

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: October 30, 2023, 6:00 P.M.

Town Hall Meeting Room

Verne Leach, Chair Selectman/ACO
Ed Munch, Selectman
Terry Walker, Town Administrator
Jesse Pelkey, Fire Chief
Justin Russell, Highway Superintendent
Bruce Cullett, Police Chief

Public Attendees: Don Perreault, Heather Brooks, Ruth Calaycay

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

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

Item 3: State Recording status: N/A

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

Item 5: Review and Approve BOS Meeting Minutes for 10/16/2023:

Selectman Leach motion to approve 10/16/2023 minutes, Selectman Munch second, 2-0

Item 6: Update from Departments:

Highway Superintendent Russell mentioned:

- Ford 550 is in the shop, and they will be replacing the motor next week. There is no by-back option and no refund from Ford.
- The Mack truck needs a radiator, and the cost is between \$4,200-\$4,500.
- The 2008 International needs a new turbo and the cost is \$4,000.
- The 2019 needs wheel seals and air valves, brakes etc.
- Work needs to be done on the Salt Shed doors.
- Crane and Company has 3 plows that will mount to the loader. This would help plow the parking lots much faster.

Fire Chief Pelkey mentioned that he completed EVOC training in Bellingham, MA. Chief Pelkey mentioned that MIIA will bring a simulator to Peru and offer the training to Police, Fire and Highway. At the present, they are booked until next June. Chief Pelkey mentioned that this training will help the town with MIIA credits, and the simulator training is free to the town.

Chief Pelkey brought up an accident which happened two weeks ago in South County. He mentioned that Superintendent Russell mentioned that all firefighters should have a CDL certification. Chief Pelkey mentioned that the firefighter driving the firetruck had a CDL license.

Chief Pelkey mentioned he brought well wiring to the Scrap metal yard and received \$33.00. Selectman Leach instructed Chief Pelkey to turn money over to the Town Treasurer.

Chief Pelkey mentioned that a complaint was brought to his attention by his Captain. The person was complaining about Chief Pelkey was using the sirens too often. Selectman Leach felt that if it was necessary for Chief Pelkey to use sirens then use them at his discretion. Selectman Munch mentioned that if this is hearsay and Chief Pelkey does not have names of complainants then do not bring to the Selectboard meetings.

Fire Chief Pelkey wanted permission to attend a class on Lithium batteries on November 20th in Stow, MA. The BOS agreed that Chief Pelkey can take the class and can use the town vehicle.

Fire Chief Pelkey has the quote for Tanker tires from Pete's Tire Barn for \$1,327.66 and he is wondering if ARPA funds are still available. The inspection on the Tanker is on November 30,2023

Fire Chief Pelkey mentioned that Lithium batteries can explode 30 days after they are quarantined by the Fire Department. Chief Pelkey mentioned that several Fire Departments quarantine Lithium batteries in a cage for 30 days. Selectman Leach mentioned that if this is not state mandated, he would like to wait for Selectman Haskins to return from vacation. Selectman Munch felt that Berkshire Solid waste will tell the Town officials how we should handle Lithium batteries. Chief Pelkey asked if Building Inspector Sears could walk through the buildings to complete the yearly inspections. Chief Pelkey was concerned about the fire escape certification. Selectman Leach instructed Chief Pelkey to ask Building Inspector Sears for the Fire Escape certification.

James Kenney Historical Committee questioned the funding available for the time capsule. TA Walker will have the balance on the 250th Celebration account for the next meeting.

James Kenney, Cemetery, questioned revised cemetery rules which were on the 1975 Annual Town Meeting warrant. The revised cemetery rules in 1992 were never placed on the ATM warrant. Selectman Leach mentioned that any revisions need to be voted at Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Kenney mentioned that with all the generous donations there is extra money for signs and flagpoles. Mr. Kenney also asked if he could have the burial book restored with a plastic cover and take the cost out of the maintenance account. The Selectmen agreed that Mr. Kenney could take the burial book to a printer in Adams and have the book restored.

Ruth Calaycay mentioned that the library is updating their strategic plan and they are working on a survey which would help in the grant process. The new survey will assist with projects for the next 4 years. Ms. Calaycay suggested mailing survey with tax bills. The first survey that was mailed only 21 surveys were returned. The librarians are willing to help fold 700 copies and put in with the tax bills. The Board of Selectmen asked Ms. Calaycay to attend another meeting with a copy of the survey.

