

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: June 26, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.**

Peru Town Hall Community Center

Vern Leach, Chairman Selectman/ACO  
Doug Haskins, Selectman/Fin Com  
Ed Munch, Selectman  
Terry Walker, Town Administrator  
Paul Hickling, Chairman Finance Committee  
Jesse Pelkey, Fire Chief

Public Attendees: Sam Haupt

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

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

**Item 3: State Recording status:** None.

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

**Item 5: Review and Approve BOS Meeting Minutes for 06/20/2023:**

Selectman Leach motion to approve 06/20/2023 minutes pending changes, Selectman Munch second, 3-0,

**Item 6: Updates of Departments:**

Police Chief Cullett requested compensation for vacation hours which will be paid from salary account. Selectman Leach motion to pay Chief Cullett 34 vacation hours out of salary account. Selectman Haskins second and mentioned with the new pay scale this will not be an issue in the future, vote 3-0.

Chief Cullett mentioned that delivery of the new cruiser will be at the end of the week.

Finance Committee Chairman Paul Hickling mentioned that the next Finance Committee meeting will be held on, Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Fire Chief Pelkey mentioned before vacation he was told to roll old fire engine tires to the highway garage. He mentioned that someone rolled tires back to the fire house. Selectman Haskins confirmed that all used tires will go to Pete's. Chief Pelkey also mentioned that two EMT's are K9 certified to assist police departments transport dogs to the nearest vet which is in South Deerfield, MA.

Chief Pelkey requested using the Old Hall place for training. The Selectboard agreed to allow the fire chief to use the old Hall place for training but to clean up after training is completed. Selectman Haskins advised Chief Pelkey to inform Chief Cullett if there will be a car used for training.

TA Walker gave an update on the Treasurer cashbook issue. Town Treasurer Wendling has not contacted SoftRight. Once we find out if the cashbook is installed, Treasurer Wendling will receive training needed.

TA Walker mentioned that former TA Welch returned the town hall key and key to the TA's office.

TA Walker notified Assessor Amy Davidson and Assessor Susan Koziara that today is Amy's last day.

TPX invoice is to be paid out of internet rather than utilities.

Selectman Leach mentioned that the accounting computer has been having problems with power surges. The accounting computer will be connected to the generator, a battery backup and surge protector will be installed after July 1<sup>st</sup>. This will alleviate issues with the accountant not being able to connect remotely.

**Item 7: Discussion on Fire and Rescue truck:** Selectman Munch wants to be brought up to speed with the Fire & Rescue Truck. Everyone agreed that the fire department needs an emergency vehicle. Selectman Haskins would like to form a committee of 3-5 fire department members and have them bring ideas before the board regarding a vehicle. Selectman Munch would like multiple proposals -the needs and wants of the fire department. The committee would then prioritize what is needed. Selectman Munch reiterated that everyone agrees they are in need of a rescue vehicle and would like feedback from the fire department by July 24<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Munch asked about federal grants, ARPA funds and Future Equipment account to fund the rescue vehicle. Selectman Munch feels that they are moving in the right direction.

**Item 8: Discussion and possible vote on renewing Operating License for Camp Danbee:** The operating license for Camp Danbee was not issued. Fire Chief Pelkey mentioned that on September 30, 2022, there were several violations that had to be addressed. On May 19, 2023, these violations were not corrected, and the Fire Chief cannot sign off on inspection. Selectman Munch motion to put on hold, Selectman Haskins table until safety issues are corrected. Selectman Munch mentioned that once the safety issues are corrected and signed off, then the operating license will be issued. Placed on hold.

**Item 9: Discussion and possible vote to reappoint Shana Lecours for the Assessor position:** Finance Committee Hickling felt that Shana has 10 years' experience and would like to see her reappointed. Also reinstating her salary to \$3,471.00 which is not a substantial amount of money. TA Walker spoke with Shana Lecours and she is willing to be reappointed with the stipulation that her pay remains at \$3,471 which would be level funded from FY23. Bruce Cullett and Selectman Haskins mentioned that the duties for 2 assessor's responsibilities had been reduced, that is why the salary was reduced to \$2,500 per year. The board asked TA Walker to invite Shana to the next Board of Selectmen's meeting to discuss the salary. Shana did not attend tonight's meeting because she was ill. This item was tabled.

