

PERU BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Town Hall Meeting Room, 3 EAST MAIN RD

Monday, April 14, 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 4-7-2025
6. Update of Departments
7. Discussion and possible vote on Dufour transportation bid
8. Discussion and possible vote on Hogweed quote
9. Discussion and possible vote on Public Hearing notice for Mass Works Grant application
10. Discussion on Bids for mowing town greens
11. Discussion and update on Vocational transportation
12. Public Input
13. Review and Approve accounts payable, Treasury Warrants, Payroll Warrants
16. Adjourn

Verne Leach , Select Board Chair

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.

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

Posted April 10, 2025 @ 12:40 pm

Kim A Leach

Town Clerk

TOWN HALL 3 EAST MAIN ROAD PERU, MA 01235

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: April 14, 2025, 6:00 P.M.

Town Hall Meeting Room

Verne Leach, Chair Selectman
Sam Haupt, Selectman
Ed Munch, Selectman
Terry Walker, Recording Secretary
Bruce Cullett, Police Chief
Susan Koziara, Assessor

Public Attendees:

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: TA Walker recording, Selectman Leach recording 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 for 4/7/2025

Selectman Leach motion to approve 4/7/2025 minutes pending changes, Selectman Munch second, 3-0

Item 6: Update of Departments:

Police Department:

Chief Cullett mentioned that the Skid Unit for the UTV will be shipped on April 24th.

Finance Committee

Chairman Cullett mentioned that the next Fin Com meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 16th at 6:00 p.m.

Assessor

Susan Koziara explained that she utilized town council to obtain an opinion on an exemption for Berkshire Sanctuary. It was determined that the charitable organization met all the requirements for a \$12,000 Real Estate exemption. This did not go before the appellate tax board.

Town Administrator:

- TA Walker asked permission to attend a Mass Municipal Association, (MMA) seminar at the Delaney House in Holyoke, MA, on May 3, 2025. The cost is \$25.00 and one topic will include a speaker and facilitator with expertise in rural and small-town development topics. Participants will learn strategies for increasing participation in local government, overcoming obstacles and putting ideas into action. Also, a legislative update

on rural policy topics moderated by Adrienne Nunez, MMA Legislative Analyst. The BOS agreed that TA Walker could attend the seminar.

- TA Walker asked permission to attend a Massachusetts Municipal Management Association (MMMA) Spring Conference in Brewster, MA on May 28, May 29 and May 30, 2025. Wednesday's topics will include budgeting, board relations, effective advocacy, personnel physical and mental health and citizen engagement. Thursday's topics will include effective leadership and goal setting. Friday's topics will include a final report on the association's strategic plan and a manager contact session. Selectman Munch felt TA Walker should attend the conference and felt it would help since she is bringing in millions of dollars in grants. Selectman Leach mentioned that paying TA Walker mileage was questionable and the BOS would get back to her regarding a mileage reimbursement. The BOS agreed that TA Walker could attend the conference.
- TA Walker mentioned that Bonny DiTomasso resigned as COA Director on April 9th because she did not have a key to the town hall. It was mentioned that Bonny did not pick up a key from the Town Clerk. Bonny gave the keys to the COA files and COA binders to TA Walker. The Board agreed to advertise the COA Director position.

Selectman:

Selectman Munch attended the Northern Berkshire Solid Waste meeting on April 10, 2025, and he was under the impression that the assessment will be level funded.

Item 7: Discussion and possible vote on Dufour transportation bid: Selectman Leach motion to accept Dufour transportation bid, Selectman Haupt second, 3-0.

Item 8: Discussion and possible vote on Hogweed quote: Selectman Leach motion to transfer \$750.00 from Reserve Fund to Health Department for the treatment of hogweed at 55 East Windsor Road, Selectman Munch second, 3-0.

Item 9: Discussion and possible vote on Public Hearing notice for MassWorks Grant application: Selectman Leach motion to accept Public Hearing notice to be advertised for MassWorks Grant, Selectman Haupt second, 3-0.

Item 10: Discussion on bids for mowing town greens: Selectman Leach motion to accept mowing bid to be advertised pending changes, Selectman Munch second, 3-0

Item 11: Discussion and update on Vocational transportation: Placed on hold.

Item 12: Public Input: none

Item 13: Review and approve Accounts payable, Treasury Warrant and Payroll Warrant: V21-2005

Item 14: Adjourn: Selectman Leach made a motion to adjourn the 4/14/2025 BOS Meeting, Selectman Munch second, Vote 3-0. The 4/14/2025 BOS Meeting adjourned at 7:09 P.M.

