"No matter how much falls on us, we keep plowing ahead. That's the only way to keep the roads clear."  Greg Kincaid

Public Budget Hearing

The Budget Committee needs to hear what you have to say about solutions to a potentially exceptionally large tax rate increase next year. It is extremely challenging this year due to major factors outside of local government control, such as:

- $1,022,933 (yes, over 1 Million Dollars) reduction from last year in State funded adequacy grant school funding that we must raise locally instead.
- $162,941 increase in Health Insurance Costs
- $228,607 increase in Retirement Costs

Both the Town and School Boards have developed exceptionally conservative budgets for this coming year, yet we are still left with a potential tax rate increase of over $4 per thousand in valuation.

The Budget Committee is considering a range of options, such as recommending use of reserve funds where allowable or reducing funding for maintenance. However, we find few options that have a meaningful impact to compensate for our school revenue shortfall.

Please join us for a socially distanced public budget hearing on Thursday, January 14th, 2021 in the PMHS gymnasium at 7:00 pm. Thank you, The Pittsfield Budget Committee

Pittsfield School District to Hold the Wire on Budget

The budget season began in September with the School Board direction to “hold the wire” on the 2021 2022 school district budget. The Administrators came forward with a budget increase of only $132,041 or 1.2%. “I want to thank the Administrators for creating a responsible budget,” says Interim Superintendent Dr. John Graziano.

To get there, the Administrators cut 191,681 from their original requests. Many of the school districts' costs are beyond their control. For example, the district is estimating a 12.6% increase in health insurance, an 18% increase in teacher retirement, and a 26% increase in employee retirement. The 2021 2022 budget of $11,016,306 contains NO new positions or programs. Even with this meager increase the estimated impact to the tax rate is $4.71. The impact can be defined by 3 words - less state funding. Pittsfield anticipates about $1,000,000 less in state aid. The default budget of $10,918,578 is only $97,728 less than the proposed budget “These are very challenging financial times” says Graziano.

The Budget Committee Public Hearing will be held on Thursday January 14th at 7:00pm. The Pittsfield School District

Public Hearing Meeting Notice

Town of Pittsfield, Budget Committee Town Hall, 85 Main Street, Pittsfield, New Hampshire 03263

The Pittsfield Budget Committee will hold a public hearing for the proposed Pittsfield Town and School budgets on Thursday, January 14, 2021, at 7:00pm in the Pittsfield Middle High School gymnasium, 23 Oneida Street, Pittsfield NH, 03263. A snow date for this meeting will be Friday, January 15, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Pittsfield Middle High School gymnasium, 23 Oneida Street, Pittsfield NH, 03263.

This location provides adequate room for the public to attend while following social distancing and mask wearing guidelines. However, due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor and in accordance with the Governor’s Emergency Order # 12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, public access will be available via the GoToMeeting online platform.

The public is asked to submit comments via email to BudgetCommittee@PittsfieldNH.gov Comments must be received by Jan 14 at 12:00pm.

The public can access the meeting and listen live by telephoning (872)240-3212 and then adding the access code 154396021 when prompted. There is no PIN for this meeting.

Documents being referenced in this meeting will be made available on the Town web site at https://www.pittsfieldnh.gov/budget-committee
Town Crier Andi Riel, 435-6346
pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com

Thursday, January 14, (snow date January 15th) from
7-9:00pm at the PMHS Gym (to maintain proper social
distancing), the **Budget Committee Public Hearing** is
scheduled. Not only is this a wonderful opportunity to
review and hear about the proposed budgets from the
town and school, it is also an opportunity for you, the tax
payers, to provide input to the committee, that they will
then take into consideration during their voting session.

**Monday, January 18, PMHS Basketball - Tryouts for**
Middle Schools Girls and for Boys (Grades 6-8) will be held,
time to be determined. For more info contact: Varsity Girls
Coach- Ryan McKenna, rmckenna@mybes.org OR Varsity
Boys Coach- Jay Darrah jaydarrah@pittsfieldnhschools.org

**The First Congregational Church of Pittsfield’s Infant**
**Toddler Diaper Pantry** has seen an increase in demand. If
possible we need your help as we assist our many young
struggling families. We currently need size 3,4,5,6 diapers,
along with Wipes, Pull-Ups and Overnights. Do you have
any diapers that your child no longer needs, we could use
them! If you are able to purchase a package or two, we so
thank you. To arrange for drop off, please give the church a
call at 435-7471. If you are able to help financially, please
make any checks out to: FCC-Pittsfield and please note in
the memo that it is for Diaper Pantry. Checks can be
mailed to: First Congregational Church- Diaper Pantry 24
Main St, Pittsfield, NH 03263.

