

TOWN HALL, 3 EAST MAIN ROAD, PERU, MA 01235

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES: October 13, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.

Town Hall Meeting Room

Edward Munch, Chairman Selectboard
Verne Leach, Selectman
Samuel Haupt, Selectman
Terry Walker, Town Administrator
Bruce Cullett, Police Chief
Caryn Wendling, Tax Collector/Treasurer
Katrina Hamalainen, Assistant Town Clerk

Public Attendees: Tina Barrington

Item 1: Call to order: Chairman Munch called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Item 2: Selectboard Roll Call: Chairman Munch present, Selectman Haupt present, Selectman Leach present

Item 3: State Recording status: TA Walker recording, Tina Barrington recording, Selectman Leach recording for personal reasons under exemption E.

Item 4: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Led by Chairman Munch

Item 5: Review and Approve BOS Meeting Minutes for 9/29/2026: Chairman Munch motion to approve 9/29/2026 pending changes, Selectman Leach second, 2-0, Selectman Haupt abstained.

Item 6: Update from Departments:

Police Department:

Chief Cullett mentioned that everyone will have new codes before we go active with the security system. He will need email addresses from TA Walker for some of the departments. The main door will still need a key to enter the building plus a code to enter and exit the building.

Town Administrator:

TA Walker received a public records request from Kim Wetherall for the town's personal handbook. Since the town does not have a handbook at this time, the BOS instructed TA Walker to send Kim Wetherall the policies we have on file. Selectman Leach suggested asking Kim what she wanted and mentioning we do not have a handbook. Susan Koziara's lawsuit cost MIIA \$4,462.00 for an attorney. The town needs to pay MIIA the deductible of \$2,500. TA Walker asked if the AC could be removed from the Town Clerk/Accounting Office to stop the cold air from coming in. Selectman Haupt will remove the AC.

Selectman Haupt:

Sam mentioned that the next meeting on the Pilot program in Boston is Tuesday, October 20th.

The Declaration of Independence given to the town by Paul Mark has been framed and is in the Town Administrator's office.

Paul Mark and John Barrett will have office hours at the Peru town hall on Monday, October 19th at 10:00 a.m. and refreshments will be served.

Chairman Munch:

Ed attended a Northern Berkshire Solid Waste meeting. He mentioned that rigid plastic items will now be recycled and a walk-in container will be needed to dispose of large items. He also mentioned that by 2030 the state will mandate composting of food scraps in all towns since 25% of all garbage is food. He suggested an increase in transfer station stickers to offset the cost of a walk-in container. Chief Cullett asked who was behind the changes, Casella or the DEP. Selectman Munch stated that DEP is behind the changes.

Item 7: Discussion and vote on email from James Kenney regarding email that was sent out to all departments

regarding vacation days: Selectman Leach mentioned that when he told TA Walker to notify all departments regarding vacation days, he meant just the part time and full-time employees. Chief Cullett mentioned that the notice regarding vacation days is against what is stated in the chief's contract. Chief Cullett also stated that the Highway Superintendent grants vacation days to the two highway employees. Selectman Leach reiterated he wanted the police department and highway department to notify the Board of Selectmen when taking vacation days. Tax Collector Wendling mentioned that she always lets TA Walker know when she is going on vacation.

Item 8: Discussion and possible vote on letter from Anna Osborn concerning plowing private roads: munch covered

many times. Selectman Leach mentioned this was brought to the town's attention by town counsel that private roads should not be plowed. The BOS sent a certified letter to all residents on private roads notifying them that their roads will not be plowed. The BOS did not vote because this letter was sent out under the advisement of town counsel.

Item 9: Discussion and possible vote on closing out Green Communities Grant: The BOS agreed that TA Walker would submit the final invoices to Green Communities and close out the Green Communities grant. TA Walker mentioned that the final invoice for Energysource is \$14,887 and BRPC is \$2,000 these invoices will be submitted and at that time the grant will be closed out. Lindsey Parziale emailed TA Walker explaining why weatherization in the basement was excluded. The basement was excluded because of time constraints and weatherization in the basement would have exceeded the remaining funds. (Please see attached email). Selectman Haupt thanked TA Walker for finalizing the project and utilizing the remaining funds from the Green Communities Grant.

