

TOWN HALL 3 EAST MAIN ROAD PERU, MA 01235

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: May 4, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.

Town Hall Meeting Room

Verne Leach, Chair Selectman
Edward Munch, Selectman
Samuel Haupt, Selectman
Terry Walker, Recording Secretary
Bruce Cullett, Police Chief
Justin Russell, Highway Superintendent
Tim Sears, Building Inspector

Public Attendees: Heather Brooks

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 4/27/2026: Selectman Leach motion to accept 4/27/2026 minutes pending changes, Selectman Munch second, 3-0.

Item 6: Update from Departments:

Highway Department:

- Superintendent Russell mentioned that Hickingbotham Road and South Road have been completed and Chapter 90 reimbursement has been submitted for \$645,000.
- Road Sweeping has been completed.
- The next project will be to start grading all gravel roads and patching will be completed after the grading is finished.
- Superintendent Russell inspected Linda Zanboni's driveway entrance, and it measured 16 feet. The driveway cannot be wider than the culvert.

Fire department:

Heather Brooks, presented Assistant Chief Logan Brooks', proposed free schedule. Selectman Leach mentioned that the proposed fee schedule will be on next week's agenda.

Town Administrator:

- TA Walker presented a condition of accounts for Partridge Field Playground Trust which has a balance of \$27,747.55. She will get in touch with Doug Haskins on quotes for a fence and if the fence could be paid out of the trust fund.
- She presented an updated list of 8 vocational students from CBRSD.

- TA Walker received emails from KP Law and our Town Accountant regarding paying COA salary from Formula Grant. The COA Director Salary can be taken from the Formula Grant and does not need to be voted at Annual Town Meeting. An email from Adam Frank COA Grants Program Coordinator from Boston also sent an email stating that there are no longer restrictions on how the Formula Grant is spent and the COA Director Salary can be taken out of the Formula Grant. TA Walker had all the questions answered except if the BOS wanted to expand the services and increase the COA Director Salary to \$5,200.00. Selectman Haupt does not want to take services away from the elderly, Selectman Leach mentioned that the COA Director in Hinsdale does not get paid and Selectman Munch stated that this will not cost the taxpayers anything. Selectman Haupt is onboard with the opinion of town council and made a motion to fund the requested salary out of the Formula Grant, which has a balance of around \$30,000, Selectman Munch second, 2-1.

Item 7: Discussion on Permiteyes with Tim Sears and Justin Russell: Tim Sears was appointed as the Permiteyes administrator. He can now make changes to full circle accounts. The issue the town is having is that houses are being built and sold without the Highway Superintendent signing off on a driveway permit. Superintendent Russell mentioned that the driveway permit must be acquired before construction begins. Building Inspector Sears will call Permiteyes and have the highway superintendent notified before construction begins. Selectman Leach mentioned that the Highway Superintendent, Assessors, Treasurer and Town Clerk should all have access to sign off on permits. Selectman Munch was under the assumption that this had all been taken care of. Building Inspector Sears mentioned that Permiteyes was not prompting all departments. Tim will set up a test run to assure everyone has access to the portal and that no department is being blocked.

Item 8: Discussion on which town positions to designate as a Special Municipal Employee Position:

Selectman Leach obtained a list of all appointed and elected positions. This was placed on hold.

Item 9: Discussion and possible vote on Robert Dewkett’s bid for Mowing Town Greens:

Selectman Haupt motion to approve town mowing bid of \$6,800.00, Selectman Munch second, 3-0. Supt. Russell mentioned that there may be extra mowing for FY27. Selectman Leach motion to increase mowing bid to \$7,300.00, Selectman Munch second, 3-0.

Item 10: Discussion and possible vote on Fiscal Year 2027 budget:

COA Director Salary	\$1.00
Elderly Outreach program	\$1.00
COA Expense	\$1.00

BOS agreed to raise/appropriate \$1.00 for all COA accounts, since the Formula Grant will be utilized for COA expense account, Elderly Outreach Program and COA Director Salary.

Selectman Haupt motion to expand services for the elderly by increasing the annual salary for the COA Director to \$5,200.00, Selectman Munch second, 2-1

Health Insurance was increased from \$180,000 to \$185,000. Unanimous vote.