Articles used:

V21-2025

4/7/2025 minutes

Dufour transportation bid

Hogweed quote

Public Hearing notice for MassWorks grant

Mowing notice to be advertised

Bonny DiTomasso resignation

Terry Walker
Recording Secretary

Verne Leach, Chairman



Sam Haupt, Selectman

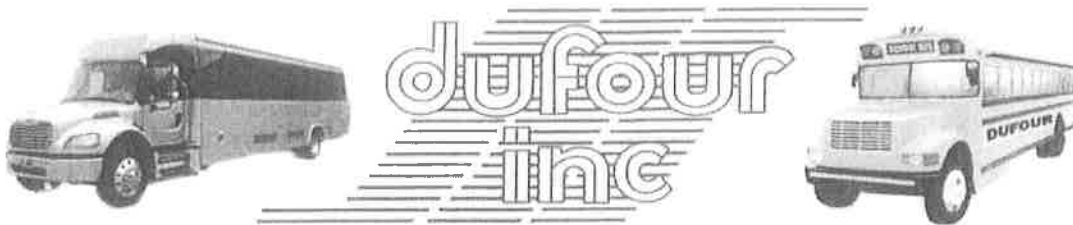


Ed Munch, Selectman



Date Approved: 4/28/25

RECEIVED
APR 28 2025
Kevin Leach
TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF PERU



133 South Street • P.O. Box 549 • Hinsdale, MA 01235

March 19, 2025

Town of Peru
3 East Main Rd., Suite 100
Peru, MA 01235

In response to your request for a bid for vocational student transportation to Smith Vocational in Northampton and C.H. McCann Tech in North Adams, Dufour Escorted Tours, Inc., of Hinsdale, proposes daily student transportation for the 2025-26 school year as follows:

Peru students to/from Smith Vocational - \$249.80 per day
Peru students to/from McCann Tech - \$241.20 per day

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Town of Peru and please do not hesitate to call with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

William D. Dufour, Jr., President
DUFOUR ESCORTED TOURS, INC.

Town Administrator

From: admin <info@landstewardshipinc.com>
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2025 1:59 PM
To: Town Administrator
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Town of Peru

Hi Terry,

Between 2021-2023 we visited 45 North Road and East Windsor Road in Peru to conduct two treatment visits per season for a cost of \$750 per treatment. I might suggest a budget of \$1,500/year.

Let me know if you need anything else.

Chris Polatin

On Fri, Apr 11, 2025 at 1:13 PM Town Administrator <townadmin@townofperuma.com> wrote:

Hi,

I understand that you eradicated the hogweed in the Town of Peru a few years ago.

We are having a problem with hogweed and need to appropriate funds at town meeting to eradicate the hogweed once again.

Can you help me or lead me in the right direction? What I am looking for is a cost estimate.

Thank you,

Terry Walker

Town Administrator

Town of Peru

Cell 413-329-4185

Town of Peru

Peru, Massachusetts 01235



THE TOWN OF PERU ACCEPTING QUOTES FOR FY26 LAWN CARE

The Town of Peru is requesting quotes for lawn care and mowing of town properties which consists of South Cemetery, North Cemetery, Center Cemetery, Town Hall,

Town Park and Town Green

10 mows per year

Quotes must be submitted to the Town Hall at 3 East Main Road, Peru, MA by Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. contact Terry Walker, Town Administrator, townadmin@townofperuma.com, 413-655-8312 x 100

Town of Peru

Peru, Massachusetts 01235



TOWN OF PERU BOARD OF SELECTMEN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Board of Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing on the proposed Safety Improvements on Raymond Road, Ash Lane and Lafayette Drive. The Public Hearing will be held on Monday, May 12, 2025, at 6:15 p.m. at the Town Hall, 3 East Main Road, Peru, MA.

PURPOSE OF THE HEARING: To provide the public with an opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed reconstruction and safety improvement project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered. The funds for the project will be acquired from a \$1,000,000 MassWorks Grant.

PROPOSAL: The proposed improvements will consist of drainage, culverts, full-depth reclamation, widening roads, resurfacing, paving and guardrails. The MassWorks Grant will provide improvements to the town's infrastructure and enhance public safety.

All work on this project will be performed within existing right of ways, all abutters will be notified via the town website, U.S. Postal service and a local newspaper.

Board of Selectmen

Town of Peru

err.

4/9/2025

Please accept the COA keys
for the Peru CBM director
position.

Thank you,

Bony Di Tomasso

Team Walker, Team Administrator

Town Administrator

From: Bonny DiTomasso <jtfan13@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 9, 2025 11:30 AM
To: Select Men; Sam Haupt; kinderhaus1@verizen.net; Peru townclerk@townofperuma.com;
Town Administrator
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Council on Aging Director -

Good Morning,

Please accept my resignation from the Council on Aging Director position effective 4/9/2025.

I have surrendered the COA key chain to the Terry Walker will all keys given to me as well as the COA books given to me by Chairman Leach.

Sincerely,
Bonny DiTomasso