Chief Cullett mentioned that he has been working with MassDOT and Superintendent Russell regarding passing zones in town. The Town can designate no passing zones. The town may be eligible for a Shared Streets and Spaces Grant to purchase led lights at the top of the hill by the town hall. If the town does not receive the grant, there is a possibility that Chapter 90 funds could be used. The lights would cost between \$20,000-\$25,000.

TA Walker mentioned two invoices from CATALIS (Patriots Properties) from FY23 were given to her on October 16, 2023. She is working with CATALIS and the Town Accountant trying to resolve this issue. One invoice dated 4/30/2023 is for \$6,250.00 and the second invoice dated June 14, 2023, is for \$16,250.00. Also, an invoice for Sheds and Stuff for the Transfer Station Shed has not been paid by the accountant. The Town Accountant needed a copy of the grant to pay invoice. TA Walker is working with the Accountant and Berkshire Waste Management on this issue. TA Walker mentioned she received the contract from Sansoucy which is a yearly contract that needs to be signed by the Board of Selectmen. The contract is to provide valuation and consulting services to the Town of Peru which includes the appraisal of the personal property owned by NSTAR Electric.

Item 7: Discussion on Warrant for Special Town Meeting:

Fire Truck	\$107,135.00
550 Engine and Labor for Highway	\$ 27,118.75
Tax Collector 3%	\$ 370.80

Treasurer 3%	\$	370.80
Assessor level fund from FY23	\$	971.00
Cintas Uniforms	\$	35.00
Pete's Tire Barn	\$	355.00
Lithium (Blanket)	\$	3,000.00

ARPA funds need to be spent by December 2026

Item 8: Review & approve Accounts Payable, Treasury Warrant & Payroll Warrant, V09-2024, 24-9P

Selectman Munch and Selectman Leach invoked the rule of necessity regarding the Transfer Station payroll. The Selectmen agreed that TA Walker would be signing the Transfer Station Payroll since both Selectboard members work at the Transfer Station.

Item 9: Public Input: Heather Brooks, firefighter, mentioned that the fire association is willing to split the cost of the blanket and barrel for the Lithium batteries. Selectman Leach needs a quote on all items needed for containing the Lithium batteries. Ms. Brooks also wants to know why Superintendent Russell needs more quotes on a fire truck when 5 emails were sent out and only one came back. Ms. Brooks found it offensive that the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen were against the fire truck at Annual Town Meeting and they were not supportive. Bruce Cullett mentioned that they did not support the petition because it circumvented the work of the Board of Selectman and the Finance committee. Selectman Munch reiterated that the Board of Selectmen are backing the fire truck.

Building Inspector, Tim Sears was asked by Fire Chief Pelkey to join the meeting. Building Inspector Sears mentioned that fire escapes needs to be inspected every 5 years by an engineer. Under Chapter 34, the engineers will find any deficiencies with the fire escape and the cost ranges from \$2,000-\$5,000. Building Inspector Sears mentioned that the fire escape in under the purview of building codes.

Item 10: Adjourn: Selectman Leach made motion to adjourn the 10/30/2023 BOS Meeting, Selectman Munch second, Vote 2-0. The 10/30/2023 BOS Meeting adjourned at 7:28 P.M.

Articles used:

- Minutes 10/16/2023
- Payroll 24-9P, V09-2024
- Petes Tire Barn- Invoice-Fire Truck front tires \$1,327.66
- CATALIS FY23 invoices \$ 22,500
- Sheds and Stuff invoice \$4,800
- ARPA General Ledger FY23 & FY24
- Future Equipment & Vehicle Purchase General Ledger FY23 & FY24

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry Walker
Town Administrator

Verne Leach, Chairman



Doug Haskins, Selectman



Ed Munch, Selectman



Date Approved: 11 / 13 / 2023

Received 11/15/2023 - Kim Leach ,Town Clerk



Remit To:
 Main Office
 275 East Main Street
 Orange, MA 01364
 (978) 544-8811
 www.petestire.com

MASSACHUSETTS

ORANGE (978) 544-8811
 GARDNER (978) 632-7697
 NORTHAMPTON (413) 586-8815
 SHREWSBURY (508) 754-9876
 WOBURN (781) 721-9070
 RANDOLPH (781) 986-8473
 SPRINGFIELD (413) 736-8700
 WESTBOROUGH (508) 871-1150

NEW HAMPSHIRE

AMHERST (603) 672-8973
 W. CHESTERFIELD (603) 614-8066
 MANCHESTER (603) 669-5432

VERMONT

WHITE RIVER JCT (802) 291-9216
 RUTLAND (802) 747-0752
 MONTPELIER (802) 839-1924
 NEW HAVEN (802) 453-2106
 MIDDLEBURY (802) 388-4053
 WILLISTON (802) 651-0841

