

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Town Community Room 3 EAST MAIN RD
Monday, September 13, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

Call to order

1. Roll Call
2. State recording status
3. Pledge Alliance to the Flag
4. Review and Approve BOS Meeting Minutes for 8-9-2021, & 8-16-2021, & 8-23-2021, & 9-7-2021
5. Update of Departments.
6. Interview Jesse Pelkey for the Town of Peru Fire Chief position 6:30PM
7. Discussion of applicant for Town of Peru Fire Chief position
8. Discussion of Policy for Fill during road maintenance
9. Discussion of property auction
10. Discussion of Spending remaining funds through the Covid Cares Act
11. Discussion and Vote for Town of Peru to remain a single precinct
12. Discussion of 250th Town of Peru Anniversary updates
13. Public Input
14. Review and Approve accounts payable, Treasury Warrant
15. Adjourn

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 ; Additional Postings at Town Hall Bulletin Board, & Town Hall office.

Posted by Caleb Mitchell, Town Administrator on _____

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: September 13, 2021: 6:00 P.M.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Verne Leach, Chair Selectman/ACO
Bruce Cullett, Selectman/Chief of Police
Doug Haskins, Selectman/Finance Committee
Caleb Mitchell, Town Administrator
Jesse Pelkey, Acting Fire Chief
Justin Russell, Highway Superintendent
Nanette Mone, BOH
Kim Leach, Town Clerk

Call to order: 6:00 P.M.

Item 1: **Roll Call:** Chairman Leach present, Selectman Cullett Present, Selectman Haskins Present

Item 2: **State Recording status:** Caleb Mitchell recording;

Item 3: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Lead by Selectman Leach

Item 4: **Review & Approve BOS Meeting Minutes for 8-9-21:** Leach motions to approve, Cullett seconds, Vote 2-0; Haskins not present.

Item 5: **Updates of Departments**

Justin Russell, Highway Superintendent: Private roads need repair to do winter plowing. Emailed Linda Cernik regarding scrap metal prices.

Caleb Mitchell, Town Administrator: Emily Lange, BRPC received funding to assist Towns complete yearly report for Green Community. Report on DUN # to update, which has been problematic. Still trying to resolve.

Nanette Mone, BOH: Discussion of mold in community room. BOH is recommending cleaning and testing (see email) Cullett recommends HEPA vacuum ambience air testing to compare to outside. Current cleaning company can probably clean mold.

Jesse Pelkey, Acting Fire Chief: Madson overhead door reduced the hours on the invoice. Still charging for a second person. MIIA Grant Application request printed out and provided to Select Board members. Report on condition of Fire Trucks and repairs needed. NFPA pump test necessary. All yearly certifications will be done. Will make copies of all the reports.

Bruce Cullett, Police Chief: Attended regional chief of police meeting with more discussion on Police Reform Act and impact on small towns. Completed first phase of IMC training.

Item 6: **Interview Jesse Pelkey for the Town of Peru Fire Chief position 6:30PM:** Discussion of job description; Candidate says some things are a little more than what we use in this town. Cullett asks if he can meet all the requirements of the position, and the candidate says yes. He is willing to work towards becoming an EMT. Cullett says that is something preferred not required. Candidate wants to be able to delegate responsibilities to others, but he needs to be trained to do anything he delegates. Cullett mentions recent correspondence from the Fire Department, it was stated that there was minimal operating budget support from the town, and does he think this is the case. Candidate states he sees how expensive it is for everything. He sees additional expenses coming up inspections & certifications. He wants to figure out what the fire department needs. He agrees that the Town has never cut the proposed budget submitted by the Fire Department. Discussion of retaining current members and attracting new members. he is flexible and willing to work with people to accommodate them and start a junior program. Mr. Pelkey would like to do more community events, and he would like to have more members become Emergency Medical

Technicians. Mr. Pelkey states it is important to work well with other people. He wants to do more trainings on Tuesday nights, and go out during the day to apply the training to learn and retain information. There can be a use of most everyone at a fire scene. You can never have too many people. Cullett: Since the town adopted the strong chief statute, and the Chief has full authority to designate officers, will you restructure how these positions are filled. My trouble now is that the people who are in the positions have the knowledge, and it would be difficult to change. There could be changes. If someone is working on Tuesday night, I am willing to work with them and provide a training on a different day or night. Cullett: Do you think there has been a dysfunctional relationship between the fire department and other town departments: Candidate: yes I think there has been: Cullett: What do you think is the cause: Candidate: I think it has been partly because of past chiefs, and he doesn't want to bring up the past, and doesn't like the turmoil, and wants to work together with people. To change it will take time. Cullett: What do you think of community events: Candidate: he is all for it, and we want to do community stuff and be part of the 250th celebration. Cullett: Where do you see the fire department in 5 years do you believe the town pursue a regional EMT service. Candidate: he supports it. We need to do something. We need an ambulance service. Mr. Cullett asked whether Public Officials should make derogatory or negative comments on social media: Mr. Pelkey agrees it would be wrong. Mr. Pelkey would like to put the past behind us and work together. Discussion of improving the relationship between the Select Board and the Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Pelkey states it is important to have open communication and cooperation with each other.

Item 7: **Discussion of applicant for Town of Peru Fire Chief Position:** There were no other candidates for the position. The position was only posted on the Town Website.

Item 8: **Discussion of Policy for Fill during road maintenance:** Leach motions to approve Fill Policy pending changes, Cullett seconds, Vote is 3-0.

Item 9: **Discussion of Property Auction:** Mitchell states that the Treasurer/Tax Collector will be providing the information which would include the proper procedures for the auction. The item will be continued.

Item 10: **Discussion of spending remaining funds through COVID Cares Act:** T.A. mentioned that a list of what the Cares Act Funds can be spent on. T.A. suggested a review of the list. The end of October is the deadline for new spending. We can continue to receive reimbursements until the end of the year. Discussion of getting a new larger air purifier for the Community Room. The Town Accountant will submit a final report.

Item 11: **Discussion and Vote for Town of Peru to remain a single precinct:** Town Clerk presents precinct map, and states that the BOS must vote to approve a single precinct and sign. Leach motions to remain single precinct, Cullett seconds, Vote 3-0.

Item 12: **Discussion of 250th Town of Peru Anniversary Updates:** No updates

Item 13: **Public Input:** Question on number of properties for auction. Treasurer will be asked to attend the next meeting to provide the information. The property assessment value will be listed.

Item 14: **Review and Approve accounts payable, Treasury Warrants:** Members signed Warrant #V05-2022

Item 15: **Adjourn:** Leach made motion to adjourn the 9-13-2021 BOS Meeting, Cullett seconds. All agree **Vote 3-0. The 9-13-2021 BOS Meeting adjourned at 8:48P.M.**

Articles used:

Draft Fill Policy


Warrant V05-22

Precinct Map

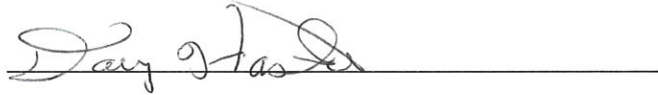
Fire Chief job description

Respectfully Submitted
Caleb Mitchell, Town Administrator

Verne Leach, Chairman

A blue ink signature of Verne Leach, consisting of a stylized 'V' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

Doug Haskins, Selectman

A blue ink signature of Doug Haskins, written in a cursive style.

Bruce Cullett, Selectman

A horizontal line for a signature, currently blank.

Date Approved: _____

RECEIVED
NOV 16 2021
Kim Leach
TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF PERU