

TOWN HALL 3 EAST MAIN ROAD PERU, MA 01235

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: October 14, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Town Hall Community Center

Verne Leach, Chair Selectman
Samuel Haupt, Selectman
Edward Munch, Selectman
Terry Walker, Recording Secretary
Bruce Cullett, Police Chief

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 9/22/2025 and 9/29/2025: Selectman Leach motion to accept 9/22/2025 minutes pending changes, Selectman Munch second, 3-0.
Selectman Leach motion to accept 9/29/2025 minutes pending changes, Selectman Munch second, 2-0, Selectman Haupt abstained

Item 6: Update from Departments:

Maintenance:

- Ed Munch mentioned he had two emergencies' downstairs during the Mountain Market event on Saturday. He had to remove the handle from door in the upstairs bathroom and install it on the door of the downstairs bathroom. The next day he was able to purchase a new handle from Home Depot and installed the new one on the bathroom door.
- Ed also purchased two carbon dioxide /smoke detectors for the furnace rooms.
- The meeting room project is going well. Ed is scraping the old paint off the walls and the solution to remove the old paint costs \$100.00 per gallon. It will take 30 days to set in the cement, once the walls are sealed the walls can be painted.
- Ed mentioned that the cleaning people are still mixing trash and this needs to be addressed.
- Selectman Leach mentioned that the highway department needs to have their own building maintenance budget for next year.

Police Department:

- Chief Cullett mentioned that he and TA Walker submitted a \$10,000 MIIA Risk Management grant. Since the Fire Department did not respond, the items included are for the Highway Department, Police Department and the septic line for the town hall. The grant was written for the following items.

- Under General Liability: replacing the septic line at town hall to prevent sewer back up.
- Highway Department blue tooth communication for work in noisy environments. This will provide the employees with necessary protection from permanent hearing loss and also allow two-way communication.
- Traffic cones and reflective traffic barrels for the highway department. A drum truck, 55 Gallon Drum Dolly to move heavy barrels. The Drum Dolly will reduce the risk of back strain or injury that can occur. Chain saw sharpeners, ladders are included as well as an appliance Dolly.
- Law Enforcement Liability: Blue Voice A I platform for immediate access to accurate legal, policy and community resources. (Mobile Computing software).

Sam Haupt:

Sam mentioned that he testified before a joint House and Senate Revenue Committee Pilot reform zoom meeting. Some State Senators and Legislators were physically at the meeting.

Town Administrator:

- TA Walker and Bonny DiTomasso, COA Director submitted the FY25 COA Annual Report to the state. This is necessary for the Town of Peru to continue receiving state funding.
- Corey Abbate, Civic Plus Account Manager, has scheduled a phone conference on Monday, October 20th at 3:00 p.m. to discuss migration of the town website. TA Walker explained that the town did not receive a budget for FY26, and Corey felt that Civic Plus could work with the approved budget for FY26. Selectman Haupt wanted Corey to explain what the town website is lacking. Selectman Leach mentioned that the website follows Mass General Law. Since there will be an increase in the town website cost, the BOS mentioned that they do not want any extras that are not needed.
- TA Walker provided Employee handbooks from other towns and the Town of Peru's personnel policies. Chief Cullett mentioned that a handbook would be a great tool for all departments with separate job classifications in one handbook. Selectman Leach mentioned that he would prefer one policy for each department. Selectman Leach also mentioned that TA Walker has every state holiday off and the highway department does not. Selectman Munch mentioned that since the BOS has all the town policies to review, this will be on next week's agenda for discussion. Selectman Leach felt that one employee handbook would be too confusing for the employees.

Item 7: Public Input: Edward Munch asked if the BOS meetings could be held upstairs in the meeting room. The Board agreed to move the meetings from the Community Center to the Meeting Room.

Item 8: Review and Approve accounts payable, Treasury Warrants: V08-2026

Item 9: Adjourn: Selectman Leach made a motion to adjourn the 10/14/2025 BOS Meeting, Selectman Munch second, Vote 3-0. The 10/14/2025 BOS Meeting adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

Articles used:

9/22/2025 minutes

9/29/2025 minutes

Warrant: V08-2026

Email from Corey Abbate-Civic Plus

Terry Walker
Recording Secretary

Verne Leach, Chairman



Samuel Haupt, Selectman



Edward Munch, Selectman

Edward Munch

Date Approved: 10/20/25

Received 10-20-2025 - Kim Leach, Town Clerk

Town Administrator

From: Corey Abbate <corey.abbate@civicplus.com>
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2025 10:26 AM
To: Town Administrator
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Peru, MA & CivicPlus Municipal Websites - Initial Discussion Overview

Howdy Terry,

4 pm ET on Monday works for me – I have adjusted the meeting invite ●

Would you like me to add the selectmen to the meeting or will they be joining via your Zoom screen?

Thanks,




Corey Abbate, CPRP (he/him/his)

Account Manager II • CivicPlus

P: 785-370-7796

[civicplus.com](https://www.civicplus.com) – [Book a meeting with me](#)

Check out our upcoming webinars: <https://www.civicplus.com/webinars/>

Connect with us:   



Powering and Empowering Government

From: Town Administrator <townadmin@townofperuma.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2025 5:00 PM
To: Corey Abbate <corey.abbate@civicplus.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Peru, MA & CivicPlus Municipal Websites - Initial Discussion Overview

Hi Corey,

Can we reschedule the meeting on Monday, October 20th to 4:00 p.m? One of the Selectmen would like to attend.

Thank you,
Terry Walker
Town Admin
Town of Peru

From: Corey Abbate <corey.abbate@civicplus.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 1:59 PM

To: Town Administrator <townadmin@townofperuma.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Peru, MA & CivicPlus Municipal Websites - Initial Discussion Overview

Howdy Terry,

Thanks again for chatting with me briefly over the phone today. As requested, I have detailed the topic of our discussion for Monday below. Please let me know if you have any additional questions ahead of our meeting next week ● I would also recommend completing this scoping form if you have the time: [scoping survey](#)

Currently the Town of Peru's website is hosted by CivicPlus on the Drupal 7 Platform. Earlier this year, the Drupal 7 platform began its End of Life service and CivicPlus has been connecting with our clients to migrate them from Drupal 7 to our proprietary CMS called Municipal Web Central.

During our initial discussion, we will review the Drupal 7 EOL, discuss options for your new website design, and review the implementation/migration timeline. If we have time, I will also provide a brief demonstration of the new website platform, showcasing the dashboard & modules that your team will be able to use to better engage with your community.

Currently, a renewal hold was placed on the Town of Peru's website and your town has NOT been invoiced for this current service year (July 1, 2025 thru June 30 2026). The total expected for renewal prior to this migration was \$3518.86. There will be an increase in your annual cost as part of this migration, and I will be able to share further details on your pricing when we connect next week.

For the migration of your website, CivicPlus has waived the cost of our [Standard Templated designs](#), Content Migration, and Group Training (3 seats). You will also be migrated to our Web Central Starter package (I have included a fact sheet for your review).

Thanks,

Corey Abbate, CPRP (he/him/his)

Account Manager II • CivicPlus

P: 785-370-7796

civicplus.com – [Book a meeting with me](#)

Check out our upcoming webinars: <https://www.civicplus.com/webinars/>

Connect with us:

