councilwoman Szymanski  
Seconded by: Councilman Bell

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 Bell – Recreation Department Report

The last Recreation Commission meeting was held on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Three main topics were discussed:

- 1) Much of the meeting was spent discussing Pelham Youth Football's desire to bring itself back under the Rec. commission's umbrella.
- 2) There was also discussion about the current delay in the work at Glover Field in completing the turf field due to concerns about possible contamination of the dirt. The Pelham Rugby Assoc. is willing to donate money to the Friend's of Pelham Sports in order to get the work moving quicker.

Arrangements are being made to move events in September if the field is not finished in time.

- 3) There is an indemnification agreement being arranged in order to avoid liability prior to the dirt removal in case the dirt is possibly contaminated.

Supervisor DiPaola asked if any on the dirt from Glover had been moved to the Spring Rd. field complex. No one was sure so Supervisor DiPaola said he would look into it to make sure.

Councilman McLaughlin commented that Pelham Country Club was originally willing to accept the dirt but the fact that the dirt was mixed with ciders from the track might have caused PCC to not accept it.

Supervisor DiPaola then asked Councilman Bell on his thoughts about Pelham Youth Football coming back under the Rec commission. Councilman Bell said he thought it was a good idea and that PYF would benefit from the structure and oversight the Rec. commission could provide.

### B. Councilman O'Connor – Councilman O'Connor read into the record the Justice court reports.

For May 2013: **Judge John Gardner** - collections - \$ 34,236.80

**Judge John DeChiaro** - collections - \$ 43,535.30

For June 2013: **Judge John Gardner** - collections - \$ 45,552.00

**Judge John DeChiaro** - collections - \$ 27,220.00

### **Receiver of Taxes Report -**

Councilman O'Connor read into the record the monthly statement of the Receiver of Taxes. For the month of May 2013 the taxes, assessments, penalties and money collected during the month were as follows: Town and County taxes for 2013 3,098,017.21; Town and County taxes for 2012 9,866.75; school taxes 118,353.88; school collection fee 639.16; credit card fee (Town) 414.83; duplicate payments (refund) -19,716.82; penalties and interest 20,835.89; liens 11,213.49; taxpayer agreement 581.13; misc. 423.00; pro-ratas 2,693.37. The total received for the month of May was \$3,243,321.89.

For the month of June 2013 the taxes, assessments, penalties and money collected during the month were as follows: Town and County taxes for 2013 69,325.02; Town and County taxes for 2012 5,951.56; school taxes 25,376.52; school collection fee 137.05; penalties and interest 20,632.29; liens 122,108.18; taxpayer agreement 581.13; misc. 193.00; pro-ratas 3,600.88. The total received for the month of June was \$247,905.63.

For the month of July 2013 the taxes, assessments, penalties and money collected during the month were as follows: Town and County taxes for 2013 42,077.51; penalties and interest 4,169.50; liens 43,992.30; taxpayer agreement 847.32; misc. 3,642.00; pro-ratas 544.18. The total received for the month of July was \$94,972.81.

Deputy Supervisor O'Connor said that when we see a large increase in late payments such as listed above, we should have the Receiver of Taxes reach out to the taxpayer in question to see if we can start getting installment payments from them.

Supervisor DiPaola then stated for the record that the credit card fees on taxes are paid directly by the taxpayer. The credit card fee does not come out of the Town tax money.

### **C. Councilman McLaughlin – Library report**

There was a meeting last week to talk about the repositioning of the library's air conditioning unit. The a/c unit is on the flat part of the library roof and needs to be moved. It was installed incorrectly years ago and now has to be fixed.

The library is unable to apply for a grant for this work because it is within 5 years of getting a previous grant for the roof. The cost of moving the A/C unit is approximately \$20,000. The library is considering applying for another grant to repair the fencing and lighting. Two bids are in so far for that work and one of the bids is for \$15,000. Councilman McLaughlin stated that there is money in the library reserves that could be used for the roof this year.

Supervisor DiPaola said that we should wait on this project for now and bring it up again in the fall.

Supervisor DiPaola then mentioned that the driveway at the library has to be widened. People are having trouble exiting and entering, causing them to drive on the lawn and create divots in the lawn. This needs to be fixed before someone falls in a divot and gets hurt.

### III. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

- A. Pelham Children's Center** – Earlier this summer, during one of the hottest summer days, the Pelham Children's Center's air conditioner unit broke down and needed to be replaced. The Town replaced it right away and the PCC board was very appreciative and complimented the Pelham Town Board for fixing it.

Also, the PCC and the Town are splitting the cost of a new security door for the Children's Center. They will now have the ability to lock the door and visitors will have to get buzzed in to enter.

- B. Courtroom construction** – The bids are in and we are working out a construction schedule with the PCC. The new court bench needs to be built when the PCC is on vacation. The electrical system is also getting upgraded as part of the project. This is all being paid for through a grant we have obtained.
- C. Trotta Park** – We planned on opening the bids today but we found changes that needed to be made. The changes to the plans have been made and approved by the architect. The new plans have been distributed to the contractors and we are now waiting for them to come back with their bids. We expect to have all of the bids by next Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- D. 9/11 Ceremony** - Supervisor DiPaola asked Councilman McLaughlin to coordinate this year's 9/11 ceremonies with the fire department. Supervisor DiPaola would like to send out invitations early this year to the families of the victims and to other community leaders.

**IV. MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**

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

Motion by: Councilman McLaughlin  
Seconded by: Councilman O'Connor

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Case  
Town Clerk  
Pelham, New York