**Select Board Meeting minutes**

**Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at 6:00pm**

**Present:** Selectman Jim Doubleday, Selectman Bill Martell, Selectman Mark Santos, Connie Englert-True North Transit Group, Police Chief Thomann, Joe Larson, John Trickey-Finance Committee, Bruce Klotz, Town Clerk- Kathy Martell, Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant-Susannah Carey.

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

**Minutes**

March 14, 2016. On a motion by Selectman Doubleday, seconded by Selectman Martell, the minutes were unanimously approved.

**True North Transit (MAX Bus)**

True North Transit is a company based in Shelburne Falls, Ma that operates the MAX service brand with Silver Fox Motor Coaches. The MAX bus is funded and contracted by the MassDOT Rail & Transit Division. The bus service would link communities by providing stops at the VA Medical Center in Leeds and the VA Center in Worcester. The service is ADA & wheelchair equipped, offers a discount to veterans and seniors, and only costs $8.00 to ride from Pelham to Worcester. There is no cost to the Town and no liability as True North Transit is fully insured. The new service schedule change will happen on April 11, 2016, but there won’t be any change for Pelham.

Connie Englert, representing True North Transit, gave a summary of the introduction of this service and route created from Worcester to Northampton. Connie Englert was looking for permanent authorization from the Town of Pelham to have bus service run through Pelham and have a stop somewhere along Amherst Road. Currently the bus service was using the Historical Complex’s (corner of Amherst Road and Rt 202) parking area to pull over and pick up possible riders. The DCR was contacted to see if the parking area across from the complex along Route 202 could be used for possible parking, but the area isn’t maintained in the winter and is on Quabbin land. Police Chief Thomann suggested that Connie look into the parking area by the old Pelham Church (corner of Amherst Road and Meeting House Road), which is owned by the Town of Amherst Watershed. The parking area is maintained in the winter by the Town of Pelham’s DPW, it is a good size area with a large place to pull over, and is more centralized than the current temporary stop.

Joe Larson, Historical Commission, spoke about the parking issue around the Historical Complex once the museum is open. Ideally the parking lot across the street (along Rt 202) would work, but liked the idea of utilizing the parking area where the Pelham United Church was (corner of Amherst Road and Meeting House Road).

Advertising would appear on the website with a link of the bus schedule and True North Transit would provide 11x17 Station Posters for posting.

On a motion by Selectman Doubleday to accept the request for permanent authorization from the Town of Pelham and sign the authorization form, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved. A copy of the authorization form was given directly to Connie Englert at the meeting.

**Notification Letter of School Committee Vote**

A letter from the Amherst Pelham Regional School District was sent to the Select Board regarding a vote held on March 8, 2016 where the School Committee voted to authorize borrowing a sum to support projects that were included in the Capital Plan and discussed at the Four-Town Meetings. John Trickey, Finance Committee, has a copy of the document and is aware of the vote. Chairman of the Select Board, Mark Santos, signed and a copy will be sent back to Mary Wallace, District Treasurer. On a motion to accept and sign the notification letter, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

**Computer-Police Department**

Chief Thomann would like to buy a lap top computer for the Police Department for $700.00. On a motion by Selectman Doubleday to approve the purchase of a laptop for the Police Department by Chief Thomann, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

**Ryerson Challenge**

This item will be tabled until April 20, 2016 when the Selectmen hold a meeting to discuss this issue and give ample time to notify all parties involved.

**Set Town Election Tiem-May 10, 2016**

Town Clerk-Kathy Martell began by stating that since there are ballot questions , the election should be held anywhere from 6-8 hours. The Selectman choose a start and end time and should be aware that May 10, 2016 is a Tuesday and there are many residents who work out of town and may need voting to go until 7pm. On a motion by Selectman Doubleday to set the Election Time on May 10, 2016 from 11:30am-7:00pm, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

**Town Officials**-none.

**Public Comments-**none.

**Liaison Reports-**table until next Select Board meeting.

**Old Business**

The Select Board chose both the Tax Collector’s and Treasurer’s Bond terms for 1 year each, since current Bonds will be expiring in April 2016. On a motion by Selectman Martell to set the Bond terms to 1 year for both the Treasurer and Tax Collector, seconded by Selectman Doubleday, unanimously approved.

**New Business**

Next Selectmen’s meeting set for April 20, 2016, May 9, 2016, and May 23, 2016.

Selectman Martell handed out letter from Eversource about upcoming meeting at the Hadley Farms meeting House on April 13, 2016. The Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant will rsvp for Chief of Police, Selectman Martell, and Selectman Doubleday. Selectman Santos will check his calendar.

**Adjornment**

On a motion by Selectman Doubleday, seconded by Selectman Martell, adjorned and unanimously approved at 6:45pm.

**Documents Reviewed**

Minutes March 14, 2016, True North Transit Group Regional Bus information, Current Service Corridor, Product Highlights, Spring 2016 Service Change Improvements, Service Schedule-Westbound and Eastbound, Authorization Form-MAX Bus, Notification Letter APRSD, Ryerson Challenge Information & Photos, Eversource upcoming Municipal meeting April 13, 2016.

**Open:**

Selectman Santos opened the meeting at 6:46pm.

**New Business**

Police Chief Thomann spoke about adding a full-time police officer to his department,