**Board of Selectmen’s meeting minutes**

**9/26/2016, 6:00pm, Rhodes Building**

**Present:** Select Board members Jim Doubleday, Alisa Pearson, Bill Martell, Town Clerk-Kathy Martell, Highway Superintendent-Rick Adamcek, Moderator-Dan Robb, Finance Committee-Fred Vanderbeck, Eileen Leahy-Comcast, Cable Committee-Rich Hall, Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant-Susannah Carey.

**Open:** Selectman Martell opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

**Minutes**

Minutes from 8/29/2016 were tabled until next meeting.

On a motion to approve the minutes from 9/12/2016 by Selectman Pearson, seconded by Selectman Martell, motion passes.

**Comcast Cable Agreement**

Eileen Leahy from Comcast was present to answer any questions about the renewal contract between Comcast and the Town of Pelham. The new agreement is for 10 years. Comcast will begin running lines down the road from the street to the houses. If the distance from street to house is over 150 feet, there will be a charge to the resident. In order to hook up to the internet service there will be an installation fee, which is charged to all new customers.

On a motion by Selectman Martell to sign the Comcast Agreement for 10 years, seconded by Selectman Doubleday, Selectman Pearson abstains, motion passes.

The contract between MBI and Comcast for the extension of internet access is a 2 year commitment that was signed by representatives from both companies previous to the Select Board meeting. Comcast has agreed to fulfill the extension to at least 96% of residents and businesses in the 9 towns; Buckland, Chester, Conway, Hardwick, Huntington, Montague, Pelham, Northfield and Shelburne; by August 17, 2018. Maps will be provided of those expected to be serviced in Pelham at upcoming Cable Committee and Board of Selectmen meeting.

**Fall Town Meeting Warrant-Finalize & Sign**

Dan Robb, Moderator, asked who will speak to either of the articles if debate should occur. Selectman Doubleday will field questions about Article 1 as well as Town Clerk-Kathy Martell. Both the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen recommended Article 1. Kathy Martell will also provide more information and answer questions regarding Article 2, since it relates to the Dog Fund.

On a motion by Selectman Martell to sign the Fall Town Meeting Warrant, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

5 copies given to Town Clerk and await signature from Constable Clark.

**Town Officials**

Rick Adamcek and the Board of Selectmen received a letter of complaint and petition from Lawrence Schwartz, 59 Butterhill Road, and other residents regarding the poor condition of Butterhill Road. Rick stated that there is no chapter 90 funds available to cover a reconstruction of the entire road. What can be done now is patching deep pot holes and doing 300-400 ft overlays. This will help the road from washing out and get it through the winter. Rick said that his crew will be hopefully getting to Butterhill Road this week to take care of patching and overlays.

Rick and Susannah will formulate a response to send to Mr. Schwartz and residents of Butterhill Road and the letter will ask if they want to hold a meeting to discuss the road at a later date in the future.

On a motion by Selectman Pearson to answer the letter & petition with response, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

Dan Robb, Moderator, is putting together an exploratory committee to investigate the possibility of the Pelham School District forming an Elementary Region with one or more local elementary School districts, as stated in Article 37. of the Spring Town Meeting. Dan has asked 10 people so far but has no commitments yet and he would like the Board of Selectmen to keep their ears open to possible new members in Town.

**Public Comment**-none.

**Liaison**-Library; Selectman Pearson said that the Library website may possibly get freshened up.

Fire; Selectman Martell said Chief Murphy is still waiting for his car.

Police; Selectman Martell said Chief Thomann will be gone next week for Chief of Police training; he attends every year. Full-time Officer is working out excellent.

Highway; Selectman Doubleday-none.

**Old Business**

MAX Bus will be suspending their bus service due to an 85% cut in funding. The service currently runs from Worcester, through Pelham and into Leeds. The Selectmen wondered how many riders were utilizing the service from Pelham. Town Clerk stated she always saw a few cars parked at the Historical Complex.

Childcare flyer for Fall Town Meeting was reviewed. Handouts for parents/guardians for the event will be in the School office and will include the Town’s insurance release/waiver and the Face Sheet with emergency contact information created by Lennie Ware. The flyer will be sent to the principal to be included in the School newsletter.

Conservation Commission chair, Dana MacDonald, would like to extend the appointment terms of Gale Hubley and Tillman Lukas.

On a motion by Selectman Doubleday to extend the terms to June 30, 2017 of members Gale Hubley and Tillman Lukas, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved.

**New Business**

Susannah Carey, Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant, would like the Board of Selectmen’s approval to send a notification email to Pelham Board/Commission/Committees and Amherst Copy & Designworks regarding adding their groups name to orders placed. Board of Selectmen approved the request.

Susannah Carey, Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant, would also like to become a notary. Town Clerk-Kathy Martell is in the process of finishing her paperwork. Retired Collector/Treasurer was a notary, but currently the Town office doesn’t have one. If Kathy and Susannah were both notarized, every business day of the work week would be covered, Monday-Friday. Most expensive package is $157.00 and includes, official seal stamp, official journal with notary privacy guard, National Notary Association hotline, how-to-guide, notary training, and backup slim stamp. The Select Board would like Ms. Carey to go with the larger package.

On a motion by Selectman Pearson to have Susannah Carey become a notary, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

Judy Eiseman sent along an email to the Board of Selectmen discussing the closure of the Atkins Reservoir in Amherst. The Board of Selectmen would like to include information about the use of water, either public or private, drawing from the same water table, and how we are all affecting each other. The Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant will be contacting Judy for a small notification article to be included in the Slate before it is printed this week.

Quotes for printing the Pelham Slate and Warrant for Fall Town Meeting were reviewed from Collective Copies and Amherst Copy & Designworks. The Board of Selectmen decided to have Amherst Copy & Designworks print the Slate and fold in half only. The Board will get together on Monday, October 3rd to fold the warrant, insert into Slate, add address labels, and tape closed. The slate should be brought to the post office on 4th or latest the 5th of October. The Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant will print the Fall Town Meeting Warrant in house this week.

There is a vacancy on the School Committee from Darius Modestow that needs to be filled. Town Clerk should receive the resignation first, then she will inform the Board of Selectmen and the position will be posted to the website for 2 weeks. When paperwork is received for interested parties, the Select Board would appoint that person to term.

Town Clerk-Kathy Martell mentioned that the Library trustee’s will need to find a new member since there is currently a member that has moved out of Town and will not be allowed to serve on the board. Kathy Martell checked and the State has confirmed that elected board members must live in the town of which they are serving. Kathy will be posting the position on the website for 2 weeks.

Next Regular Selectmen’s meetings:

October 24, November 14, November 28, December 12

**Adjournment**

On a motion by Selectman Doubleday, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved to adjourn at 7:51pm.

**Documents Reviewed**

Minutes from 8/29/2016, Town Meeting Warrant, MAX Bus Suspension of Service email, Childcare flyer for Fall Town Meeting, Comcast Cable Agreement, Closure of Atkins Reservoir email, Quotes for Pelham Slate-Collective Copies & Amherst Copy & Designworks, Butterhill Road letter & petition.

Respectfully submitted, Susannah Carey