Item 10: 6:30 p.m. Interview Tina Barrington for position on the ADA Advisory committee and possible vote to

appoint: Selectman Leach mentioned Tina Barrington is his wife's cousin and filed a 268A with the town clerk therefore he can participate in the vote. Tina mentioned that she is interested in the position because she is concerned with the elderly, disabled and handicapped not having accessibility to town hall. She mentioned she has 40 years' experience with handicapped people and feels she is qualified to fill the position. Chairman Munch mentioned that this is a 5-member board and one person cannot make decisions without the board agreeing. Selectman Leach mentioned that this is an advisory committee and the BOS makes all the final decisions. Chairman Munch motion to appoint Tina Barrington as a member of the ADA Advisory committee, Selectman Haupt second, 3-0.

Item 11: 6:40 p.m. Interview Bonny DiTomasso for position on the ADA Advisory committee and possible vote to

appoint: Bonny DiTomasso withdrew her letter of interest to the ADA Advisory Committee position. The BOS did not appoint.

Item 12: Discussion and possible vote on approving the Warrant for 2026 State Election: Chairman Munch motion to sign 2026 State Election Warrant pending typos, Selectman Haupt second and asked Assistant Town Clerk Katrina Hamalainen to proofread the warrant, 3-0. Assistant Town Clerk agreed to proofread the 2026 State Election Warrant.

Item 13: Discussion and vote on signing a note for the Town Treasurer for \$645,000-Chapter work: Chairman Munch motion to sign note for Town Treasurer, Selectman Haupt second, 3-0. Katrina Hamalainen, Assistant Town Clerk, was present to witness BOS signatures.

Item 14: Discussion and vote on a letter of support for an intermediate rail stop midway between Springfield and Pittsfield on the planned West-East Compass Rail Corridor: Chairman Munch motion to accept letter of support and have TA Walker sign and submit letter, Selectman Haupt second, 3-0.

Item 15: Review and Approve accounts payable, Treasury Warrants, Payroll warrants: V08-2027

Item 16: Public Input: Tina Barrington mentioned that she talked to Bonny DiTomasso, COA Director, about ideas and nothing has changed. Tina asked COA Director, DiTomasso to distribute newsletters at the dump, town hall and library. Since Bonny did not distribute newsletters, Tina is asking the BOS to handle the request that she made to the COA Director, and why the newsletters were not distributed. Chairman Munch stopped the discussion because COA Director, Bonny DiTomasso was not present and mentioned that the BOS policy is not talking about someone when they are not present. Chairman Munch stated that if Bonny is at the next meeting Tina is to address the BOS not Bonny. Selectman Haupt asked Tina if she contacted Bonny about her issues. Tina had not followed up with Bonny. Chairman Munch asked TA Walker to follow up with Bonny about the newsletters before the next meeting.

Item 17: Adjourn: Chairman Munch motion to adjourn the 10/13/2026 BOS meeting, Selectman Leach second, 3-0. The 10/13/2026 BOS meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Articles Used:

9/29/2026 minutes
Warrant V08-2027
James Kenney email
Anna Osborn letter
Tina Barrington letter of interest to ADA position
Bonny DiTomasso letter that she is not interested in the ADA position
State election warrant
State house note
Letter of support West East compass rail corridor
Email from energysource
Kim Wetherell public records request

Terry Walker

Recording Secretary

Edward Munch, Chairman

Edward Munch

Samuel Haupt, Selectman

Verne Leach, Selectman

Date approved: _____

10/26/26

Received 10/27/2026
Kim Leach, Town Clerk

Town Administrator

From: Jim Kenney <jimkenney21@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2026 7:18 PM
To: Town Administrator
Cc: James Kenney
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: vacation

Hi, Terry, are you able to provide the detail on how this became an issue, how the discussion evolved and which employees are subject to this decision? I ask because I was included on the distribution of your message.

If my request will be addressed in the next set of Selectboard minutes, there's no need to respond
Jim

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2026, at 6:25 PM, Town Administrator <townadmin@townofperuma.com> wrote:

The Peru Board of Selectmen agreed that any employee requesting vacation or time off must notify the Board of Selectmen in writing 2 weeks in advance.
This request is effective immediately.