**The Pittsfield Historical Society** continues to raise funds
for the new Museum and Headquarters. A
commemorative garden on the Museum grounds is being
worked on. A “BUY-A-BRICK” project affords an
opportunity for people to buy a brick to honor yourself,
loved ones past or present or whomever you wish to
remember. The bricks will be sold for $100 each and may
be engraved with 3 lines of 18 characters each for a 4”x8”
brick. Please visit [www.pittsfieldhistory.com](http://www.pittsfieldhistory.com) for a
donation form and instructions. For more information,
please call 798-3984.

**The Pittsfield Youth Workshop (PYW)** has had a nice
holiday break but we are really looking forward to seeing
everyone (virtually)! We want to check in with you and hear
how your holiday went! Packages for the next two weeks
activities are ready for pick-up. Give us a call (435-8272) or
email us at info@pittsfieldyouthworkshop.net to schedule
a time that you can pick-up the items. The PYW pantry is
also open, just contact us to set up a time to stop by!

**Senior Center- Community Lunch and Meals to Go:**
**Curbside Pickup on Monday’s & Thursday’s** - We are
offering our meals to go on Mondays and Thursdays. If
you have participated in centers community dining and you
are over 60 then this service is available for you. It is a
curbside pick up. Please call the center if interested and
we will meet you outside with your meal. Just call
435-8482 and ask about what meals are available. We will
bring the meal out to your car.

If you are a 501(c)(3), have you heard about the Globe
Community Fund? Established by the former
fourth-generation family owners of Globe Manufacturing
Company in Pittsfield, the donor-advised fund is
administered by the New Hampshire Charitable
Foundation. The fund’s purpose is to enhance community
well being with a focus on the towns of Pittsfield, Barnstead, Epsom, Northwood, Gilmanton, and Chichester.
For more information and an application, email the fund at
GlobeCommunityFund@globefiresuits.com

**Happy Birthday** wishes to Joe McHugh yesterday; Lyn
Ward on Thursday; Nate Davis and my brother-in-law, Peter
Karwocki on Saturday. I hope you all enjoy your special
day!

*Born to Ski Find Ten Differences* by Liz Ball [www.hiddenpuzzlespictures.com](http://www.hiddenpuzzlespictures.com)
Cook's Corner

Boeuf Bourguignon (Beef Burgundy)

Looking for some hearty goodness to warm your soul during these cold days? Here's one I hope you will enjoy. This recipe is a bit of a commitment, there's some prep work and it roasts in the oven for 3 to 4 hours, but the luscious aroma that will fill your kitchen as this dish cooks, is a big part of the experience. Serve this with either mashed potatoes, or 'smashed' red potatoes, or cooked egg noodles or just plain in a nice big bowl. Toasted, crusty bread, maybe a few slices of extra sharp cheese and a simple salad will round out this feast. I hope you will enjoy this traditional, classic French meal.

1/4 cup olive oil
3 and 1/2 to 4 lbs lean stewing beef, cut into 1 & 1/2 cubes
1/4 cup sweet vermouth or sherry
1/4 cup butter
1 slice lean ham, cut 1/4 to 1/2 inch thick and diced into cubes
24 small white pearl onions, peeled (or 1 bag frozen pearl onions thawed and dried)
1 lb mushrooms, stems removed (keep them whole)
3 cloves garlic, minced
2 Tbsp tomato paste
1/4 cup soy sauce
6 Tbsp flour
2 & 1/2 cups beef broth
2 & 1/2 cups red burgundy wine
Salt & pepper
2 bay leaves
1/2 tsp thyme

Heat oven to 275F. In a skillet, brown the beef in batches if necessary. Transfer beef to a large, oven-proof casserole or Dutch oven. Sprinkle beef with the vermouth or sherry. Melt butter in the skillet, add ham, onions, mushrooms and garlic, saute for a few minutes then transfer to the beef in the casserole.

For the sauce, add tomato paste, soy sauce & flour to the skillet, stir constantly then slowly add beef broth, cook over low until mixture is smooth. Add 1/2 cup of the wine (reserve the rest). When sauce comes to a boil, add salt & pepper to taste. Pour sauce over the beef, add bay leaves and thyme. Cover and roast in the oven until the beef is very tender, about 3 to 4 hours. Check from time to time and add the rest of the wine. Bon appetit! - MP Christakos

A New Year for the Post

Are you looking for a new activity for the new year? Volunteer for the Post! The Post volunteers enjoy bringing Pittsfield weekly news about our village, and we would be glad to share the fun. No matter what your age, talents, or interests may be, we're sure you can contribute. Do you enjoy examining sentence structure? You could proofread the rough draft. Photography your passion? Send us some of your best shots. Have you heard an interesting community update; let us know. Are you an artist or writer; you can share your creations. If you enjoy website design, social media, or digital design - we've got that, too. Want to support communication? Help send out the email edition. Do you enjoy driving and visiting local businesses? Help deliver the paper edition. Individually the production tasks are short and easy, by working together we have fun creating the Post each week. Send an email to pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org to volunteer.

The Post volunteers meet once a month to coordinate our activities. If you would like to learn more, our next meeting is 10am on Friday, January 22, in the Bicentennial Room at the Community Center. People will wear masks, and windows will be cracked open. If you would like to join over the telephone call 603-491-9265.

Double Word Puzzle #19 by Diana Westgate

Find the word that satisfies both definitions.

1. Penalty_________________ Okay
2. Solid _______________ Law group
3. In condition_____________ Right size
4. Hail (a taxi)___________ Banner
5. Snow quantity ___________ Nutty (sl.)
6. Fire part ________ Love object
7. No contour___________ Tire problem
8. Air travel___________ Insect
9. Sheep pen_______________ Laundry task
10. Ripe_________________ Impudent

The answers are on page four.

The Post is Counting on You!

Dear Readers:
The Post needs your help to keep printing this weekly publication. When you’re thinking about supporting our community, please send us a donation! Thank you, The Post Volunteers
PITTSFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT FILING NOTICE

Declarations of Candidacy for School District positions will begin on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 and expire on Friday, January 29, 2021 at 5pm. You may file at the office of the School District Clerk at the Town Hall, 85 Main Street during regular business hours. The office will remain open until 5pm on January 29th. The declaration form will also be available to download from the Town and School District websites.

School Board Member 2 (3) year term
School District Moderator 1 (3) year term

Erica Anthony, School District Clerk

PITTSFIELD TOWN FILING NOTICE

Declarations of Candidacy for Town Office positions will begin on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 and expire on Friday, January 29, 2021 at 5pm. You may file at the office of the Town Clerk at the Town Hall, 85 Main Street during regular business hours. The office will remain open until 5pm on January 29th. The declaration forms will also be available to download from the Town website.

Selectman 2 (3) year term
Town Clerk/Tax Collector 1 (3) year term
Supervisor of the Checklist 1 (1) year term
Trustee of Trust Funds 1 (3) year term
Library Trustee 1 (3) year term
Cemetery Trustee 1 (3) year term
Planning Board 2 (3) year term
Zoning Board of Adjustment 2 (3) year term

Erica Anthony, Town Clerk

Please Support the Pittsfield Post

Pittsfield Center Development Corporation (PCDC), owner of the Community Center, is the fiscal agent for the Pittsfield Post. PCDC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to engage in activities that benefit Pittsfield. Checks should be made out to: Pittsfield Center Development Corporation, memo: Newspaper P.O. Box 253, Pittsfield, NH 03263

Donations are tax-deductible. Donations above $50.00 may be acknowledged as sponsor of the week.

Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Address: __________________________
Email Address: __________________________
I would like to have sponsorship acknowledgement: Yes ___ No ___
Text for Sponsorship: __________________________

New Year Greetings

What do you wish for in Pittsfield this year? Send your message to the Post! Next week we plan to begin to publish greetings, so send in a shout out. We’re really looking forward to hearing from you, The Post Volunteers.

pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org

Answers to Double Word Puzzle #19

1. Penalty – fine – Okay
2. Solid – firm – Law group
3. In condition – fit – Right size
4. Hail (a taxi) – flag – Banner
5. Snow quantity – flake – Nutty (sl.)
6. Fire part – flame – Love object
7. No contour – flat – Tire problem
8. Air travel – fly – Insect
9. Sheep pen – fold – Laundry task
10. Ripe – fresh – Impudent

Find the Difference Answers

Nose, Waistband, No Handle, Seam Line, Shoe, Cuff, Knob, Button on Stool, Joe, Eyebrows

Classified

2004 Ford F-150
2004 Ford F-150 Ext. Cab Pick-up for Sale $1500.00 or B/O, Call 603-545-8990

Want to see the pictures in color? Subscribe to receive the Post by Email Go to: www.PittsfieldPost.org
Or scan the QR code