Town Mowing bid received for \$6,800.00. BOS agreed to increase the mowing bid to \$7,300.00. unanimous vote.

Item 11: Discussion and possible vote on articles and finalizing the Annual Town Meeting Warrant: The BOS reviewed ATM warrant and FY27 worksheet. Superintendent Russell mentioned that the BOS can use the Recycling grant to purchase transfer station stickers rather than the Town Clerk’s expense account. Superintendent Russell questioned if a town vote at ATM is needed to use Partridge Field Trust account funds, which is \$27,747.55. TA Walker will have answers at next week’s meeting and revisions will be completed on the ATM Warrant.

Item 12: Review and Approve accounts payable, Treasury Warrants, Payroll warrants: V22-2026A

Item 13: Public Input: None

Item 14: Adjourn: Selectman Leach made a motion to adjourn the 5/4/2026 BOS Meeting, Selectman Munch second, Vote 3-0. The 5/4/2026 BOS Meeting adjourned at 7:23 P.M.

Articles used:

4/27/2026 minutes
Warrant: V22-2026A
FY2027 worksheet
Annual Town Meeting Warrant
Robert Dewkett's quote
Email KP Law, Accountants, Adam Frank-COA Coordinator-Formula Grant
Partridge Field Trust Fund

Terry Walker
Recording Secretary

Verne Leach, Chairman



Samuel Haupt, Selectman



Edward Munch, Selectman



Date Approved: 5/11/26

Received 5-12-2026
Kim Leach, Town Clerk

Line Item Number	Budget Item	FY 24 Allocation	FY 25 Proposed	FY 26 Proposed	FY 27 Proposed	Increase/(Decrease)	% change
10111.00	Legal	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,900.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ -	0%
10122.00	Town Administrator	\$ 30,900.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 41,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	3%
10122.01	Selectmen's Salary	\$ 10,725.00	\$ 11,046.75	\$ 11,378.15	\$ 11,719.49	\$ 341.34	3%
10122.02	Selectmen Expenses	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	0%
10122.06	Recording Secretary	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,150.00	\$ 5,304.50	\$ 154.50	3%
10123.00	Continuing Ed	\$ 6,530.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	0%
10124.00	IT	\$ 24,500.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 22,450.00	\$ 1,450.00	7%
10124.02	Website	\$ 1,930.00	\$ 1,930.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ (1,500.00)	-50%
10135.00	Accountant Services	\$ 31,800.00	\$ 31,800.00	\$ 35,100.00	\$ 35,100.00	\$ -	0%
10135.01	Town Auditor	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	100%
10141.00	Assessor Salary	\$ 24,691.00	\$ 25,431.00	\$ 28,380.63	\$ 29,235.04	\$ 854.41	3%
10141.01	Assessor Expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0%
10141.02	Assessor Services	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -	0%
10141.04	Tax Map Maintenance	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,000.00	63%
10141.12	Assessor Computer	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ -	0%
10141.25	Assessor Utility Appraisal	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 1,000.00	29%
10145.00	Treasurer's Salary	\$ 12,730.80	\$ 13,112.72	\$ 15,600.00	\$ 16,068.00	\$ 468.00	3%
10145.02	Treasurer Expenses	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	0%
10145.03	Bank Charges	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -	0%
10145.04	Treasurer Tax Title Exp	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -	0%
10145.05	Annual Software	\$ 13,277.97	\$ 13,941.87	\$ 14,638.97	\$ 15,370.92	\$ 731.95	5%
10146.00	Tax Collector Salary	\$ 12,730.80	\$ 13,112.72	\$ 15,600.00	\$ 16,068.00	\$ 468.00	3%
10146.01	Tax Collector Expenses	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	0%
10146.02	Tax Taking Charges	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	0%
10146.05	Tax Coll Computer Support	\$ 10,867.78	\$ 11,411.17	\$ 11,981.73	\$ 12,580.82	\$ 599.09	5%
10161.00	Town Clerk Salary	\$ 10,300.00	\$ 10,609.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,450.00	\$ 450.00	3%
10161.01	Town Clerk Expenses	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,595.00	\$ 595.00	30%
10161.02	Asst Town Clerk Salary	\$ 2,730.00	\$ 2,811.60	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 75.00	3%
10161.03	Election & Bd of Reg	\$ 5,850.00	\$ 5,850.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 8,340.00	\$ 4,840.00	138%
10171.00	Conservation Comm	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 100.00	25%
10172.00	BRPC	\$ 693.00	\$ 710.30	\$ 728.05	\$ 746.26	\$ 18.21	3%
10173.00	Board of Appeals	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -	0%
10175.00	Officer's Mileage	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	0%
10175.01	USPS	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 800.00	19%
10175.02	Office Supplies	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	0%
20212.00	Police Dept. Expenses	\$ 7,085.00	\$ 7,450.00	\$ 8,250.00	\$ 8,539.00	\$ 289.00	4%
20212.02	Police Wages	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 28,525.00	\$ 29,380.75	\$ 855.75	3%
20212.04	Police Cruiser Maint	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,850.00	\$ 3,850.00	\$ -	0%
20212.08	Police Chief Salary	\$ 67,500.00	\$ 69,525.00	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 82,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	3%
20217.00	Internet	\$ 6,700.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,250.00	\$ 50.00	1%
20212.13	Police CHUBB Insurance		\$ 8,300.00	\$ 7,358.00	\$ 7,381.00	\$ 23.00	0%
20218.00	Emergency Management			\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0%
20220.00	Police Continuing Ed	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	0%