Terry Walker
Town Administrator
Town of Peru

Anna Osborn
12 Hillside Road
Peru, MA 01235

Select Board
Town of Peru
3 East Main Road
Peru, MA 01235

September 28, 2026

To the Peru Select Board:

I received a letter dated 8/31/26 concerning Plowing Private Roads. I am writing in response to your letter stating that the Town will no longer be plowing private roads in the Town of Peru. I have two questions for you.

Question One: What determines a "private road" here near Ashmere? I do not see Pine Road, Spruce Road, Lee Road or Stone Road listed on your letter. What is the difference between those roads and Hill Road or Hillside Road? If they are private roads that will still be plowed, why not the other two. If the other roads are "town roads" why are Hill and Hillside not? Makes no sense. Will you folks plow Pine and dump the load at the end of Hillside? That will make it impossible for me to get out in the winter.

Question Two: I have been paying property taxes on three properties here on Hillside Road. I am happy to do that since you folks have consistently plowed me out which allows EMS/Fire and Police services to reach us in case of emergency. That is pretty much the only services I receive in return for my tax payments. I am happy to support the Town and CBRSD if I receive DPW, Police and EMS services. Otherwise, what exactly am I getting for my tax dollars?

Finally, I will point out that it appears that you folks will plow everyone here in Section 44 except Hill Road and Hillside Road. That leaves me, my daughter Deanna and Ashley Richardson, as the only folks stranded in the winter. That is not fair when we have made sure that our roads are in good order every winter to make sure they are safe for DPW plows. Seems discriminatory to me. I love living in Peru but having to fight this battle every winter is getting old. If services are discontinued, then I would expect an abatement on my taxes to offset the cost of hiring a plow driver to get the snow cleared in the wintertime.

I look forward to your response to this letter and hope we can come to some sort of permanent resolution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, featuring a large, stylized initial 'A' followed by several loops and a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Anna Osborn

CC: Justin Russell
Ashley Richardson

Town Administrator

From: Tina Barrington <tbarrington58@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2026 3:57 PM
To: Town Administrator
Cc: Select Men; Sam Haupt; kinderhaus1@townofperuma.com; Tina Barrington
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ADA Committee

To Peru Selectmen and Town Administrator,

I am interested in being on the ADA Committee to help the town Peru be more disability and handicap friendly. I have many years of experience taking care of and helping individuals who have had either temporary and/or permanent disabilities/handicaps.

I believe it's important for the Peru Town Hall building to be easily accessible to All residents or visitors.

Sincerely,

Tina Barrington
2 Bonny Lane

Town Administrator

From: COA Director
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 12:48 PM
To: Town Administrator
Subject: ADA Committee

Hi Terry,

I am interested participating in the NEW ADA Committee. I believe my resume is on file with the Town of Peru.

Thank you,
Bonny DiTomasso

*Bonny DiTomasso
Peru Council on Aging Director
3 East Main Road Suite 111
Peru, MA 01235
413-446-0735*

Office Hours:
Tuesdays 10 am-1pm and by appointment

Town Administrator

From: COA Director
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2026 12:30 PM
To: Sam Haupt; Ed Munch; Select Men
Cc: Town Administrator
Subject: ADA Advisory Committee

Please remove my name from the list of people under consideration for appointment to the ADA Advisory Committee.

Thank you,
Bonny DiTomasso

*Bonny DiTomasso
Peru Council on Aging Director
3 East Main Road Suite 111
Peru, MA 01235
413-446-0735*

Office Hours:
Tuesdays 10 am-1pm and by appointment

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

**WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH**

WARRANT FOR 2026 STATE ELECTION

SS.

