

Official Copy

TOWN HALL 3 EAST MAIN ROAD PERU, MA 01235

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: July 12, 2021: 6:00 P.M.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Verne Leach, Chair Selectman/ACO
Bruce Cullett, Selectman/Chief of Police
Doug Haskins, Selectman/Finance Committee
Kim Leach, Town Clerk/Finance Committee
Caleb Mitchell, Town Administrator
Justin Russell, Highway Superintendent
Nanette Mone, Board of Health
Peggy White, Chair Board of Health
Sam Haupt, Peru Volunteer Fire Department/Chair Planning Board/Chair Zoning Board of Appeals
Brain Dewkett, Peru Volunteer Fire Department
Jesse Pelkey, Peru Volunteer Fire Department/Finance Committee

Item 1: **Call to order:** 6:00 P.M. **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: **Discussion of Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Peru and the Board of Trustees of Peru Library:** Continued from previous meeting. Mitchell clarifies the change made under the second bullet point-Library 's request for Town Funding will be placed on First Annual Town Meeting Warrant for the new Fiscal Year to Library request for Town Funding will be placed on First Town Meeting Warrant for the new Fiscal Year. Cullett motions to approve, Haskins seconds, **Vote is 3-0**

Item 5: **Review and Approve Meeting Minutes for 6-1-2021, & 6-28-2021:** Cullett made motion continue until next scheduled meeting, Haskins seconds, all agree. **Vote 3-0.**

Item 6: **Update to Departments:**

Highway Dept.: Highway Super Russell discussed

Finance Committee: Jesse Pelkey reported transfers from accounts

Board of Health: Peggy White reported on routine water testing at Fire House; Discussion of PFA's in water, and MA DEP offers free testing. Discussion of any know uses of Foam type products containing PFA's, and no one from Fire Department remembers any use of the product, since they didn't have the apparatus or equipment to use it.

Town Administrator: TA Mitchell informed Select Board members that he had received resumes for the Administrative Assistant position to review.

Item 7: **Discussion and Possible vote to approve Municipality Statement of Commitment:** Peggy White described the purpose of the Municipal Statement of Commitment as a grant opportunity for Berkshire Health Alliance that wouldn't increase the cost of services for the Town. Cullett made motion to approve, Leach seconds. All agree. **VOTE 3-0**

Item 8: **Review and Discuss proposals for electrical and communication line installation to Town Hall sign and vote to award contract for same:** Cullett motions to award bid to Crosier Electric Inc. pending a more detailed scope of work, Leach seconds, **Vote 3-0.** (item numbers 8, 10, & 11 all combined)

Item 9: Review and Discuss proposals for Landscaping work related to Town Hall sign (stone work) Town Hall security system/building access/intercom improvements and Possible vote to award same: Leach motions to award bid to William Boucher, Haskins seconds, **Vote 2-0, Cullett abstained**

Item 10: Review and Discuss proposals for installation of electrical circuit breaker panel in Town Hall and vote to award contract for same: Same as #8

Item 11: Review and Discuss proposals for installation of additional electrical receptacles in Town Hall and vote to award contract for same: Same as #8

Item 12: Review, Discuss and vote on budget encumbrance requests for Fiscal Year 2021: Leach motions to approve encumbrances requests, Haskins seconds, **Vote 3-0**

Item 13: Discussion and Review of Legal opinions received from KP Law regarding process of appointing Town of Peru Fire Chief: Members of the Fire Department think that the Town/Select Board should appoint whoever is elected by the Peru Volunteer Fire Department. Selectman Cullett thinks that the Town Policy for posting open positions should be followed. Selectman Haskins said that the Town has historically approved who was selected by the Peru Volunteer Fire Department. Town Counsel (see attached legal opinion by Town counsel) opinion was the last sentence of the article which seeks to bind the Selectmen to approve the appointment of the fire Chief as presented by the Association is inconsistent with the Strong Chief Statue and not binding on the Town. Members of the Fire Department and the Select Board agree that Jesse Pelkey is Acting Fire Chief.

Item 14: Review, Discuss and Possibly vote to approve Job Description for Town of Peru Fire Chief Position: Select Board and Acting Chief will review job description and continue until next scheduled meeting.

Item 15: Discussion of 250th Town of Peru Anniversary Updates: No updates.

Item 16: Public Inputs:

Item 17: Review and Approve accounts payable and Treasury Warrants, Payroll Warrants: Accounts payable, Treasury Warrants and Payroll Warrants reviewed and approved

Item 18: Adjourn:

Leach made motion to adjourn the 7-12-2021 BOS Meeting, Cullett seconds. All agree **Vote 3-0. The 7-12-2021 BOS Meeting adjourned at 9:38 P.M.**

Articles used:

7-12-2021 BOS Meeting Agenda

6-1-2021, & 6-28-2021 BOS Meeting Minutes

Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Peru and Board of Trustees of the Peru Library

Legal Opinion from Town Counsel regarding Article 38 on ATM Warrant 2009

Drafted Town of Peru Fire Chief Job Description

Bid documents for items 8,9,10, & 11

Accounts payable and Treasury Warrants, Payroll Warrants

Respectfully Submitted

Caleb Mitchell, Town Administrator

Verne Leach, Chairman

Doug Haskins, Selectman

Bruce Cullett, Selectman

Date Approved: _____

RECEIVED
AUG 06 2021
Kim Leach
TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF PERU