CONNECTICUT

SOUTH WINDSOR (860) 291-9615
 WATERBURY (203) 754-2156
 DANBURY (203) 743-7648
 FRANKLIN (860) 642-7577

RHODE ISLAND

PROVIDENCE (401) 521-2240

PERU TOWN OF PERU MA FIRE
 3 EAST MAIN RD STE 109
 PERU MA 01235

12345/03

SAME

QUOTE

10/17/23

E-MAIL : perufirechief@gmail.com

(413) 655-8811 0 10 N/A 560409 1

NET 10TH

10/17/23 08:09:01

244465	315/80R22.5	FIRESTONE FS860 LRL	2	2	498.83	00	1.00	997.66
Package:								
PLTS		FLEET SERVICE PER HOUR	2	2	150.00	00	1.00	300.00
Package:								
SURCHARGE		FUEL SURCHARGE PER CALL	1	1	30.00	00	1.00	30.00
SCRAP			2	2	.00	00	1.00	.00

PRINTED NAME:

SIGNATURE:

997.66 300.00
 30.00

FET EXEMPT

NOT AN INVOICE

1327.66

Tires for Work. Tires for Play

NOTICE: Check wheel lug nuts after 50 miles

Finance charge is computed by a periodic rate of 1.5% per month (which is an annual percentage rate of 18%) on balances over 30 days. No goods accepted for credit without written authorization. If this account is not paid when due the purchaser agrees to pay any and all costs of collection, including reasonable attorney's fee. Minimum finance charge is \$0.50. All goods described hereon remain the property of Pete's Tire Barns, Inc. until fully paid for.

Invoice



#INV4328354-CAT

PO#

Invoice Date 6/14/2023

Catalis Tax & CAMA, Inc.
3025 Windward Plaza
Suite 200
Alpharetta GA 30005
United States

Bill To

Peru Board of Assessors
Town Hall
3 East Main Street, Suite 104
Peru MA 01235
United States

TOTAL

\$16,250.00

Due Date: 7/14/2023

Terms

Net 30

Due Date

7/14/2023

Quantity	Rate	Item	Amount
1	\$3,750.00	Patriot - Assessment Services - Catalis New Personal Property, FOL, Data Entry	\$3,750.00
1	\$12,500.00	Patriot - Assessment Services - Catalis Sales Analysis, I&E Review, Calculation Table Adjustments	\$12,500.00

Please make checks payable to Catalis Tax & CAMA & remit payment to:

Catalis LLC
Attn: Catalis Tax & CAMA Accounts Receivable
P.O. Box 25477
Tampa, FL 33622

For questions, please contact Catalis at billing@catalisgov.com

Mailed June 2023
emailed July 2023
I never received
until October 2023
Jerry Walker



INV4328354-CAT

Invoice

CATALIS
TAX & CAMA, INC.

#INV4325837-CAT

PO#

Catalis Tax & CAMA, Inc.
3025 Windward Plaza
Suite 200
Alpharetta GA 30005
United States

Invoice Date 4/30/2023

Bill To

Peru Board of Assessors
Town Hall
3 East Main Street, Suite 104
Peru MA 01235
United States

TOTAL

\$6,250.00

Due Date: 5/30/2023

Terms

Net 30

Due Date

5/30/2023

Quantity	Rate	Item	Amount
1	\$1,250.00	Patriot - Assessment Services - Catalis Measure, list all Building Permits with data entry December 2022 Progress Report	\$1,250.00
1	\$5,000.00	Patriot - Assessment Services - Catalis Table Adjustments, Interim Yr. Adjustments, Reports, Docs and Assist with Growth December 2022 Progress Report	\$5,000.00

Please make checks payable to Catalis Tax & CAMA & remit payment to:

Catalis LLC
Attn: Catalis Tax & CAMA Accounts Receivable
P.O. Box 25477
Tampa, FL 33622

For questions, please contact Catalis at
billing@catalisgov.com

mailed June 2023

emailed July 2023

*I never received
until October 2023*

July work



INV4325837-CAT

Town Administrator

From: Kayleigh Dexter <Kayleigh@erickinsherfcpa.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 8:27 AM
To: Town Administrator; Caryn Wendling (taxcollector@townofperu.com); Janice Boucher
Subject: [External Sender]Re: per Board of Selectmen

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

Hi Terry,

Unfortunately, we are still unable to process the Sheds and Stuff invoice due to Janice needing further information regarding the compactor grant. Please see a copy of her original e-mail below:

Hi Terry,

Do you know when the town voted for the purchase? I don't see it on the FY23 or FY24 town meeting warrants or an account on the expenditure report.