To the Constables of the City/Town of Peru

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said city or town who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at:

0/1
(ward/precinct)

Polling Location Peru Community Center, 3 East Main Road, Peru MA 01235

On **TUESDAY, THE THIRD DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026**, from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Election for the candidates for the following offices and questions:

SENATOR IN CONGRESS	For this Commonwealth
GOVERNOR and LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR	For this Commonwealth
ATTORNEY GENERAL	For this Commonwealth
SECRETARY OF STATE	For this Commonwealth
TREASURER	For this Commonwealth
AUDITOR	For this Commonwealth
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS	FIRST DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR	EIGHTTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT	BERKSHIRE, HAMPDEN, FRANKLIN & HAMPSHIRE, DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT	FIRST BERKSHIRE DISTRICT
DISTRICT ATTORNEY	BERKSHIRE DISTRICT
REGISTER OF PROBATE	BERKSHIRE COUNTY
REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE	CENTRAL BERKSHIRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

QUESTION 1: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2026?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would make most records held by the Legislature and the Office of the Governor public records under the Massachusetts Public Records Law. This proposed law would exempt documents related to the development of public policy and communications between legislators and their constituents, if those communications are reasonably related to a constituent's request for assistance in obtaining government-provided benefits or services or interacting with a government agency.

A YES VOTE would make most records held by the Legislature and the Office of the Governor public records under the Massachusetts Public Records Law.

A NO VOTE would make no change to the Massachusetts Public Records Law.

QUESTION 2: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2026?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would specify that employees of the Committee for Public Counsel Services (“CPCS”) are permitted to engage in collective bargaining with their employer. It would also require CPCS, after executing a collective bargaining agreement, to request the appropriation necessary to fund such agreement from the Governor.

A YES VOTE would specify that Committee for Public Counsel Services employees may form a union to collectively bargain with their employer.

A NO VOTE would make no change to the law governing labor relations for Committee for Public Counsel Service employees.

QUESTION 3: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2026?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would eliminate political party primaries for state elections and instead establish a system where there would be a single, all-party primary in which all candidates, regardless of their party affiliation, would be listed on one ballot, and voters could vote for any candidate on the ballot. The two candidates receiving the most votes in the primary would advance to the general election ballot.

This proposed law would require candidates for governor and lieutenant governor to run and be listed jointly on the ballot in the primary.

This proposed law would provide political party status to any group whose candidates for any statewide office received at least 3% of the ballots cast in the state primary.

A YES VOTE would eliminate separate party primaries for state elections and require a single primary in which all candidates appear on one ballot, voters could vote for any candidate, and the top two candidates would advance to the general election.

A NO VOTE would make no change to the laws governing primary elections.

QUESTION 4: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2026?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would permit eligible individuals to register to vote or update their voter registration address on Election Day.

An individual who is eligible to vote could register to vote on Election Day by going to the polling place in the precinct where they live during voting hours and presenting proof of residency and signing a written oath. Proof of residency could be a valid photo identification, or documentation showing the individual’s name and the address where the individual resides, such as a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, residential lease, wireless telephone statement, paycheck, current student fee statement or other document from a post-secondary school, or another government

document or correspondence. The written oath would require the individual to certify that they are a citizen of the United States, are at least 18 years old, are not legally prohibited from voting, and have not and will not vote in the same election at another location. The oath would require the individual to acknowledge that providing false information is a felony punishable by not more than 5 years imprisonment or a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both.

If an individual did not present proof of residency, they would be allowed to cast a provisional ballot, which would be counted only if the individual returned to provide the required information before the close of polls for a municipal election; within two days after a state primary; or within six days after a state election.

Individuals who register to vote on Election Day would be registered to vote in future elections as well as in the election taking place that day.

Individuals who are already registered to vote would not be able to change their political party affiliation on Election Day.

The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2028.

A YES VOTE would permit eligible citizens to register to vote or to update their voter registration address at their polling place on Election Day.

A NO VOTE would make no change to the laws governing voter registration.

QUESTION 5: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2026?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would change the limit on how much revenue the state can collect in a given year. The proposal would limit state revenue in a given year to the net amount of state revenue from the year before, increased by a rate equal to the average growth of wages and salaries in Massachusetts over the most recent three years. If revenue collected by the state in a given year exceeds the limit, the excess amount would be refunded to taxpayers the following year. The proposed law would include all revenue from the surtax on incomes over \$1 million when calculating the revenue limit and when determining whether state revenue exceeds the limit.

The provisions of the proposed law would all be effective as of July 1, 2027.