20222.00	Vol FD	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -	0%
20222.01	Fire Chief Salary	\$ 2,525.00	\$ 2,600.50	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,180.00	\$ 180.00		3%
20222.02	Fire Station Mortgage	\$ 1.00	\$ 14,338.13	\$ 14,045.50	\$ 13,752.88	\$ (292.62)		-2%
20222.04	Firemen's Building Maint	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -		0%
20222.11	Vol FD Insurance	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -		0%
20224.00	Hinsdale Ambulance	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -		0%
20226.00	Insp of Animals	\$ 950.00	\$ 978.50	\$ 1,007.25	\$ 1,037.46	\$ 30.21		3%
20292.00	Animal Control Salary	\$ 1,911.00	\$ 1,968.33	\$ 2,027.37	\$ 2,088.19	\$ 60.82		3%
20293.00	Animal Control Expense	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -		0%
30000.01	CBRSD Operating/Transp	\$ 903,919.00	\$ 943,938.00	\$ 1,021,339.00	\$ 1,083,751.00	\$ 62,412.00		6%
30000.02	CBRSD Capital	\$ 102,405.00	\$ 117,707.00	\$ 160,437.00	\$ 156,297.00	\$ (4,140.00)		-3%
30000.04	Smith/Taconic/McCann Tuiti	\$ 180,684.00	\$ 208,470.00	\$ 216,930.00	\$ 203,031.00	\$ (13,899.00)		-6%
30000.05	Voc Sch Transportation	\$ 41,180.40	\$ 43,027.20	\$ 88,380.00	\$ 74,887.20	\$ (13,492.80)		-15%
30610.00	Peru Library	\$ 19,265.00	\$ 21,243.00	\$ 23,256.00	\$ 23,256.00	\$ -		0%
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
40100.00	Road Superintendent Salary	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 77,250.00	\$ 79,567.50	\$ 81,954.52	\$ 2,387.02		3%
40103.00	Highway Employee Wages	\$ 107,000.00	\$ 110,210.00	\$ 113,516.30	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 6,483.70		6%
40103.05	Temp Summer Help	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -		0%
40105.00	Highway Uniforms	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,800.00	\$ -		0%
40200.00	Maint Hard Road Surfaces	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 28,000.00	\$ -		0%
40204.00	Material Gravel Roads	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -		0%
40206.00	Road Machinery Maint	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 5,000.00		20%
40208.00	Gas & Fuel	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 33,000.00	\$ -		0%
40210.00	Town Highway & Bridges	\$ 16,750.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -		0%
40212.02	Highway Garage Mortgage	\$ 12,020.00	\$ 12,020.00	\$ 12,020.00	\$ 12,020.00	\$ -		0%
40213.24	Highway Build Maint	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00		#DIV/0!
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
40213.25	Hogweed Eradication			\$ 1,500.00	\$ 750.00	\$ (750.00)		
40214.00	Tree Removal	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -		0%
40423.00	Snow Roads Public	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 95,500.00	\$ 500.00		1%
40500.00	Compactor	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 39,520.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 480.00		1%
40502.00	Northern Berk Solid Waste	\$ 2,866.00	\$ 3,178.48	\$ 3,178.48	\$ 3,420.00	\$ 241.52		8%
40503.00	Health Dept	\$ 15,500.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 15,172.00	\$ 16,402.00	\$ 1,230.00		8%
40504.00	Compactor Attendant	\$ 7,950.00	\$ 8,188.50	\$ 9,171.12	\$ 9,446.25	\$ 275.13		3%
50300.00	Council On Aging Expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -		0%
50302.00	Elderly Outreach Program	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00	\$ -		0%
50303.00	Council On Aging Salary	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,236.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,472.00	\$ 72.00		3%
50700.00	Cemetery Sexton Salary	\$ 500.00	\$ 515.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 772.00	\$ 22.00		3%
50700.01	Cemeteries	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -		0%
50900.00	Veterans Agent Salary	\$ 500.00	\$ 515.00	\$ 530.12	\$ 546.02	\$ 15.90		3%
50902.00	Veterans Services	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ -		0%
60002.04	Town Building Maintenance	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 3,000.00		25%
60002.05	Utilities Electric	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -		0%

