

**MINUTES OF THE LEGISLATIVE MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE
TOWN OF PELHAM HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2018 AT DARONCO
TOWN HOUSE, COMMENCING AT 7:05 PM**

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR PETER DIPAOLO, DEPUTY TOWN SUPERVISOR DANIEL MCLAUGHLIN, COUNCILMAN BLAKE BELL, COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY CASE, COUNCILWOMAN RAE SZYMANSKI, AND TOWN COUNSEL THOMAS KLEINBERGER

ABSENT: DEPUTY TOWN CLERK JESSICA HYNES

RECORDING SECRETARY: TOWN CLERK AMY RIOS

OTHERS PRESENT: CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY TO THE SUPERVISOR RUTHANN DESIMONE, TOWN ASSESSOR MICHELE CASANDRA AND A FEW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

CALL TO ORDER- Supervisor Peter DiPaola called the Legislative Meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

1) Approval of Minutes

- a) Supervisor DiPaola asked the Board to review the minutes from the Organizational and Legislative meetings held on January 8, 2018.

1. Councilman Bell moved to approve the minutes of the Organizational Meeting with a few spelling changes to be made.

There is a meeting scheduled on November 12, 2018 – however that is a scheduled holiday and the meeting is now scheduled for November 19, 2018.

Motion by: Deputy Supervisor Mclaughlin
Seconded by: Councilman Bell

Voting taken

Supervisor DiPaola- Aye
Deputy Supervisor-McLaughlin- Aye
Councilman Bell- Aye
Councilman Case- Aye
Councilwoman Szymanski- Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Councilman Bell moved to approve the minutes of the Legislative Meeting with a few spelling changes to be made.

Motion by: Councilman Bell
Seconded by: Councilman Case

Voting taken

Supervisor DiPaola- Aye
Deputy Supervisor-McLaughlin- Aye
Councilman Bell- Aye
Councilman Case- Aye
Councilwoman Szymanski- Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

2) LOCAL LAW 1 2018 Vote

- a) A LOCAL LAW to amend Local Law No. 1 of 2008 of the Laws of the Town of Pelham to extend the Real Property Tax Exemption to the Cold War Veterans to qualifying owners, without regard to the previous ten-year limitation as authorized by Section 458-b of the Real Property Tax Law and as amended recently by Chapter 290 of the Laws of 2017.

Motion by: Councilwoman Szymanski
Seconded by: Councilman Case

Voting taken

Supervisor DiPaola- Aye
Deputy Supervisor-McLaughlin- Aye
Councilman Bell- Aye
Councilman Case- Aye
Councilwoman Szymanski- Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

3) TAX WARRANT RECEIVED

Supervisor DiPaola received tax warrant from Judson K. Siebert of Keane & Beane P.C. for the situation in December 2017 to allow the Town to collect Town Taxes for 2018 and County Taxes for 2018 as well as the regular warrant for the same period.

Town Assessor Michele Casandra stated that the Town does the normal warrant. The office has been advised that there be two warrant dates on the tax roll as well as the tax bill. The prepayment will appear as a credit on the tax bill. The office is working with the vendor to make sure the bills are printed correctly. Councilman Bell asked if the vendor made changes to the software and if the Town is sharing those costs, or is Pelham bearing the cost solely. Though no definitive answer was given there was further discussion about the matter.

4) COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Councilwoman Szymanski - Fly Car

- a) Councilwoman Szymanski provided the Board with the reports for the months of December 2017 and January 2018 for entry into the minutes.
- b) December 2017 Report -- Total 64 Calls

Pelham 41 calls

Pelham Manor 23 calls

Hutchison River Parkway 7 calls

44% answered in 5 minutes or less and 56% answered between 5 and 9 minutes.

- c) January 2018 Report – Total 58 Calls

Pelham 24 calls

Pelham Manor 34 calls

Hutchison River Parkway 3 calls

The time for the backup ambulance was about 8.41 minutes.

Confidential Secretary Ruthanne DiSimone asked if anyone called about the incident at the basketball game. Discussion ensued, and Councilwoman Szymanski will follow up Ruthann. Scott had sent a report.

48% answered in 5 minutes or less and 52% answered between 5 and 9 minutes.