The proposed law states that, if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would change the limit on state revenue collection, tying it to prior year collections plus average wage and salary growth, and provide for a rebate of revenue exceeding that limit.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the law relative to state revenue collection.

QUESTION 6: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2026?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would establish a Nature for All Fund that, subject to appropriation by the Legislature, would receive 50% of state taxes collected from the sale and use of sporting goods, recreational vehicles, and golf courses for the first year of its operation. After July 1, 2028, the Nature for All Fund would begin receiving, subject to appropriation by the Legislature, 100% of state taxes collected on the sale and use of sporting goods, recreational vehicles, and golf courses. The sales tax revenue received by the Nature for All Fund would exclude sales tax revenue transferred to the

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority State and Local Contribution Fund and the School Modernization and Reconstruction Trust Fund. The proposed law would allow the state Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to spend the money in the Nature for All Fund for natural resource conservation.

The proposed law would allow public and private donations to the Nature for All Fund. The proposed law would prevent the state comptroller from transferring surplus funds in the Nature for All Fund at the end of the fiscal year. It would also allow state agencies, municipalities, public charities involved in natural resource conservation, tribal governments, and other regional public entities to receive money from the Nature for All Fund.

Natural resource conservation would include the conservation or restoration of land to protect drinking water, streams, rivers, lakes, coasts, farms, forests, connectivity between open spaces, and lands and natural resources of indigenous cultural significance. Natural resource conservation would also include the creation, improvement, and management of parks, trails, greenspaces or outdoor recreation access.

The proposed law would establish a 15-member Nature for All Board that consists of five state officials and ten members of the public appointed by the Governor. The proposed law would require the ten members of the public to include representatives of underserved communities and indigenous peoples and at least one person with expertise or experience in natural resource conservation. The proposed law would allow the state Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to spend money from the Nature for All Fund to hire staff to manage the fund. The proposed law would also require the Nature for All Board to establish rules about how the money in the Nature for All Fund should be spent, including rules regarding alignment with environmental justice principles, access to and restoration of lands and natural resources of indigenous cultural significance, promotion of affordable housing development, and other matters regarding spending and bond issuance.

The proposed law would require the state Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs to submit an annual report to various state committees regarding the funds spent to buy or improve land in cities and towns containing environmental justice populations.

The proposed law would take effect on July 1, 2027.

A YES VOTE would create a fund that could be utilized for natural resource conservation that would receive some state taxes collected on the sale and use of sporting goods and recreational vehicles, and the use of golf courses.

A NO VOTE would not create this natural resource conservation fund or change how sales and use taxes are spent.

QUESTION 7: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2026?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would allow single-family homes to be built in a residentially zoned area as long as the land on which it is to be constructed is at least 5,000 square feet, has at least 50 feet of land bordering the street, road, or public way that it faces, and has access to public sewer and water services.

The proposed law would allow cities and towns to reasonably regulate certain aspects of those single-family homes, including their height, distance from neighboring buildings, open space, parking requirements, and whether they can be rented out on a short-term basis. The proposed law would also allow the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities to issue guidance or regulations to administer the proposed law.

A YES VOTE would allow single-family homes to be built on lots of 5,000 square feet or more in residential areas, subject to reasonable local regulation of certain aspects of those homes.

A NO VOTE would make no change to the law relative to building single-family homes.

QUESTION 8: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 6, 2026?

SUMMARY

The proposed law would change the type and amount of marijuana that may legally be possessed in Massachusetts by repealing the laws that legalize, regulate, and tax the retail sale of adult recreational use marijuana in Massachusetts. The proposed law would also permit persons 21 years of age and older to possess 1 ounce or less of marijuana including no more than 5 grams in the form of concentrate, and to gift or transfer to another person 21 years of age and older 1 ounce or less of marijuana including no more than 5 grams in the form of concentrate. The proposed law would also impose a civil penalty of \$100 and forfeiture of the marijuana for the possession of marijuana between the weight of 1 and 2 ounces.

For persons 21 years of age and younger, the proposed law would make the possession of 2 ounces or less of marijuana a civil infraction subject to a \$100 fine, forfeiture of the marijuana, completion of a drug awareness program and community service, and notification to their parents or legal guardian of the offense and penalties.