**Item 10: Discussion on Broadband with Sam Haupt:** Sam mentioned that John Barrett, State Rep. stated that other towns received money from MBI but Peru was not honored.. Mr. Barrett proposed having the town of Peru sign a letter and submit to the new person from MBI for FY24 funding. Sam is requesting all emails and communication from Paul Larkin, John Barrett and former TA Jim Welch. TA Walker will research all emails and submit to Sam Haupt.

**Item 11: Discussion on Woodlands Partnership with Sam Haupt:** Sam mentioned that the Mohawk Trails Woodlands grant is due on July 10, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. TA Walker has been emailed the link and she plans on submitting the \$20,000 grant by July 10, 2023.

**Item 12: Public Input:** Paul Hickling questioned Selectmen property with several vehicles in the yard and wondered if they were registered vehicles. Selectman Leach mentioned that there is an ordinance to enforce unregistered vehicles. Selectman Munch wants this issue on the next agenda.

- Police Chief Cullett would like to have an updated dog list from the Town Clerk.
- Selectman Haskins purchased flowers for the town hall on his credit card for \$150.00.

**Item 13: Review and Approve Accounts Payable, Treasury Warrants and Payroll Warrant:** V27-2023, 23-26P

**Item 14: Adjourn:** Selectman Leach motion to adjourn the 06/26/2023 BOS Meeting, Selectman Haskins second, vote 3-0. The 06/26/2023 BOS Meeting adjourned at 7:49 P.M.

**Articles used:**

Minutes- 06/20/2023  
Warrants: V27-2023, 23-26P  
Email from Camp Danbee  
Email from Shana  
TPX-bill paid from internet

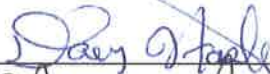
Respectfully Submitted,

*Terry Walker*  
*Town Administrator*

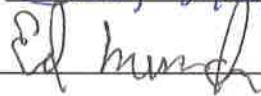
Verne Leach, Chairman



Doug Haskins, Selectman



Ed Munch, Selectman



Date Approved: 7-10-23

Received July 12, 2023 Kim Leach, Town Clerk

## Town Administrator

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**From:** Toporoff, Mark <mark@campdanbee.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 19, 2023 9:58 PM  
**To:** Town Administrator  
**Subject:** [External Sender]Danbee

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

We are having our board of health inspection tomorrow and I wanted to see if we could get on the agenda next week for our camp license?

Thanks,  
Mark

Sent from my iPhone

## Town Administrator

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 26, 2023 4:15 PM  
**To:** Town Administrator  
**Subject:** [External Sender]Shana

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello Terry,

I haven't been feeling well and won't be able to attend tonight's meeting.  
I will accept Assessors position only if my salary doesn't decrease as I've been working there for ten years.

Thank you  
Shana Lecours

Sent from my iPhone



TOWN OF PERU - 3 E MAIN RD  
3 E MAIN ROAD  
HINSDALE MA 01235-2900

VENDOR# 668  
GL ACCOUNTS: 20217.00  
AMOUNT \$ 650.85  
APV'D BY: *[Signature]*

## Service Invoice

Account Number 172317  
Invoice Number 171354185-0  
Statement Date 06/01/23  
Amount Due \$650.85  
Pay By 06/30/23

Previous Bill Amount	Payments	Adjustments	Balance Forward	Current Charges	Total Due By 06/30/23
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.85	\$650.85

Total Charges are due by 06/30/23 after which a 1.5% per month late payment may apply.

### How to contact us



TPx Service  
P.O. Box 36430  
Las Vegas, NV 89133-6430  
www.tpx.com



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send an email to our team: [CustomerCare@tpx.com](mailto:CustomerCare@tpx.com)

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