60002.06	Utilities Heating	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	24%
60002.07	Utilities Telephone	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00	-	0%
60002.25	Town Building Maint. Salary	\$ -	-	\$6,000	\$6,180	180.00	
60002.4	Town Hall Cleaning	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 4,900.00	-	0%
60004.10	Town Green Park Mowing	\$ 6,450.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$6,600.00	\$6,800.00	200.00	3%
60006.00	Partridge Field Playground	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	-	0%
70750.00	Interest on Loans	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 17,000.00	2,000.00	13%
90206.00	Town Insurance	\$ 41,559.00	\$ 43,559.00	\$ 44,800.00	\$ 43,553.00	(1,247.00)	-3%
90208.00	Town Report	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	-	0%
90912.00	BCRS Assessment	\$ 58,841.00	\$ 62,960.00	\$ 63,800.00	\$ 66,990.00	3,190.00	5%
90913.00	Mass Unemployment	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	-	0%
90915.00	Medicare	\$ 7,700.00	\$ 6,300.00	\$ 6,700.00	\$ 6,900.00	200.00	3%
90919.00	Health Insurance	\$ 132,120.96	\$ 142,450.56	\$ 151,431.36	\$ 180,000.00	28,568.64	19%
95781.00	Reserve Fund	\$ -	-	-	185,000	-	
	TOTAL	\$ 2,507,489.71	\$ 2,656,746.33	\$ 2,899,870.53	\$ 3,007,041.30	\$ 107,170.77	4%

**ORDER OF BUSINESS
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Berkshire, ss**

To either of the Constables of the Town of Peru, in said County.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Peru, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the Town Fire Station, 11 East Main Road Peru, MA on Saturday, June 6, 2026, at 6:00 PM for the Annual Town Meeting, then and there to take action on the following articles, namely:

Article 1: To choose a Moderator for the Annual Town Meeting if the elected Moderator is absent or take any other action relative thereto:

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the several Town Officers, or take any other action relative thereto:

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the Central Berkshire Regional School District FY27 Assessment, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Net Operating Assessment	\$ 1,083,751.00
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Capital Assessment	<u>156,297.00</u>
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Total Town of Peru Assessment	\$1,240,048.00
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Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 4: Citizens Petition: Petition to the Town of Peru to change the position of Town Clerk as described under MGL c41 section 1 from and elected to an appointed position:

Article 5: Citizens Petition: The Board of Selectmen shall be required to schedule the Peru Annual Town Meeting no later than the second Saturday in May at 5:00 p.m.

Article 6: Citizens Petition: Petition the Town of Peru in accordance with MGL Ch. 32B section 20 to create an Other Post-Employment Benefits Fund for the current and future liabilities of the Town for group health insurance benefits for the retirees and their dependents which fund may be expended by a 2/3 vote of a Town Meeting, and designate a trustee or trustees, and further, to directs that such trustee or trustees adopt and file a declaration of trust and take all other actions as required by said section , or take any other action relative thereto:

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to fix the salaries of all elected officers as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of M.G. L., for FY26 or take any other action relative thereto:

Selectboard	
Member	\$ 3,906.50
Member	3,906.50
Member	3,906.50
Town Clerk	\$15,450.00
Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.	

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to fix the salaries of the following appointed officers for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors'	
Lead Assessor	\$22,496.20
Assessor #1	4,006.03
Assessor	2,732.81
Treasurer	16,068.00
Tax Collector	16,068.00
Accounting Services	35,100.00
Animal Control Officer	2,088.19
Police Chief	82,400.00
Inspector of Animals	1,037.46
Veterans' Agent	546.02
Council on Aging Director	1.00
Fire Chief	6,180.00
Cemetery Sexton	772.00
Town Auditor	1.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27, or take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Salaries	\$ 29,235.04
Selectmen's Salary	11,719.49
Tax Collector's Salary	16,068.00
Town Clerk's Salary	15,450.00
Treasurer's Salary	16,068.00
Accounting Services	35,100.00
Assessing Services	25,000.00
Animal Control Officer's Salary	2,088.19
Inspector of Animals Salary	1,037.46
Veterans' Agent Salary	546.02

Council on Aging Director	1.00
Fire Chief	6,180.00
Police Chief	82,400.00
Cemetery Sexton Salary	772.00
Town Auditor	1.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following wage accounts for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Recording Secretary	\$ 5,304.50
Elections & Registrar's Account	8,340.00
Assistant Town Clerk	2,575.00
Compactor Attendants	9,446.25
Town Administrator's Salary	41,200.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Expense	\$ 1,000.00
Bank Service Expense	100.00
Animal Control Officer's Expense	1,000.00
Selectmen & Other Expenses	2,500.00
Tax Collector's Expenses	1,500.00
Tax Collector's Tax Taking Charges	2,000.00
Town Clerk's Expense	2,595.00
Town Report Expense	2,000.00
Treasurer	1,500.00
Treasurer Tax Title Expense	6,000.00
Board of Appeals Expense	100.00
U.S. Postal Expense	5,000.00
Health Department Expense	16,402.00
Hogweed Eradication	750.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Assessors' Annual Computer Support	\$ 2,400.00
Computer Supplies & Maintenance IT	22,450.00
Treas./Acct. Annual Computer Support	15,370.92
Tax Collector's Annual Computer Support	12,580.82
Assessors' Tax Map Maintenance	2,600.00
Continuing Education	3,000.00

Office Supplies	2,000.00
Assessor Utility Appraisal	4,500.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Conservation Commission Expense	\$ 500.00
Interest on Loans	17,000.00
Legal Expense	9,000.00
Officers' Mileage	1,500.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in Support of this article.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Elderly Outreach	\$ 1.00
Council on Aging Expense	1.00
Veterans Service	6,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Medicare – Town Share	\$ 6,900.00
Health Ins/Life & Dental	185,000.00
Town Insurance - All	43,553.00
Mass. Unemployment Insurance	600.00
CHUBB Insurance	7,381.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Partridge Field Playground Trust	\$ 1,500.00
Peru Library	23,256.00
Mowing: Cemeteries, Town Hall, Town Park and Town Green:	7,300.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Town Buildings' Maintenance	\$ 15,000.00
Town Building Maint. Salary	6,180.00
Utilities – Electric	15,000.00

Utilities – Heating	21,000.00
Utilities - Telephone	1,800.00
Internet Communication Lines	7,250.00
Town Website Design, Hosting, & Support	1,500.00
Town Hall Janitorial Services	4,900.00
Cemetery Expense	500.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27 or to take any other action relative thereto:

Compactor	\$ 40,000.00
Northern Berkshire Solid Waste District	3,420.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Berk. County Reg. Planning Comm.	746.26
Berk. County Retirement Assessment	66,990.00
Hinsdale Ambulance	3,000.00
Town Fire Station Mortgage Payment	13,752.88
Police Wages	29,380.75
Police Expenses	8,539.00
Police Cruiser Maintenance	3,850.00
Police Continuing Education	3,000.00
Emergency Management Expenses	\$1,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Peru Volunteer Fire Department Operating Expenses	\$ 25,000.00
Peru Volunteer Fire Department Insurances	6,000.00
Peru Volunteer Fire Department Building Maintenance	2,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts for FY27, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Gas & Fuel Account	\$ 33,000.00
Maintain Hard Surface Roads	28,000.00
Material, Gravel Roads	25,000.00
Road Machinery Maintenance	30,000.00
Snow Roads, Public	95,500.00
Town Highways & Bridges	20,000.00
Town Highway Garage Mortgage Payment	12,020.00

