

**ORDER OF BUSINESS
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Berkshire, ss**

To either of the Constables of the Town of Peru, in said County.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Peru, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the Town Fire Station, 11 East Main Road Peru, MA on Saturday, June 1, 2024, at 6:00 PM for the Annual Town Meeting, then and there to take action on the following articles, namely:

Article 1: To choose a Moderator for the Annual Town Meeting if the elected Moderator is absent.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the several Town Officers.

Article 3: To see if the Town of Peru will vote to approve the Central Berkshire Regional School District Amended Regional Agreement as presented by the School Committee, which will be on file at the Peru Town Clerk's Office, Superintendent of Schools Office and the Peru Public Library, or take any other action relative thereto:

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the Central Berkshire Regional School District FY25 Assessment, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Net Operating Assessment	943,938.00
Capital Assessment	<u>117,707.00</u>
Total Town of Peru Assessment	\$1,061,645.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to fix salaries of all elected officers as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of M.G. L., for FY25 or take any other action relative thereto:

Selectboard

Member	\$ 3,682.25
Member	3,682.25
Member	3,682.25

Town Clerk 10,609.00
Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to fix salaries of the following appointed officers for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors'	
Lead Assessor	19,281.60
Assessor #1	3,775.13
Assessor	2,575.00
Treasurer	13,112.72
Tax Collector	13,112.72
Accounting Services	31,800.00
Animal Control Officer	1,968.33
Police Chief	69,525.00
Inspector of Animals	978.50
Veterans' Agent	515.00
Council on Aging Director	1,236.00
Fire Chief	2,600.75
Cemetery Sexton	515.00
Town Auditor	1.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25, or take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Salaries	\$ 25,631.73
Selectmen's Salary	11,046.75
Tax Collector's Salary	13,112.72
Town Clerk's Salary	10,609.00
Treasurer's Salary	13,112.72
Accounting Services	31,800.00
Assessing Services	25,000.00
Animal Control Officer's Salary	1,968.33
Inspector of Animals Salary	978.50
Veterans' Agent Salary	515.00
Council on Aging Director	1,236.00
Fire Chief	2,600.50
Police Chief	69,525.00
Cemetery Sexton Salary	515.00
Town Auditor	1.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following wage accounts for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Administrative Assistant	\$ 5,000.00
Elections & Registrar's Account	5,850.00
Assistant Town Clerk	2,811.90
Compactor Attendants	8,188.50
Town Administrator's Salary	\$35,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Expense	\$ 1,000.00
Bank Service Expense	100.00
Animal Control Officer's Expense	1,000.00
Selectmen & Other Expenses	2,000.00
Tax Collector's Expenses	1,500.00
Tax Collector's Tax Taking Charges	1,500.00
Town Clerk's Expense	2,200.00
Town Report Expense	2,000.00
Treasurer/Accounting Expense	1,500.00
Treasurer Tax Title Expense	6,000.00
Board of Appeals Expense	100.00
U.S. Postal Expense	4,000.00
Health Department Expense	16,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Annual Computer Support	\$ 2,400.00
Computer Supplies & Maintenance IT	24,000.00
Treas./Acct. Annual Computer Support	13,941.87
Tax Collector's Annual Computer Support	11,411.17
Assessors' Tax Map Maintenance	1,600.00
Continuing Education	3,000.00
Office Supplies	2,000.00
Assessor Utility Appraisal	3,500.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Conservation Commission Expense	\$ 400.00
Interest on Loans	1,000.00
Legal Expense	9,900.00
Officers' Mileage	1,500.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee Support this article.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Elderly Outreach	\$ 650.00
Council on Aging Expense	1,000.00
Veterans Service	6,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Medicare – Town Share	\$ 6,300.00
Health Ins/Life & Dental	142,450.56
Town Insurance - All	43,559.00
Mass. Unemployment Insurance	600.00
CHUBB Insurance	8,300.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Partridge Field Playground Trust	\$ 1,500.00
Peru Library	21,243.00
Mowing: Cemeteries, Town Hall, Town Park and Town Green:	6,500.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Town Buildings' Maintenance	\$ 15,000.00
Utilities – Electric	12,500.00
Utilities – Heating	19,000.00
Utilities - Telephone	1,500.00
Internet Communication Lines	7,000.00
Town Website Design, Hosting, & Support	1,930.00

