

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Peru Community Center

3 East Main Rd. Peru MA

Monday, May 23, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. State recording status
4. Pledge Allegiance to the Flag
5. Review and Approve BOS Meeting Minutes for 5/16/22 and BOS-Finance Joint Meeting on 5/16/22
6. Updates of Departments
7. Discussion and possible vote to make the following re-appointments:

Richard Burke to the Peru Historical Commission.

Darryl Darby to the Peru Cemetery Commission.

Darryl Darby as the Cemetery Sexton

Kathleen Borden to the Hinsdale-Peru Cultural Council.

Katie Boucher to the Hinsdale- Peru Cultural Council.

Wally Morrison as the Veterans' Grave Officer.

David Strzepa to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Tim Sears as Building Commissioner.

Tim Martin as Plumbing and Gas Inspector.

Lynn McAvoy to the Animal Advisory Committee.

Edward Fahey as Health Agent/Inspector.

Kyle Nutting as Part-Time Police Officer.

Sean Boyne as Part-Time Police Officer

Peter Yetman as Electrical Inspector

Douglas Haskins to the Park and Recreation Committee.

James Welch as Town Administrator.

Terry Walker as Administrative Assistant.

Ed Munch as the Mohawk Trails Woodland Partnership Representative.

James Welch as American Disability Coordinator.

Justin Russell as Tree Warden.

8. Discussion and Review of the FY '23 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.
9. Update on the Town of Peru 250th Anniversary Celebration.
10. Public input
11. Review and Approve Accounts payable, Treasury Warrant, Payroll Warrant.
12. Adjourn

The list of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Board which may be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Posted May 19, 2022 @ 6:50am, Kim Leach , Town Clerk

Official posting: Peru Town website: www.townofperuma.com

TOWN HALL 3 EAST MAIN ROAD PERU, MA 01235

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: May 23, 2022: 6:00 P.M.

Peru Community Center

Verne Leach, Chair Selectman/ACO
Bruce Cullett, Selectman/Police Chief
Doug Haskins, Selectman/Finance Committee
James Welch, Town Administrator
Terry Walker, Administrative Assistant
Jesse Pelkey, Fire Chief

Public Attendees:

Item 1: Call to order: 6:00 P.M.

Item 2: Roll Call: Chairman Leach present, Selectman Cullett present, Selectman Haskins present

Item 3: State Recording status: James Welch, Town Administrator

Item 4: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Led by Selectman Leach

Item 5: Review and Approve BOS Meeting Minutes 05/16/2022: Selectmen Cullett recommended change to identify the amount of WRAP money that is available (\$117,706.06) to the Town for FY'23. Selectmen Leach suggested adding the Payroll Warrant number to the minutes. Selectmen Cullett recommended changing the spelling of Ofc. Kresiak name in the minutes. Leach motioned to approve minutes as changed. Unanimously Approved.

Item 6: Updates of Departments: Jim Kenney of the Historical Commission updated the BOS on the progress of the 250th ceremonial booklet based on 500 booklets. The order will have a two- week turnaround time. 500 softcover will cost from Courier Printing, \$5,036 or \$10.07/each. The hardcover version with glossy pages. Mr. Kenney is awaiting a quote from Courier Printing and will update when received. The BOS approved the ordering of 500 softcover booklets.

Fire Chief Pelkey updated on the MCI drill on Saturday May 21, 2022 held in Peru. About 80 people and 30 agencies participated in the drill. Chief Pelkey commented that the biggest issue that was problematic during the drill was the inability to communicate using emergency lines. He mentioned that cell phones were used to mitigate this issue. Fire Department had a good week and he felt the drill was a success. Chief Pelkey raised the issue of SUV Command vehicle for the Fire Department. The quote from the City of Beverly came in at \$11,000 not the \$9,000 as originally thought. The discrepancy related to the accompanying equipment attached to vehicle. Chief Pelkey expressed his concern that due to the size of his personal truck, it is becoming costly to use for official town business. He also stated that the tires for his truck are over \$400/tire. Selectmen Cullett recommended to Chief Pelkey to look at renting an automobile from an agency that might allow him to get better gas mileage when he is travelling on official town business. Chief Pelkey stated that a second vehicle that he was looking at on MuniBid is less money, but he has not had the ability to contact the organization selling the vehicle. He has placed many calls and no one has called him back. He also state that he would not have the luxury of seeing and examining the vehicle. TA Welch explained that the City of Beverly sent a contract regarding the first vehicle, but it was \$2000 more that anticipated. Selectmen Cullett, Selectmen Leach both expressed concern about the fact that the City of Beverly does not appear willing to work with a smaller town in the Commonwealth such as Peru and that the town needs to be skeptical of their demands. Selectmen Haskins asked if Beverly would take a bid from us. The BOS expressed concern that the City of Beverly may be trying to take advantage or the situation, TA Welch agreed. Chief Pelkey suggested that the Fire Department could go in on a percentage of the purchase of the vehicle. Selectmen Haskins, expressed concern that having the Town own part and the Fire Department owning another part could create problems. It was determined that the purchase of a SUV

Command Vehicle would be reflected in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant would be “not more that \$9,500”. This would allow Town Meeting to approve based on a maximum price. The Future Equipment Article on Town Meeting would be reduced by \$9,500 to reflect the change.

Police Chief Cullett updated the BOS on his feedback from the Mass Casualty Event. Chief Cullett stated that while it was good to simulate with many responding agencies, that both he and Chief Pelkey and their departments also need to be prepared to operate “hands on” until reinforcements make there way to Peru. Chief Cullett suggested that he would look into smaller vehicles grant opportunities.