Highway Employee Wage Acct.	120,000.00
Highway Superintendent Salary	81,954.52
Highway Department Uniforms	3,800.00
Tree Removal	25,000.00
Temporary Summer Help	8,000.00
Highway Garage Maintenance	3,000.00

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the vocational education and transportation accounts for FY27, or take any other action relative thereto:

Vocational School Tuition	\$203,031.00
Vocational School Transportation	\$74,887.20

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Forty-Eight Thousand, Five Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars and Eighty Three Cents, \$48,529.83 or any other sums, for overage in Snow Roads, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Ten Thousand Six Hundred Nine Dollars and Twenty-Five Cents, (\$10,609.25), or any other sum, to fund sandblasting and painting highway department plows, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$7,500.000), to purchase a new tractor mount 3-point hitch leaf blower, or any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 26: To see if the Town will transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Four Thousand Five hundred and Zero Cents, (\$4,500.00) to replace floor drain grates for the highway garage, or any other relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 27: To see if the Town will transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$50,000.00) to the Future Equipment Account or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 28: To see if the Town will transfer from Free Cash the sum of Twenty-Two Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents, (\$22,000.00) for a Financial Town Audit for FY25, or take any other action relative thereto:

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 29: To see if the Town will transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Forty-One Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents, (\$41,000.00) to reduce the tax rate or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 30: To see if the Town will Transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Five Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents, (\$5,000.00) to replace laptops, or take other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$10,000.00), or any other sum, to the Reserve Fund for FY27 or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of Nine Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$9,000.00), or any other sum, to pay an additional Fire Station principal mortgage payment, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Free Cash** the sum of One Hundred and Four Dollars and Seventy Six Cents, (\$104.76), or any other sum, to pay a FY25 AT&T invoice, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 34: To see if the town will vote to authorize the use of the following revolving funds for departmental operations which shall not exceed the noted sums for each fund, which shall be under the control of the Town Treasurer, which shall be accounted for separately, and to which shall be credited only the receipts received in connection with the departmental operations supported by the revolving fund: further to authorize the Town Treasurer to expend from such funds in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ of the Mass General Laws, provided however that said expenditures for the revolving fund shall not exceed the receipts for said fund:

Board of Health Fees	\$1,500.00
Firearms Licensing Fees-Police Department	\$3,000.00

Board of Selectman and Finance Committee in support of this article.

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Chapter 90 funds that are, or may become, available to the Town during FY27 for Roadway Projects and Repairs, and to authorize the Treasurer to borrow such amounts in anticipation of reimbursement by the Commonwealth or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, or other Town Departments with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to apply for and accept grants from the Federal Government, Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any other source, and to expend the

same for purposes received without further appropriation, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article XX: To see if the Town will vote to adopt as Article 39 of the Town's General By-laws the following noncriminal disposition bylaw in accordance with G.L. c. 40, § 21D, or to take any other action relative thereto:

Article 39. NONCRIMINAL DISPOSITION BY-LAW:

1. Any by-law of the Town of Peru, or rule or regulation of its officers, boards or departments, may in the discretion of the Town official who is the appropriate enforcing person, be enforced through noncriminal disposition as provided in G.L. c. 40, § 21D. The specific penalty for purposes of noncriminal disposition for each such violation, if not otherwise specified, shall be as follows:

First violation – warning

Second violation - \$50

Third violation - \$100

Fourth and subsequent violations - \$300

2. Each day a violation exists shall constitute a separate violation for purposes of this by-law.
3. The term “enforcing person” as used in this by-law shall mean: any Town of Peru police officer with respect to any offense; as well as the Fire Chief and Fire Inspector, Town Administrator, Highway Superintendent, Animal Control Officer/Inspector, Building Commissioner, Conservation Commission or its agent, Board of Health or its agent, Zoning Board of Appeals or its agent, and their designees, and such other officials as the Select Board may from time to time designate, each with respect to violation of by-laws, rules and regulations within their respective jurisdictions. If more than one official has jurisdiction in a given case, any such official may be an enforcing person with respect thereto.
4. Any particular fine specified in a by-law shall be included on a list maintained in the office of the Town Clerk.
5. The fines set forth in the notice of violation issued in accordance with this By-law shall be payable to the Town within 21 days of the date set forth on the notice or, if the person so notified seeks to contest the violation, such person may request a hearing before the Pittsfield District Court. The person so notified may also seek to resolve the matter locally by appealing the issuance of the notice, in writing, to the Town Administrator no later than 14 days following the date of the notice of violation. The Town Administrator or the Administrator's designee shall, no later than 20 days following the date of the notice of violation, decide the appeal, or hold a hearing to determine such additional facts as may be necessary. If the person so notified is dissatisfied with the Town Administrator's determination and resolution, they may contest the violation as set forth in the notice by seeking a hearing before the Pittsfield District Court in accordance with G.L. c. 40, § 21D. The Administrator's failure to make a determination within the time set forth herein shall

be construed for purposes of this paragraph as a determination to void the notice of violation.

ATTEST:

This is a true copy.

Kim Leach
Town Clerk
Certified: May _____, 2026

You are directed to serve this warrant with your doing thereon to the Town Clerk or the Board of Selectmen at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this _____ day of May 2026.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Verne Leach, Chairman

Edward Munch, Member

Samuel Haupt, Member

I have served this Warrant as directed above.

Places of Posting: Bulletin Board/Town Hall/Transfer Station/Library/Community Center/Website: Townofperuma.com

ATTEST:

Constable

Date

Time

Posted: May _____, 2026

JRD Mowing

Robert Dewkett
101 Hickingbotham Road
Peru, MA 01235
413-212-0857
dewkettbob@yahoo.com

April 12, 2026

To: Board of Selectman
Town Of Peru
3 East Main Road
Peru, MA 01235

Bid for Town Mowing July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

Mowing and trimming of:

Center Cemetery
North Cemetery
South Cemetery
Town Green
Town Hall
Town Park
Fire Department

Total of 10 mows at \$680.00 each mow for a total of \$6800.00 for the fiscal year.

Thank you for your consideration of this bid.

Sincerely,



Robert R. Dewkett
JRD Mowing

Town Administrator

From: Brian M. Maser <BMaser@k-plaw.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2026 1:01 PM
To: Town Administrator; Jeffrey T. Blake
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Question

Hi Terry. Based upon on conversation, I understand that the question posed by the Town is whether the COA Director's annual salary for the upcoming fiscal year can be paid exclusively from grant funds received by the Town or whether some portion of the Director's salary must come from the Town's treasury through an appropriation made at your upcoming Annual Town Meeting. In my opinion, the Director's salary may be fully funded by the grant funds received by the Town so long as the expenditure of the grant funds for the Director's salary are within the permissible uses of the grant funds. The Town is not required, in my opinion, to fund a portion of the Director's salary from Town funds if sufficient grant funds exist to pay the Director's salary and the expenditure is otherwise permissible. Be advised, however, that if the Town were to not receive the grant in future years, the Town would need to address the Director's salary in future budget cycles from its existing treasury.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Brian

Brian M. Maser, Esq.

KPLAW

101 Arch Street, 12th Floor
Boston, MA 02110
617-654-1725
BMaser@k-plaw.com
www.k-plaw.com

This message and the documents attached to it, if any, are intended only for the use of the addressee and may contain information that is PRIVILEGED and CONFIDENTIAL and/or may contain ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please delete all electronic copies of this message and attachments thereto, if any, and destroy any hard copies you may have created and notify me immediately.

From: Town Administrator <townadmin@townofperuma.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2026 12:25 PM
To: Brian M. Maser <BMaser@k-plaw.com>; Jeffrey T. Blake <JBlake@k-plaw.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Question

yes

From: Brian M. Maser <BMaser@k-plaw.com>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2026 12:25 PM
To: Town Administrator <townadmin@townofperuma.com>; Jeffrey T. Blake <JBlake@k-plaw.com>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Question

Is now good?