Also, can you please send me a copy of the grant information so I can set up the account?

Thanks,

Janice

Please try to get this information to Janice at your earliest convenience so we can process the invoice sooner rather than later.

Thank you! I will get the ARPA report sent to you sometime today when I am in the computer!

From: Town Administrator <townadmin@townofperuma.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 5:46 PM
To: Caryn Wendling (taxcollector@townofperu.com) <taxcollector@townofperu.com>; Janice Boucher <Janice@erickinsherfcpa.com>; Kayleigh Dexter <Kayleigh@erickinsherfcpa.com>
Subject: per Board of Selectmen

Hi,

The Board of Selectmen need the balance that is available in ARPA funds before Monday, October 30, 2023 at 5 pm. We are having a Special Town meeting and need to know what the ARPA balance is.

Secondly, I still do not have the account number for the Compactor Grant. The invoice from Sheds and Stuff needs to be paid from this grant asap.

As always, your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Terry Walker
TA Peru

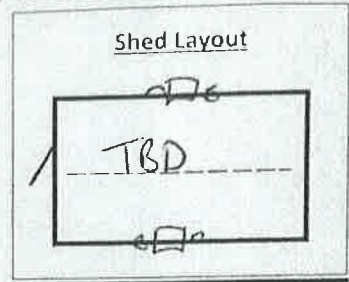


211 South State Road
Cheshire MA 01225
(p) 413.743.9964 / (f) 413.743.8194
(e) shedsnstuff@gmail.com

Invoice #: Quote
Order Date: 1/30/23
Delivery Date: 8-2-23

Name: TOWN OF PERU
Delivery Address: COMPACTOR
Peru, MA
Phone 1: 413-242-4471

Email: DHASKINS138@GMAIL
Billing Address: _____
Phone 2: _____



STYLE: Shed Gable / A Frame Mini Barn Dutch / Gambrel
 Budget Barn Budget Gable Hip Barn
 Cape Quaker Garden
 Stall Horse Barn Run-In Horse Barn

Gazebo Octagon Rectangle Oval
 PT Vinyl Cedar

COLORS: Main: Red Trim: Red Roof: Brown

ROOF: Asphalt Metal Other _____

DELIVERY: Assembled Kit—Customer Built Kit—Built On-Site

SIZE: 10 x 10 In-Stock Delivery Need to Order

SIDING: EZ Panel Duratemp T111 Pine Custom
 Vinyl Smart Panel Other _____

DOORS: Double Single Overhead Larger Size
Additional Door Double Single Overhead Larger Size
Size: _____ Type: _____ Color: _____

Transom: White Brown

Hinges: Standard Black Heritage Scroll Strap

WINDOWS: 18"x27" Vertical Slider (STD) White (STD) Brown
 Jalousie (STD on T111 Mini Barn) Shutters - Raised Panel Window Trim
 Other _____ Shutters—Louvered

OPTIONS/NOTES:
3'x6'6" H Single Door with Vertical Slider

BASE PRICE \$ _____
SHED REMOVAL \$ _____
TRADE IN \$ _____
CUSTOM PAINT \$ _____
CUSTOM ROOF \$ _____
KIT ADJUSTMENT \$ _____
SITE PREP \$ _____
(Subject to site check)
SIDING \$ _____
DOORS \$ _____
WINDOWS \$ _____
OPTIONS \$ _____
OPTIONS \$ _____
OPTIONS \$ _____
SUB TOTAL \$ 4800
TAX (6.25%) \$ _____
DEL. \$ _____
TOT. \$ _____
DEP. \$ _____
BAL. \$ _____

VENDOR# GLACCOUNTS
AMOUNT \$ 4800.00
APVD BY: _____

New # Grant Compactor #

How did you hear about us? _____

Customer Approved _____ Received Dan O'Hara
Date _____ Date _____

www.BerkshireSheds.com VENDOR# New #
GLACCOUNTS Grant Compactor
AMOUNT \$ 4800.00
APVD BY: _____