The proposed law would allow currently licensed adult recreational marijuana businesses to apply on an expedited basis to become a licensed medical marijuana dispensary and to sell their remaining inventory of adult recreational marijuana to medical marijuana dispensaries. The proposed law would retain the Cannabis Control Commission but modify its authority so it would regulate only the medical marijuana market.

The proposed law states that, if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2028.

A YES VOTE would prohibit the legalization, regulation, and taxation of the retail sale of adult recreational use marijuana, and change the penalties for possession of marijuana.

A NO VOTE would make no change to the law relative to marijuana.

QUESTION 9: REFERENDUM ON AN EXISTING LAW

Do you approve of a law summarized below, which was approved by the House of Representatives on July 18, 2024 by a vote of 124 to 33, and approved by the Senate on July 18, 2024 by a vote of 35 to 5?

SUMMARY

This law makes a number of changes to Massachusetts laws governing firearms.

The law adds school administrators and licensed healthcare providers as parties permitted to ask a court to issue an Extreme Risk Protection Order – requiring an individual to surrender or relinquish their firearm licenses, permits, and firearms - if an individual is a present danger to self or others. The law also provides that, when issuing an Harassment Prevention Order, a court may also order the surrender of firearms licenses, permits, and firearms.

The law imposes penalties for possessing, creating, and transferring untraceable “ghost gun” firearms and requires all firearms except antiques and relics, including unfinished frames and receivers that can be readily made into a finished product, to have serial numbers. The law includes privately-made guns like 3D-printed guns within the provisions governing untraceable “ghost gun” firearms.

The law changes firearms licensing requirements to: (1) allow local licensing authorities to request prior license and permit information from the state, as well as access petitions for involuntary mental health commitments denied by a court in addition to prior involuntary commitments, as a part of their review of applications for licenses to carry firearms, firearm ID cards, and licenses to sell firearms; (2) require an individual to be 21 years of age to own semiautomatic rifles or shotguns; (3) add the possibility of incarceration of up to six months for a second offense of failing to report a firearm

loss or theft; and (4) enable 12-15 year olds to apply for a self-defense spray permit with parental permission, and 15 to 18 year olds to apply independently.

The law allows local firearm licensing authorities to transfer the responsibility to inspect firearm dealers to the State Police. The law requires local licensing authorities to attend statewide training regarding those inspections. It requires dealers to confiscate expired or suspended licenses and report them to the state and to local licensing authorities.

The law changes the definition of “machine gun” to include bump stocks, trigger cranks, Glock switches and auto sears among the devices whose possession and use are subject to penalties. It expands the definition of “silencer” to include the parts used to construct a silencer.

The law clarifies how to determine whether a firearm is an assault-style weapon and the circumstances under which a person may continue to possess assault-style weapons and large capacity feeding devices they already own.

The law requires the state Firearm Control Advisory Board and the state Secretary of Public Safety and Security to review and update the rosters of prohibited assault-style firearms, approved firearms, and approved firearms sold for target shooting.

The law clarifies requirements relating to the carry and transport of firearms in motor vehicles and ATVs. It prohibits the carrying of firearms in government buildings, polling locations, and schools, with certain exceptions.

The law expands data compilation and reporting requirements to and from the state, and creates a publicly-accessible dashboard of anonymized aggregate firearm data, along with a commission to study that data.

The law requires the State Police to provide training and a test for new applicants for licenses to carry or Firearm ID cards.

The law establishes two special legislative commissions – one to examine funding for violence prevention services, and one to study emerging firearms technology.

The law criminalizes discharging a firearm and striking a building in use.

A YES VOTE would keep in place the law, which increases the regulation of firearms, including ghost guns, machine guns, and assault-style weapons.

A NO VOTE would repeal this law.

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this _____ day of OCTOBER, 2026.

Selectmen of: PERU

IN HAND

(Indicate method of service of warrant)

Constable

OCTOBER_____, 2026.

Posted at: Peru Town Hall (Inside and Outside Bulletin Board); Peru Community Center; Peru Library
Peru Transfer Station; Town of Peru Website; Townofperuma.co

Warrant must be posted by **October 27, 2026** (at least *seven days prior* to the **November 3, 2026** State Election).