Brian

Town Administrator

From: Kayleigh Levesque <Kayleigh@erickinsherfcpa.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 9:49 AM
To: Town Administrator; Janice Boucher; Eric Kinsherf
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: questions

Good morning Terry,

Caryn can just start charging the COA directors hours to the existing formula grant account. This doesn't need to go to town meeting.

Thank you!

From: Town Administrator <townadmin@townofperuma.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 8:08 PM
To: Kayleigh Levesque <Kayleigh@erickinsherfcpa.com>; Janice Boucher <Janice@erickinsherfcpa.com>; Eric Kinsherf <eric@erickinsherfcpa.com>
Subject: questions

Hi,

I was asked by Fin Com and BOS to contact you with the following question:

The COA Director has over \$30,000 in a formula grant. She has asked to have her salary funded with the grant. Her duties will be expanded to expand services to the elderly. We have a letter from the state saying COA director salary can be funded with the grant.

Should I draft a separate warrant article stating that her salary should be funded with the grant?
Can a payroll salary be funded with a grant rather than a town appropriation?

I appreciate your guidance and assistance.

Terry Walker
TA Peru

TA Peru

From: Bonny DiTomasso <jtfan13@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, May 1, 2026 3:30 PM
To: Town Administrator <townadmin@townofperuma.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Question

Bonny

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bonny DiTomasso <jtfan13@yahoo.com>
Date: March 26, 2026 at 1:10:44 PM EDT
To: Adam Frank <adam.frank@mass.gov>
Subject: Re: Question

Thank you for clarifying. Have a wonderful day!
Bonny DiTomasso

On Mar 26, 2026, at 12:00 PM, Frank, Adam (ELD)
<adam.frank@mass.gov> wrote:

Hi Bonny.

AGE no longer restricts how towns spend their formula funding, beyond that it must support the work of the COA, so there is no state-level prohibition against using formula funds to supplement the Director's salary. Totally up to the town.

All the best,

<Outlook-
A green
le.png>

Adam Frank

**Councils on Aging and Grants Program
Coordinator
Executive Office of Aging & Independence**

Your Partners in Aging.

One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA

Town of Peru
2026 Condition of Accounts
From 07/01/2025 to 06/30/2026

Partridgefld Plygrnd Trst 600022.00		PO #	Voucher	Invoice	Warr	Pkt #	Approp	Expended	Encumbered	Available	% Exp
07/01/2025	GLSOY SOY CFW					6664	0.00	-27,645.99	0.00	27,645.99	100.00%
07/01/2025	GLSOY SOY CFW					6663	0.00	27,645.99	0.00	0.00	100.00%
07/01/2025	GLSOY SOY CFW					6659	0.00	-27,645.99	0.00	27,645.99	100.00%
07/31/2025	ACCRV					3391	0.00	-11.18	0.00	27,657.17	100.00%
08/31/2025	ACCRV					3485	0.00	-10.44	0.00	27,667.61	100.00%
09/30/2025	ACCRV					3487	0.00	-11.52	0.00	27,679.13	100.00%
10/31/2025	ACCRV					3488	0.00	-11.17	0.00	27,690.30	100.00%
11/28/2025	ACCRV					3489	0.00	-10.34	0.00	27,700.64	100.00%
12/31/2025	ACCRV					3497	0.00	-12.58	0.00	27,713.22	100.00%
01/31/2026	ACCRV					3498	0.00	-11.44	0.00	27,724.66	100.00%
02/27/2026	ACCRV					3505	0.00	-10.68	0.00	27,735.34	100.00%
03/31/2026	ACCRV					3506	0.00	-12.21	0.00	27,747.55	100.00%
		600022.00	Ending Bal				0.00	-27,747.55	0.00	27,747.55	100.00%
			Period Total				0.00	-27,747.55	0.00		
	Ending Bal						0.00	-27,747.55	0.00	27,747.55	
							0.00	-27,747.55	0.00		
	Dept Ending Bal						0.00	-27,747.55	0.00	27,747.55	
							0.00	-27,747.55	0.00		
	Fund 60 Ending Bal						0.00	-27,747.55	0.00	27,747.55	
							0.00	-27,747.55	0.00		
Grand Total							0.00	-27,747.55	0.00	27,747.55	*,***,***%
							0.00	-27,747.55	0.00		