

TOWN HALL 3 EAST MAIN ROAD PERU, MA 01235

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: September 19, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.

Peru Community Center

Verne Leach, Chair Selectman/ACO

Doug Haskins, Selectman/Finance Committee

James Welch, Town Administrator

Terry Walker, Administrative Assistant

Public Attendees: Bonnie DiTomasso

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

Item 2: Roll Call: Chairman Leach present, Selectman Cullett absent, Selectman Haskins present

Item 3: State Recording status: Selectman Leach for personal use

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

Item 5: Review and Approve BOS Meeting Minutes for 08/29/2022, 09/06/2022, 9/12/2022

08/29/2022 and 9/6/2022 hold

Selectman Leach motion to accept 09/12/2022 minutes pending changes, Selectman Haskins second, 2-0

Item 6: Updates of Departments: TA Welch mentioned that the following properties: 9 Hillside Road, 4 Hilltop Drive and 144 Middlefield Road are town owned properties with structures. MIIA (town insurance) inquired whether these town properties are insured or not. TA Welch received a quote for the 3 properties to be insured because of possible liability was \$855.00. If the town purchases the terrorism package, the yearly insurance would be \$1,011.00 per year. The Town owns other properties, but all properties with structures need to be insured. Selectman Haskins agreed and mentioned that the insurance would protect the town with a liability. TA Welch asked for clarification whether the terrorism package would be purchased. The Selectmen agreed to purchase the insurance for \$855.00 and agreed they did not want to add the terrorism package.

TA Welch mentioned the deadline for the BRPC Selectmen's dinner is tomorrow. The dinner will be held on Thursday September 29th at the Greenock Country Club in Lee, MA. Selectman Leach, Selectman Haskins and TA Welch will be attending, and the Selectmen's Expense account will fund the dinners.

Bonnie DiTomasso gave an update on the Wahconah High School track improvements. Bonnie mentioned that some towns are having a Special Town Meeting to fund the project and wanted to keep the Peru Board of Selectmen informed.

The town sign was not working due to a power outage. Town Clerk Leach contacted IT Tech Justin Kaczowski and he believes a battery backup costing \$150.00 would resolve the issue when a power outage occurs. The Board of Selectmen agreed that purchasing a battery backup would resolve the issue.

Item 7: Update and discussion on procurement cards and vendor accounts: This needs to be discussed with the Town Treasurer when she has more information. TA Welch mentioned that the credit cards are with Adams Community Bank. Zoom account – this account will not be renewed, and the renewal invoice dated August 31, 2022 to August 30, 2023 will not be paid.

Item 8: Public Input: Bonnie DiTomaso reported she has been recertified as a Shine Counsellor for elder services. She mentioned that there are 200 seniors over 60 years of age in Peru that may need assistance. Bonnie is offering this service which is confidential with phone calls/ home computer services and will be in place for people in need. Bonnie's recertification included 50 hours of training and she has been recertified. Bonnie reiterated that this service is free, confidential and available to everyone in need. Selectmen Leach asked Bonnie DiTomaso if she would consider the position of Council on Aging Director. Selectman Leach mentioned that there are Council on Aging grants available for the 200 seniors in Peru. Bonnie DiTomaso said she would think about it. Bonnie mentioned that this is a challenge if seniors do not have live wire, or internet service. She also wants to let the seniors know about other services such as food stamps, fuel assistance and make sure Peru seniors receive services they are entitled to.

Item 9: Review and Approve Accounts Payable, Treasury Warrants and Payroll Warrant: W 07 & 23-6P

Selectman Leach questioned who had transponders for the Mass Pike. It was determined that the only department with a transponder is the Police Department, and this fee should be attached to the new credit card that is being issued. TA Welch was instructed to set up interviews for the Town Accountant position.

Item 10: Adjourn: Selectman Leach made motion to adjourn the 09/19/2022 BOS Meeting, Selectman Haskins second, Vote 2-0. The 09/19/2022 BOS Meeting adjourned at 6:57 P.M.

Articles used:

Minutes- 09/12/2022

Warrants- W07-23-6P

Email from IT Justin Kaczowski to Town Clerk Leach

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry Walker
Administrative Assistant

Verne Leach, Chairman



Doug Haskins, Selectman



Bruce Cullett, Selectman



Date Approved: _____