

# PERU BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Town Hall Meeting Room, 3 EAST MAIN RD

Monday, March 3, 2025 @ 6:00pm

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. State recording status
4. Pledge Alliance to the Flag
5. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes for 2-18-2025
6. Update of Departments.
7. Update from the Peru Library and meet the new Library Director Osvaldo Macedo
8. Discussion on the Central Berkshire Regional School District, School Committee Agreement
9. Discussion and possible vote on Swap Shed Quotes for shed
10. Discussion and possible vote on hiring a maintenance person
11. Discussion regarding United States Department of Labor Fact Sheet #17 regarding First Responders and the Part 541 Exemptions under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)
12. Discussion and possible modification of Police Chief's employment agreement to align with FLSA
13. Discussion and possible vote on Other Post-Employment Benefits
14. Public Input
15. Review and Approve accounts payable, Treasury Warrants, Payroll Warrants
16. 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.

Verne L Leach , Select Board Chair

Official posting: Peru Town website: [www.townofperuma.com](http://www.townofperuma.com)

Posted February 27, 2025 @ 5:30 pm

*Kim A Leach*

Town Clerk

TOWN HALL 3 EAST MAIN ROAD PERU, MA 01235

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: March 3, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.**

Town Hall Meeting Room

Verne Leach, Chair Selectman  
Sam Haupt, Selectman  
Ed Munch Selectman  
Terry Walker, Town Administrator  
Justin Russell, Highway Superintendent

Public Attendees: Ruth Calaycay, Sharon Greule, Osvaldo Macedo

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

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

**Item 3: State Recording status:** Town Administrator Walker, Selectman Leach for personal reasons under exemption E

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

**Item 5: Review and Approve BOS Meeting Minutes 2/18/2025.**

Selectman Leach motion to approve 2/18/2025 minutes pending changes, Selectman Munch second, 3-0.

**Item 6: Update of Departments:**

**Highway Superintendent:**

- Superintendent Russell received an invoice from DEP for the oil spill at the highway garage. There is a possibility the fee is associated with filing paperwork. Superintendent Russell will investigate this issue.
- A new transmitter has been reprogrammed on the gate at the Highway Department and everything is working properly.
- BRPC-Superintendent Russell mentioned a program associated with BRPC that may qualify funding to eradicate the hogweed on Windsor Road.
- Snow Roads: Superintendent Russell mentioned the expensive repairs to equipment and the amount of snow/ice storms will bring the snow roads over budget.
- Superintendent Russell mentioned he is not required to go out to bid for diesel fuel because it is not over \$50,000. He has had a problem with Mirabito Energy Products because they are not delivering as scheduled. Justin needs to constantly email or call Mirabito for deliveries. In the past, he used O'Connell's and they delivered every Friday.

**Sam Haupt** will be attending a Woodlands Partnership meeting within the next month. Senator Mark' will be speaking on a more equitable Pilot program to reimburse small towns.

**TA Walker:**

- The Town Clerk budget was given TA Walker by Selectman Leach. TA Walker will present the Town Clerk budget to the Finance Committee on March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- School Transportation invoices from Dufour- Since the Transportation budget has been depleted, Sam Haupt will contact Town Counsel regarding 1 student going to McCann that was not budgeted for.

**Item 7: Update from the Peru Library and meet the new Library Director Osvaldo Macedo:** The BOS had the pleasure of meeting Osvaldo Macedo, the new Library Director for the Town of Peru. Ruth Calaycay mentioned that Osvaldo's first day was February 1<sup>st</sup> and the transition is going great.

**Item 8: Discussion on the Central Berkshire Regional School District, School Committee Agreement:** Selectman Leach had a phone conversation with David Stuart, School Committee member, regarding the issues with the school agreement. Selectman Leach asked Selectman Haupt to contact town counsel regarding changing the vote from a simple majority to a popular vote.

**Item 9: Discussion and possible vote on Swap Shop quotes for shed:** Placed on hold.

**Item 10: Discussion and possible vote on hiring a maintenance person:** Placed on hold.

**Item 11: Discussion regarding United States Department of Labor Fact Sheet #17 regarding First Responders and the Part 541 Exemptions under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA):** Selectman Leach asked if the executive minutes could be released. Selectman Munch stated that the Board of Selectmen had taken a vote at the last meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup>, and the BOS voted unanimously to make the Police Chief position non-exempt.

**Item 12: Discussion and possible modification of Police Chief's employment agreement to align with (FLSA)**  
Placed on hold.

**Item 13: Discussion on Other Post -Employment Benefits with Bruce Cullet:** Selectman Haupt felt that the intent of this item was a presentation to the BOS of the advantages of OPEB. Selectman Leach asked TA Walker who was behind offering OPEB benefits to the employees in Peru. TA Walker stated that she had assisted with OPEB benefits in other towns and felt that it would be an incentive to keep good employees. Placed on hold.

**Item 14: Public Input:** None

**Item 15: Review and approve Accounts Payable, Treasury Warrant and Payroll Warrant:** V18-2025

Selectman Haupt was concerned with Police Chief Cullett's payroll sheet which included overtime hours for President's Day on February 17, 2025. He mentioned this would be discussed at the next BOS meeting because the board voted to make the Police Chief position non-exempt on February 18, 2025. Selectman Munch felt that the Chief should be compensated because it was in the same pay period. Since the Chief's time sheet had been signed by the BOS, Selectman Leach will notify Treasurer Wendling of changes to Chief Cullett's time sheet and he will not be compensated for overtime on this week's payroll warrant.

**Item 16: Adjourn:** Selectman Leach made a motion to adjourn the 3/3/2025 BOS Meeting, Selectman Munch second, Vote 3-0. The 3/3/2025 BOS Meeting adjourned at 7:07P.M.

**Articles used:**

V18-2025 warrant  
Minutes 2/18/2025

Terry Walker  
Recording Secretary

Verne Leach, Chairman

Sam Haupt, Selectman

Ed Munch, Selectman

Date Approved: 3/17/25

[Signature]  
[Signature]  
Ed Munch

RECEIVED  
MAR 19 2025  
Kim Leach  
TOWN CLERK  
TOWN OF PERU