Town of
Peru, Massachusetts



Office of the Treasurer/Tax Collector, 3 East Main Rd, Suite 101, Peru, Massachusetts 01235 •Tel: (413) 655-0072, •Fax: (413) 655-2759

No. 351

\$ 645,000.⁰⁰

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Town of PERU

Date of Issue October 19, 2026

For Value Received, the inhabitants of the Town of Peru by
their Treasurer, hereto duly authorized by vote of said Town passed on _____

or by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 6A, or both,

promise to pay to TRUNORTH BANK or order

at TRUNORTH BANK

the sum of Six hundred forty-five thousand and ⁰⁰/₁₀₀ Dollars

on February 19, 2027, with interest at an annual rate of 3.20% payable AT MATURITY

Countersigned and Approved

Signed

Majority of

Treasurer

the Board of

Town of

Selectmen

Town Seal

To be affixed here

I certify that this note was countersigned and approved by the Selectmen in my presence.

10/13/26
Date

ASST. Town Clerk

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Revenue, Boston

I hereby certify that this note appears to have been duly issued in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws per the attached Director of Accounts Approval Letter.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Certificate of Town Clerk

Note Number(s): 351

Town Treasurer's Record

Town of Pearu

1. Date of Town Meeting Authorizing Loan CHAPTER 44 SECTION 6A

2. Purpose of Loan ROAD

Note: Attach a Municipal Purpose Loan Form for lines 1 to 7 for all multiple purpose loans.

3. Total Amount of Loan Authorized \$ 645,000.00

4. Amount of Previous New Issues of this Loan \$ 0.00

5. Paydowns on this Issue (if required) \$ 0.00

6. Amount of this Issue \$ 645,000.00

7. Balance of this Loan Unissued \$ 0.00

Note: Amount Authorized minus Previous New Issues minus This Issue (New Money) equals Unissued Balance.

8. Issue Date OCTOBER 19, 2026 Date Due FEBRUARY 19, 2027

9. Payable to TRU NORTH BANK

10. Payable at TRU NORTH BANK

11. Rate of Interest 3.20 %. Payable AT MATURITY
(Annually, semi-annually or at maturity)

12. Signed by [Signature], Town Treasurer

TO THE DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTS: THIS CONSTITUTES OUR AUTHORIZATION TO DELIVER THE NOTE(S), WHEN CERTIFIED, TO THE PURCHASER(S) SPECIFIED ON LINE 9 ABOVE.

COUNTERSIGNED AND APPROVED BY:

[Signature]

Edward F. Brunch

Selectmen
and a
majority
thereof

In the presence of: Kan Haul, Town Clerk

ASST.



(complete right side)

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Certificate of Town Clerk

Only one Certificate is needed to cover all notes issued on the same date for the same purpose. The Town Clerk will furnish below an exact copy of the vote authorizing the loan, as appearing in the Clerk's records, showing how the vote was passed including a copy of the article in the warrant upon which the vote was based. The completed certificate is to be signed by the Clerk and given to the Treasurer, who must transmit the same, with the note or notes, to the Director of Accounts, Department of Revenue, Boston. General Laws Chapter 44, Sections 23-27.

Copy of Vote Authorizing Loan

*(Attach a certified copy of the vote and warrant article
for each authorization included in this borrowing.)*

CHAPTER 44, SECTION 4



Seal

I CERTIFY that this is a true copy of the Town Treasurer's Record of the issue of notes and a true copy of the vote passed at a meeting of the voters of the Town of PEQU, duly warned as required by law, which authorized borrowing as stated, as appears on the records of the town; that said vote is in full force and effect and has not been repealed or modified in any way by subsequent vote of the town. I FURTHER CERTIFY that the person whose signature appears on the note as treasurer of the Town of PEQU was the duly authorized treasurer on the date when said signature was made; and that the persons whose signatures appear upon the note as those of a majority of the selectmen were duly qualified selectmen on the date when such signatures were made. I ALSO CERTIFY that the copy of the warrant article is a true copy of the same; that it was duly served and certified by the constable as required by the General Laws and by-laws or vote of the town or both.