- d) For the entire year of 2016 there were 820 calls. 45% were answered in 5 minutes or less and 54% in 5 minutes to 9 minutes. There was an increase in calls by 6% 2017, there were 866 calls. 62% were answered in 5 minutes or less and 38% were answered in 5 to 9 minutes.
- e) Councilwoman Szymanski would like to remind Department Heads that it is February and evaluations must be done.

2) Councilman Bell - Legal

i) Tax Receiver Report- Monthly Statement from the Receiver of Taxes.

(1) The report for the month of January 2018 is below:

- (a) Town/County Taxes 2017 Received: \$ 0.00
- (b) Town/County Taxes 2016 Received: \$0.00
- (c) School Taxes Received: \$17,885,113.84
- (d) School Collection Fee: \$114,486.32
- (e) Credit Card Fee:
 - (i) Town- \$0
 - (ii) School- \$1,813.25
- (f) Duplicate Payments-School: \$1,183,850.57 Refund sent 1/26/18
- (g) Penalties & Interest: \$3,984.09
 - (T) 0.00
 - (L) \$648.44
 - (S) \$3,335.65
- (h) Liens: \$3,412.85
- (i) Taxpayers Agreement: \$2,854.28
- (j) Misc. \$223.00
- (k) Pro-Ratas: \$0.00
- (l) Total: \$18,011,887.63

ii) Town Court Justice Fund Internal Reporting

(1) December 2018:

- (a) Justice DeChiaro remitted \$34,658.32 filed 1/12/2018
- (b) Justice Gardner remitted \$23,943.50 filed 1/12/2018

3) Councilman McLaughlin - Library

Board Meeting 3/14/2018. There was no Board meeting in February.

- (1) ConEdison is working on the gas lines. The parking lot and Carol Place are still tied up. Work started 1/12/2018 and is still ongoing. It has upset the operation of the library.
- (2) Upcoming Library programs
 - (a) Sewing Workshop 2018 – The library received a grant for \$1,300 to have sewing lessons. The Monday evenings 6:45 pm - 8:45 pm on 4/9, 4/16/, 4/23 and 4/30. The library has reserved 8 sewing machines from the Westchester Library System.

(b) Demystifying Medicare and Healthcare for Seniors 3/24 1 pm-4 pm.

- (3) Looking back at 2017 there was an increase of almost 15% in library program attendance. From 8,300 in 2016 to 9,500 in 2017. Program sessions increased from 306 in 2016 to 364 in 2017, an increase of almost 19%.
- (4) One of the problems that the library has is one section of the pavers with the names have popped up. It happens after every winter. A cone has been put up, so people don't trip over it. There was a discussion about an alternate way of displaying the names. This would allow for another fundraiser for the library and the sidewalk would be cement.
- (5) Councilman McLaughlin and Supervisor DiPaola met with Senator Klein about funding for an addition to the children's center in the library. The library has gotten an estimate of \$750,000. There is a grant program for work like this, however the Town would have to pay for the project upfront.

4) **Councilman Case – Recreation Department**

- (1) Recreation department online registration went live about a month ago.
- (2) Programs are busy
 - (a) Basketball had to open a second class because the clinics filled up
- (3) New van has been running for about a month
- (4) Recreation meeting taking place right now and when this meeting ends Councilman Case will head over there.
- (5) PACT and CCC are working on merging into one entity. PACT's federal grant runs out in September. They need to reinvent themselves and rebranding themselves as an umbrella of youth services for all of Pelham.
- (6) Project Community
- (7) Objectives
 - (a) Binge Drinking
 - (i) There is a video that will be shown at a program at the Town House for both parents and children.

(ii) Christina from Senator Klein's office brought up the Good Samaritan Law. If someone calls in about someone that has passed out, the underage children will not get in trouble.

a. Kids may use this to prevent them from getting in trouble

(b) Opioid Situation

5) Supervisor's Report

a) Working with the Town Clerk Amy Rios and Town Counsel Thomas Kleinberger to revise the policy to reserve the Town House. A discussion ensued including:

- (1) We do not currently charge the fees for the Guild Room or the Main Room.
- (2) There should be a cancelation fee.
- (3) If the organization needs constables or if the Town feels that the event needs constables, the organization will have to pay for the constables to be present.