Town Hall Janitorial Services	4,900.00
Cemetery Expense	500.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25 or to take any other action relative thereto:

Compactor	\$ 38,000.00
Northern Berkshire Solid Waste District	3,178.48

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Berk. County Sheriffs Dispatching	\$ 11,792.36
Berk. County Reg. Planning Comm.	710.30
Berk. County Retirement Assessment	62,960.00
Hinsdale Ambulance	3,000.00
Town Fire Station Mortgage Payment	14,338.13
Police Wages	39,000.00
Police Expenses	7,450.00
Police Cruiser Maintenance	3,500.00
Police Continuing Education	3,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Peru Volunteer Fire Department Operating Expenses	\$ 25,000.00
Peru Volunteer Fire Department Insurances	6,000.00
Peru Volunteer Fire Department Building Maintenance	2,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY25, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Gas & Fuel Account	\$ 33,000.00
Maintain Hard Surface Roads	28,000.00
Material, Gravel Roads	25,000.00
Road Machinery Maintenance	25,000.00
Snow Roads, Private	500.00
Snow Roads, Public	90,000.00
Town Highways & Bridges	20,000.00

Town Highway Garage Mortgage Payment	12,020.00
Highway Employee Wage Acct.	110,210.00
Highway Superintendent Salary	77,250.00
Highway Department Uniforms	3,700.00
Tree Removal	25,000.00
Temporary Summer Help	8,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the vocational education and transportation accounts for FY25, or take any other action relative thereto:

Vocational School Tuition	\$208,470.00
Vocational School Transportation	43,027.20

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero cents (\$50,000.00) to lower the tax rate or take any other action relative thereto. Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$50,000.00) for a Town Hall Assessment Study, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum Thirty One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$31,500.00) to Communication Equipment for the Police Department, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 24: To see if the Town will transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Seventeen Thousand One Hundred Fifty Dollars and Thirty Cents (\$17,150.30) to purchase the following items for the Highway Department: Sandblast the 2009 International \$7,958.00, Sandblast the 2016 Ford 550 \$6,992.30, and a plasma tool cutter \$2,200.00, including all costs incidental or related, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 25: To see if the Town will transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$15,000.00) to the Interest on Loans Account or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 26: To see if the Town will transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Five Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$5,000.00) for IT services, including all costs incidental or related, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 27: To see if the Town will Transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Five Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$5,000.00) for Berkshire Regional Planning Commission to update Town Zoning bylaws or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Three Thousand One Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$3,100.00) for Town Clerk Software, including all costs incidental or related, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 29: To see if the Town will Transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Six Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-One Dollars and Zero Cents (\$6,581.00) for the following Cemeteries: \$2,98.00 to establish boundaries at South Thompson Burial Ground, \$1,800.00 for resetting headstones at the North Cemetery, \$1,800.00 for flagpole at South Cemetery, including all costs incidental or related, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$1,500.00) for a matching grant for a Bullet Proof Vest for the Police Department or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$100,000.00) to the Future Equipment Account or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$10,000.00) to the Reserve Fund for FY25 or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee support this article.

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Chapter 90 funds that are, or may become, available to the Town during FY25 for Roadway Projects and Repairs, and to authorize the Treasurer to borrow such amounts in anticipation of reimbursement by the Commonwealth or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, or other Town Departments with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to apply for and accept grants from the

Federal Government, Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any other source, and to expend the same for purposes received without further appropriation, or to take any other action relative thereto.

ATTEST:

This is a true copy.

Kim Leach

Kim Leach
Town Clerk

Certified: May 14th, 2024

You are directed to serve this warrant with your doing thereon to the Town Clerk or the Board of Selectmen at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this day of May, 2024.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Verne Leach

Verne Leach, Chairman

Ed Munch

Ed Munch, Member

Doug Haskins

Doug Haskins, Member

I have served this Warrant as directed above.

Places of Posting: Bulletin Board/Town Hall/Transfer Station/Library/Community Center/Website: Townofperuma.com

ATTEST:

Coralie E. Perry

Constable

5/14/23

Date

1:45 PM

Time

Posted: May 14, 2024