

Town of
Peru, Massachusetts



February 12, 2018

OFFICIAL

Community Center, 3 East Main Rd.

Minutes to Board of Selectmen's Meeting

Present:

Bruce Cullett, Chairman BOS/ Police Sergeant
Ed Munch, Selectman / Historical Commission.
Verne Leach/Selectman/ACO/Transfer Attendant
Caleb Mitchell, Town Administrator
Irene Morrison, Selectmen's Secretary
Justin Russell, Highway Superintendent
Brian Dewkett, Fire Chief

Residents: Nanette Mone

Guest(s):

Item 1: **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Item 2: **Roll Call**

Chairman Cullett present; Selectman Munch present, Selectman Leach present

Item 3: **State Recording Status**

Recording: Selectman Leach, Secretary Morrison

Item 4: **Review and approve Meeting Minutes of 1/29/18**

Cullett made a motion to approve Meeting Minutes of 1/29/18 pending changes. Leach seconded the motion. All in agreement

VOTE 3-0

Item 5: **Report from Departments**

Highway Dept. – Highway Superintendent Russell Reporting

Highway Superintendent Russell said that he has signed Travis up for a class on 2/27/18 in preparation for his Hoisting License test. He reports that Donovan's Sand & Gravel is pretty much out of sand, and that they might start buying it from another area. Mitchell said that the Highway has used approximately 82% of their snow road budget. Superintendent Russell said that he's thinking about switching fuel providers from Mirabito to Roberts Energy. His reason for switching is that the current fuel delivery service is unreliable. He said he got a price from Roberts Energy for about 20¢ cheaper per gallon. They also gave him a price for a 500-gallon gas fuel tank with meter and pump, everything all set up for about \$ 4900.00. The distributor will get back to Superintendent Russell regarding the gas price. Cullett indicated that most likely a pad would have to be poured. Currently, Superintendent Russell is working on the 08 International, and said it will be about \$1,000.00 for the parts needed to fix it.

Leach, speaking as Transfer Attendant, asked Superintendent Russell if the new paper compactor was under warranty or if it's something that he would have to look at and repair. Leach said if you push it in 3 times in a row, the Thermo Switch kicks off, then you have to wait 5-10 minutes for it to start back up. Superintendent Russell said that it has to be a faulty sensor or switch in there, and that he would call about it.

Fire Dept. - Chief Dewkett Reporting

Chief Dewkett inquired if we've heard anything from Andrus about the generator at the Fire Station. Mitchell said that he sent them an e-mail and requested that they schedule a repair for the generator. He told them what the problem was as Chief Dewkett had described. Mitchell said that he would follow up with them on Wednesday. Superintendent Russell indicated that the generator at the Highway Dept. isn't running as it should. Cullett said that the last time Andrus was here, they had recommended block heaters. Mitchell confirmed that they had given him an estimate to install. He said that the cost wasn't that high. He did not have the exact figures with him. Munch asked Mitchell to find out from Andrus what they are using for oil in the winter time; whether it is synthetic or not.

Chief Dewkett knows a contractor who could look at the heating system at the Fire Station. Cullett said if he could look at all our heating systems to see what we have, and if we could get prices for the Highway Garage so that we would have a budget number for the next FY budget.

BOH – Nanette Mone Reporting

Mrs. Mone, BOH Member reported that a Turbidity Test was done with the water at the Fire Station. She said that there are high levels of iron in the water, and that Jayne Smith, BOH Director was going to look into it and write up a report on her findings and recommendations. Cullett said that it may require a filtering system.

Town Administrator – TA Caleb Mitchell Reporting

Mitchell reports that a letter has been received from Mass. Office on Disability informing him that the Planning Grant in which he applied for, was not awarded. He said that it can be submitted again for the next round.

A letter of resignation has been received from Mary Morrison, Director of Council on Aging (COA) effective on March 3, 2018. Cullett said we'll need to post the COA position effective March 3, 2018. Morrison asked if the monies for Peru COA, could be shared with Hinsdale COA to help them defray their costs. Leach said that he would stop by the Hinsdale Town Hall and discuss the possibilities of merging together.

We received a letter through Chief Heneault from the District Attorney saying that David Casey has agreed to have the dump truck located at the former property of Adam Hall auctioned off. He states that the proceeds be divided evenly between the Town and Mr. Casey's step-daughter. Cullett said that the DA didn't offer any guidance on how a municipality goes about giving half the proceeds to a private party. Mitchell said that he would call the Attorney General asking for guidance in this matter. Cullett said we must back it up legally that the Town can do that.

A letter from the Town of Worthington has been received, inviting all Peru citizens to join in the **Worthington 250th Anniversary Celebration**. There will be a kick-off gala on June 29, 2018, with the celebration continuing until July 3, 2018. The highlight of their celebration will be a parade on June 30, 2018, which is their official anniversary date. All are welcome to march, ride or to create a float.

Mitchell informed the BOS that the Town Clerk must submit a new application for her bond. Normally, it's a renewal, but now there is a new Bonding Insurance Agency, which requires a new application.

Mitchell said that he attended an Agricultural Summit sponsored by Rural Commonwealth in Shelburne Falls yesterday. There was discussion in finding ways to market products made by tree farms, or agricultural farms. A Representative from Cricket Creek Farm in Williamstown where they sell cheese products, showed a Facebook page and a web page she had done, and gave ideas in how their products can be found and ways to market their products. Mitchell said that one thing that came out of this Summit was just how important having Broadband is. There was also discussion about farm bills that are coming up, and re-authorizing them.

Mitchell announced that he and Cullett will be meeting here this Thursday with the Secretary of the Executive Office of Housing and Urban Development.

Item 6: **Update on Cable Television License by Charter Communication**

We haven't yet heard back from Anna Lucey of Charter Communications. Mitchell has been in contact with Peter Larkin of MBI, who asked for an update on our status with Charter. Mitchell provided him with an update of where we stand at this moment. Mitchell sent the revised agreement that was modified from our questions and comments, to Town Council for review.

Item 7: **Update on Green Community Designation**

Mitchell contacted Guardian via phone message and e-mail asking if they would schedule an energy audit. They did the audit for Hinsdale, and Hinsdale has already been designated a "Green Community," Mitchell has given Cullett the template for the solar array. Mitchell has received numerous By-Laws from other towns who have revised their by-laws in response to the solar array. Cullett indicated that we would have to get the Planning Board involved.

Item 8: Review and approve accounts payable, treasury warrants, payroll warrant

Leach has asked Mitchell to order 3 new flags.

Item 9: Adjourn

Cullett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Leach seconded the motion.

VOTE 3-0

Meeting adjourned at: 8:15 P.M.

Other matters/items not listed, but brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law during January 29, 2018 BOS Meeting

Articles used in meeting

Meeting Minutes of 1/29/18

Agenda of 2/12/18

Sign-in Sheet from 2/12/18

Correspondence from Mass Office on Disability

Letter of resignation from Mary Morrison, COA Director

Letter from DA re: auction of dump truck located on the former Hall property

Invitation Letter to 250th Anniversary Celebration from Town of Worthington

E-Mail from Peter Larkin

E-Mail from Joel Bard from KP Law

Vendor Warrants

Payroll Warrants

Respectfully submitted,

Irene J. Morrison

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Selectmen Secretary

Chairman, Bruce Cullett

Selectman Verne Leach

Selectman Ed Munch

Approved: 2/26/18