When the march happened, there was a need for the constables. The police that were present were paid through the police department.

- (4) Is there a legitimate purpose for banning alcohol?
 1. There needs to be an insurance rider for a temporary liquor license.
- (5) What about all the excluded activities listed in the proposed policy?
 1. There has been a long history (200 years) of the Town House being used for political activities. There should not be any favoring of one group over another.
 - No recruitment or speakers.
 - No rallies
 - a. There is a difference between having a meeting vs. having a public forum or a rally.
 - b. Currently board meetings for the Democratic Committee and Republican Committee are permitted. The Democratic Club has used the space. They claim they are an extension of the Party.

(6) Insurance – is the amount too low? It is not a commercial property and the amount should not be so high as to preclude people from using the space.

(7) Removal of payment by credit card. At this time the Town Clerk's office accepts cash or check.

The discussion of this will be taken off line.

b) There was a discussion of the letter that Progressive Woman of Pelham sent to the board. Cannot be decided on until the Town House Policy is updated.

6) New Business

a) Councilman McLaughlin - Solarize Westchester

3/7/2018 kick off meeting. They will be picking out a vendor that they recommend. They would like to use the Town Letterhead.

- Must have on it that this is one option, but you can choose whichever vendor you want.
- The Village of Pelham is doing this as well.

b) Councilman Bell – Dog License Postcard

(a) Put the Town Hall address on the flyer. In the past it was done at Village Hall and that has changed.

c) Supervisor DiPaola –

i) Sustainable Westchester

(a) The Town is now a member of Sustainable Westchester

(b) They want to have a meeting explaining their programs.

ii) Little League Parade 4/14 8:30 am – 10:30 am Starts at Lincoln Avenue goes down Fifth Avenue and Wolfs Lane to the High School.

iii) Association of Towns is now doing what Sustainable Westchester is doing and locating low cost energy suppliers.

(a) Stop by the booth and go to the meetings.

(b) We are not too involved, it deals more with the villages.

7) Motion to go into Executive Session about 8:09 pm

i) Purpose

(1) To discuss legal matters concerning an employee

Motion by: Councilman McLaughlin

Seconded by: Councilwoman Szymanski

Voting taken

Supervisor DiPaola- Aye
Deputy Supervisor-McLaughlin- Aye
Councilman Bell- Aye
Councilman Case- Aye
Councilwoman Szymanski- Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Rios
Town Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE
TOWN OF PELHAM HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2018 AT
DARONCO TOWN HOUSE, COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR PETER DIPAOLA, DEPUTY TOWN SUPERVISOR DANIEL MCLAUGHLIN, COUNCILMAN BLAKE BELL, COUNCILMAN TIMOTHY CASE, COUNCILWOMAN RAE SZYMANSKI, AND TOWN COUNSEL THOMAS KLEINBERGER

ABSENT: DEPUTY TOWN CLERK JESSICA HYNES

RECORDING SECRETARY: TOWN CLERK AMY RIOS

OTHERS PRESENT: CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY TO THE SUPERVISOR RUTHANN DESIMONE, TOWN ASSESSOR MICHELE CASANDRA

CALL TO ORDER- Supervisor Peter DiPaola called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 P.M.

I. LOCAL LAW 1 2018

- a. A LOCAL LAW to amend Local Law No. 1 of 2008 of the Laws of the Town of Pelham to extend the Real Property Tax Exemption to the Cold War Veterans to qualifying owners, without regard to the previous ten-year limitation as authorized by Section 458-b of the Real Property Tax Law and as amended recently by Chapter 290 of the Laws of 2017.

Town Assessor Michele Casandra explained why amending the local law would be helpful to our Cold War Veterans. The current law sunsets 10 years after the law was adopted regardless of when the Veteran applied for the exemption. This amendment will eliminate the ten-year limitation making the exemption permanent.

II. ADJOURNMENT

- a. There was a motion to adjourn made by Deputy Supervisor McLaughlin and seconded by Councilman Case. The motion passed unanimously, and the Public Hearing was adjourned at about 7:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Rios

Town Clerk