Date 10/13/26

Ka Hall

ASST
Town Clerk

(Revised: December 2003)

Town of Peru
3 East Main Road
Peru, MA 01235

October 9, 2026

The Honorable Maura Healey
Governor of Massachusetts
Massachusetts State House
Office of the Governor, Room 280
24 Beacon St.
Boston, MA 02133

**Subject: West-East Rail — Support for an Intermediate Passenger Station
between Springfield and Pittsfield**

Dear Governor Healey,

On behalf of the Town of Peru, we write to express strong support for including an intermediate passenger rail station along the Springfield–Pittsfield segment as part of the West–East Rail Boston & Albany Corridor, currently in planning and development.

As MassDOT advances the Service Development Plan for the Boston & Albany Corridor, it is essential that this underserved region be fully connected into the Commonwealth's passenger rail network. An intermediate station would serve approximately 35,000 year-round residents and a significant seasonal population across 25 towns (listed below) many of whom lack reliable access to public transportation.

The inclusion of an intermediate station is critical to advancing regional equity and long-term economic stability. It would expand access to employment, education, and healthcare while making our communities more attractive to residents and employers alike. At a time when the region is experiencing sustained population decline, improved access to passenger rail could play an important role in stabilizing and growing our communities — helping retain current residents and attract new ones by improving access to opportunities across the Commonwealth.

The Town of Chester is a strong candidate for such a station. Located near the midpoint of the corridor, it could effectively serve residents across Hampden, Hampshire, and Berkshire Counties. Notably, Chester was identified as a potential station stop in MassDOT's 2021 East–West Passenger Rail Study and the 15-year strategic expansion plan released by Amtrak in 2021.

We respectfully urge your administration to ensure that the Boston & Albany Corridor plan includes and fully evaluates a passenger rail stop serving this region.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued leadership in strengthening Massachusetts' transportation system.

Sincerely,

Terry Walker
Town Administrator
Town of Peru

The 25 towns that would be served by an intermediate station include:

Becket, Blandford, Chester, Chesterfield, Granville, Cummington, Goshen, Hinsdale, Huntington, Lee, Middlefield, Monterey, Montgomery, New Marlborough, Otis, Peru, Plainfield, Russell, Sandisfield, Tolland, Tyringham, Washington, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington

Town Administrator

From: Lindsey Parziale <lindsey.parziale@energysource.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2026 10:39 AM
To: Town Administrator; Sarah Seltzer
Cc: Crystal Hamlin
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Town of Peru Town Hall Weatherization Invoice

Hi Terry,

Thank you for taking my call. Our logic in excluding the basement was to maximize the amount of Designation Grant Funding available to the Town of Peru given the fast-approaching deadline.

The attic needed to be addressed with all aspects detailed in the scope. There was no way to split the work required in the attic to also include the basement while not exceeding the Designation funding.

Despite the extended deadline, granted after the installation of phase 1, the basement project exceeds the funds leftover in the Designation grant.

With Phase 1 now installed, about 70-75% of the building is weatherized and the Town of Peru will see those energy savings.

Please let me know if the Select Board needs anything else! Thanks :)

Best,

Lindsey Parziale
Account Manager, Public Sector Energy and Electrification
energysource.com
(978) 494-3688

From: Town Administrator <townadmin@townofperuma.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2026 6:58 PM
To: Lindsey Parziale <lindsey.parziale@energysource.com>; Sarah Seltzer <sarah.seltzer@energysource.com>
Cc: Crystal Hamlin <crystal.hamlin@energysource.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Town of Peru Town Hall Weatherization Invoice

Thanks so much Lindsey,

My supervisors are pleased with the work so far. ●

As soon as the spray foam is completed, I will send a check.
Very Happy Green Communities gave us an extension so we didn't have to rush.

Terry Walker
TA Peru

Town Administrator

From: Kimberly Wetherell <kjwetherell@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 11:00 AM
To: Town Administrator; Select Men; Peru townclerk@townofperuma.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RAO - Public Records Request

Good Morning Records Access Officer:

I am requesting a copy of Peru's Employee Policy and Manual. Please reply with the public record copy attached.

Thank you,

-Kim

*Kimberly Wetherell
10 South Road
Peru, MA 01235*