Selectmen Cullett also updated the BOS about his status regarding mandated Training from Massachusetts Police Reform Law.

Town Administrator Welch updated the BOS about preparation for Annual Town Meeting. He is also working with Town Clerk Leach to develop and print the Annual Town Report as it needs to be printed and available to residents 7 days before ATM. TA Welch recognized Town Clerk Leach for her willingness to step up and donate her labor and resources to ensure the Town Report is completed on time.

TA Welch updated the BOS about initial conversations with Department Heads about how we will plan to meet deadlines regarding Free Cash certifications for next year.

Item 8 (taken out of order): Discussion and review of FY’23 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Selectmen Cullet suggested that secondary plans need to be made should the Town’s Free Cash not be certified by the date of the ATM. Options were discussed such as borrowing options and the possibility of a second Town Meeting at a later date when Free Cash is certified. Selectmen Cullet asked if there is an update regarding overage in Snow Roads account, Selectmen Haskins updated that we are still awaiting a final number from Superintendent Russell. Selectmen Leach pointed out that 2 Articles on the Town Meeting Warrant Draft were missing decimal points. Selectmen Cullett pointed out that the Snow Roads account should be listed as the first free cash Article on the Warrant.

The final Article regarding borrowing was discussed. It was determined that it would be left as originally written. It was recommended by KP Law that the Articles fixing salaries and raising funds for salaries could be combined. It was determined by the BOS that the language would stay as originally written.

Selectmen Haskins inquired whether Town Meeting would require Counsel from KP LAW present at the meeting? It was determined by the BOS that yes a representative from KP LAW should be at the ATM.

Item 7: Discussion and Votes were held to re-appoint the following

Richard Burke to the Peru Historical Commission.

Darryl Darby to the Peru Cemetery Commission.

Darryl Darby as the Cemetery Sexton

Kathleen Borden to the Hinsdale-Peru Cultural Council.

Katie Boucher to the Hinsdale- Peru Cultural Council.

Wally Morrison as the Veterans’ Grave Officer.

David Strzepa to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Tim Sears as Building Commissioner.

Tim Martin as Plumbing and Gas Inspector.

Lynn McAvoy to the Animal Advisory Committee.

Edward Fahey as Health Agent/Inspector.

Kyle Nutting as Part-Time Police Officer.

Sean Boyne as Part-Time Police Officer

Peter Yetman as Electrical Inspector

Douglas Haskins to the Park and Recreation Committee.

James Welch as Town Administrator.

Terry Walker as Administrative Assistant.

Ed Munch as the Mohawk Trails Woodland Partnership Representative.

James Welch as American Disability Coordinator.

Justin Russell as Tree Warden.

Selectmen Leach made a motion to approve all named to listed positions. Seconded by Selectmen Cullett. Vote was unanimous. 3-0 to approve.

TA Welch distributed the official appointment papers that will signed by all 3 Selectmen. Selectmen Leach mentioned that open re-appointment still remain. Council on Aging, Fire Chief, Emergency Management Director, Asst. Management Director and Zoning Board. TA Welch stated that he would add those appointment to next weeks agenda.

Selectmen Cullett recused on appointments of Police Officers

Selectmen Haskins recused on appointment of himself to Park and Recreation.

Discussion was had regarding the length of Fire Chief Appointment going forward.

Selectmen Leach asked TA Welch to check with Sam Haupt if he would like to be re-appointed as Asst. Emergency Management position. TA Welch will inquire. Selectmen Cullett pointed out that a posting will need to made for the Asst. Emergency Management position should Mr. Haupt not wish to be re-appointed.

Item 9: Update on 250th Celebration: Selectmen Leach gave update regarding communications with 250th Committee. He updated about living former BOS members attending. Selectmen Leach stated that there is enough space to hold festivities in field behind firehouse.

Selectmen Cullett asked TA Welch about update on insurance coverage for the cars participating in the Car Show. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to Mr. John Munch stating that the Town of Peru will add him/his property to Town's insurance liability and that the property would be put back to its original condition by Highway Department. Selectmen

Cullett pointed out that all vendors must provide insurance certificate to town. Chief Pelkey stated that the Fire Department would be selling Fried Dough. Chief Pelkey stated that the 250th Committee wanted the FD to charge 50 cents for a bottle of water. Chief Pelkey stated that he suggested that it be sold for \$1.00. The BOS suggested the Fire Department sell soda and water. Selectmen Leach stated that the beer supplier will provide product but not servers. Selectmen Haskins questioned if alcohol was necessary to be sold. Selectmen Cullett pointed out that if the Town does sell beer, it limits the amount of BYOB situations which can lead to safety issues.

Item 10: Public Input: N/A

Item 11: Review and Approve Accounts Payable, Treasury Warrants and Payroll Warrant: N/A

Item 12: Adjourn: Selectman Leach made motion to adjourn the 05/23/2022 BOS Meeting, Selectman Cullett second, Vote 3-0. The 05/23/2022 BOS Meeting adjourned at 7:07 P.M.

Articles used:

BOS Meeting Minutes 5/16/2022

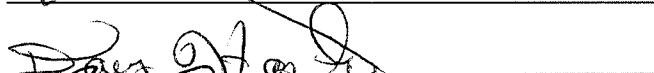
Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L Walker
Administrative Assistant

Verne Leach, Chairman



Doug Haskins, Selectman



Bruce Cullett, Selectman



Date Approved: _____