Find us on Facebook

Town of Peru
General Ledger Year to Date
From 07/01/2023 to 06/30/2024

Fund		01 General Fund				
4000.912	ARPA			Debits	Credits	Balance
07/24/2023	APWAR	Auto Parts	Superior Spring & Mfg., Co.	184.99	0.00	
07/24/2023	APWAR	Fleet Services	Pcte's Tire Barns, Inc.	1,750.00	0.00	
07/24/2023	APWAR	Wiper Refills	H & S Auto Parts	27.90	0.00	
07/24/2023	APWAR	Service Call	Pittsfield Overhead Door Co, Inc	212.00	0.00	
07/24/2023	APWAR	Auto Parts	CAR QUEST	127.16	0.00	
07/24/2023	APWAR	Auto Parts	CAR QUEST	54.73	0.00	
08/07/2023	APWAR	VALVE	ATG PATIOT LLC	194.22	0.00	
08/07/2023	APWAR	EXPRESS ASSESSMENT	ATG PATIOT LLC	7,190.85	0.00	
08/21/2023	APWAR	FY24 DUES	THE GREATER BOSTON POLICE COUNCIL	256.00	0.00	
10/02/2023	APWAR	RENTAL - 40-C SCREENER	Pittsfield Lawn & Tractor	1,000.00	0.00	
10/03/2023	APWAR	FY2024 POLICY 9906-56-79	Chubb	7,180.00	0.00	
Subtotal				18,177.85	0.00	
ARPA Total				18,177.85	0.00	18,177.85
Fund 01 General Fund Ending Bal				18,177.85	0.00	18,177.85
Report Total				18,177.85	0.00	18,177.85

Balance 10/30/23

\$104,001.50

Town of Peru
General Ledger Year to Date
From 07/01/2022 to 06/30/2023

Fund 01 General Fund					
4000.912	ARPA		Debits	Credits	Balance
07/01/2022	GLSOY		SOY CFW	0.00	72,372.89
02/06/2023	APWAR		Well & Water System Repair Work Kirke R. Henshaw Inc	4,675.00	0.00
04/17/2023	APWAR		Equipment Installation Procom Services	299.00	0.00
05/01/2023	APWAR		Accounting Services - March 2023 Eric A. Kinsherf, CPA	2,650.00	0.00
05/29/2023	APWAR		Fire Line Adams Community Bank	234.34	0.00
06/12/2023	APWAR		2nd Half Pittsfield Pipers Inc	3,575.00	0.00
06/12/2023	APWAR		1st Half Pittsfield Pipers Inc	3,575.00	0.00
06/30/2023	APWAR		Police Cruiser MAG Retail Holdings - FFD LLC	59,829.35	0.00
			Subtotal	74,837.69	72,372.89
07/08/2022	ACCRV	4000.912	ARPA#2FUNDS0233	0.00	43,646.79
09/29/2022	ACCRV	4000.912	ARPACNTY23	0.00	80,997.36
			4000.912 Subtotal	0.00	124,644.15
	ARPA Total			74,837.69	197,017.04
	Fund 01 General Fund Ending Bal			74,837.69	-122,179.35
Report Total				74,837.69	197,017.04
					-122,179.35

Town of Peru
General Ledger Year to Date
From 07/01/2022 to 06/30/2023

Fund 01 General Fund					
40213.25	Future Equipment & Vehicle Purchase		Debits	Credits	Balance
07/01/2022	GLSOY	SOY CFW	0.00	54,050.43	
07/01/2022	BDTRN	ATM Article 33	9,500.00	0.00	
07/01/2022	BDAPP	ATM Article 23 Free Cash	0.00	25,000.00	
Subtotal			9,500.00	79,050.43	
Future Equipment & Vehicle Purchase Total			9,500.00	79,050.43	-69,550.43
Fund 01 General Fund Ending Bal			9,500.00	79,050.43	-69,550.43
Report Total			9,500.00	79,050.43	-69,550.43

Balance 10/30/23
419,550.43

Town of Peru
General Ledger Year to Date
From 07/01/2023 to 06/30/2024

Fund 01 General Fund				
40213.25	Future Equipment & Vehicle Purchase	Debits	Credits	Balance
07/01/2023	BDAPP ATM 6/4/23 A30 FREE CASH	0.00	50,000.00	
	Subtotal	0.00	50,000.00	
	Future Equipment & Vehicle Purchase Total	0.00	50,000.00	-50,000.00
Fund 01 General Fund Ending Bal		0.00	50,000.00	-50,000.00
Report Total		0.00	50,000.00	-50,000.00

Books aren't closed!
 FY 23 balance not included!
 Not correct balance

Jury Walker
 T.A