

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

Town Hall Meeting Room 3 East Main Rd. Peru MA

Wednesday, March 23, 2022 @ 6:30 PM

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. State recording status
4. Pledge Alliance to the Flag
5. Update and discussion by the 250<sup>th</sup> Peru Celebration Committee
6. 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.

*Posted March 17, 2022 @ 4:55 pm – Kim Leach , Town Clerk*

Official posting: Peru Town website: [www.townofperuma.com](http://www.townofperuma.com)

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Community Meeting Room-3 East Main Road, Peru, MA

Wednesday, March 23, 2022 @ 6:30 P.M.

Verne Leach, Chair Selectman/ACO

Bruce Cullett, Selectman/Police Chief

James Welch, Town Administrator

Terry Walker, Administrative Assistant

250th Celebration Committee Attendees: John Bigelow, Beth Bigelow, Sonya Butler, Coralie Pelkey, Sara Adams, Dawn Warner, Kevin Warner, Katie Boucher, Jesse Pelkey, George Greule, Kim Leach, and Jim Kenny

Public Attendance: N/A

**Item 1: Call to order:** 6:30 P.M.

**Item 2: Roll Call:** Chairman Leach Present, Selectman Cullett present, Selectmen Leach motion to move the meeting to the Community Center, recessed at 6:30 p.m. to move meeting down stairs to Community Center. 2-0

Item 1A: resume meeting at 6:35

Item 2A: Roll Call: Selectman Leach present, Selectman Cullett present.

**Item 3: State Recording status:** N/A

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

**Item 5: Update and discussion by the 250<sup>th</sup> Peru Celebration Committee:** Committee Member Kim Leach distributed a calendar for Peru's 250<sup>th</sup> celebration on July 16, 2022. A list of vendors was discussed, times for each event and the best area for each event. Lengthy discussion about possible parade, pony rides, and a car show.

- Lighting more than enough lighting at pavilion
- Staging-using car carrier instead of renting staging with steps. Town green may be used for guest speakers.
- Tents- 20' x 30' for \$ 420.00 at Carr Hardware, chairs and tables are \$2.00 each, Selectman Cullett will follow up with dig safe.
- White Wolf will be asked how many Porta Potties they recommend for 300 people.
- Beer and Wine – not finalized.
- Earnie Hot Dogs will be a vendor
- Mr. Ding a Ling- will provide ice cream. No money exchange they keep the profit.
- Fire Department in charge of fried dough- the Board of Health will be contacted.
- Ozzie's Restaurant will provide a list of food options also Bulls and Basils plus Brick Oven Pizza.
- Lion Club spaghetti or pork dinner waiting for pricing
- Friday Dinner and block dance would work better to help vendors, but a band is needed.
- Fire chief, Pelkey brought up alcohol sales
- Encampment may have to set up Friday evening. Vendors need permit from their town
- Rain or shine the event will take place as scheduled.
- Jim Kenny has to order books- Selectman Leach estimated \$12.00 per book and mentioned that a free book given to each household would be a nice gesture.

- Possibility of ordering 500 hard cover books, Jim Kenny suggested the front cover be a photo of the medallion and the back cover the back of the medallion. It was suggested that the Selectman write a page for the book, Selectman Leach has already given Jim Kenny names of the Peru Selectmen for the last 50 years.
- Time capsule to be opened in 50 years, suggestions for the time capsule: Program of events, face mask, covid test, thumb drive, bicentennial plate, medallion, money. Then the question about where the capsule should be buried was discussed.
- Music – looking for bands
- Face painting need to buy supplies.
- Ninja jump obstacle course
- Chief Pelkey, suggested boy scouts could supervise fishing and archery games
- The field needs to be measured and Jim Kenny will make a map of the area with scheduled events
- Coralie Pelkey suggested a midnight alarm for kids, where the children are in a race to dress up with fire department member coats, boots and hats.
- Balloon twister Pittsfield \$295 for 3 hours plus a \$23.00 fee -this will take the place of a clown
- Pony rides come with their own liability insurance.
- Jim Kenny mentioned that there will be tours of the library, church and firehouse. The library will be open, and Coralie Pelkey will be in charge of a presentation-Women of 76 from 2:00 p.m. -3:30 p.m. The church will also be open for people to rest.
- Jim Kenny mentioned a one-day commemorative postmark cancelling stamps with a one -day Peru stamp. This would be great for the time capsule.
- T shirts Michelle Dewkett would have vendors on the back and front side Town of Peru 250 celebration was a suggestion
- Fireworks- Fire Chief Pelkey spoke with Camp Danbee, and it would be 50/50 split costing the town \$2,750.
- Grand Marshall- Paul Mark and George Greule were both discussed as the Grand Marshall.
- Boston Post Cane honors the oldest person in Peru and gets their name on a plaque.
- Craft vendors may leave a contribution -members stressed this is not a flea market.
- Member Kim Leach asked Selectman Leach and Selectman Cullett if they had any objections. At that point, a suggestion was made to change the block dance and have the entertainment as a community dinner and dance.
- Fire Chief Pelkey suggested Friday Dinner from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. then dance and fireworks.
- A great way to end the parade is to have the 100 cars in the parade after the car show.
- Compactor closed Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022
- Finances: Accountant report \$25,980.83, there is a possibility that an additional \$10,000 will be needed from an appropriation at Annual Town Meeting. As of today, they do not have any sponsors.
- Selectman Cullett will need a drawing of the area with space for kids' program.
- Encampment area will be tents, campfire and guns.
- Veteran's tribute-It was mentioned that a fly over may be arranged although the department of defense has stopped funding due to the Ukraine situation. There may be a fly over if the Air Force is training the day of the event.
- Advertising will be done with flyers sent to Kittridge school for the children to bring home.
- John Bigelow suggested utilizing the boy scouts and girl scouts with the celebration to help earn badges.
- Signup sheet for people that want to work an hour or two are available
- Kim Leach reiterated that things may change at next meeting.
- Fire Chief Pelkey volunteered to sell beer on both days.
- Kim Leach thanked everyone involved with the celebration for hard work and dedication.

**Item 6: Adjourn:** Selectman Leach motion to adjourn at meeting, Selectman Cullett second, 2-0 vote to adjourn meeting at 8:20 p.m.

**Articles used:**

Financial report  
Updated calendar

Respectfully Submitted,

*Terry L Walker*  
*Administrative Assistant*

Verne Leach, Chairman



Doug Haskins, Selectman



Bruce Cullett, Selectman



Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECEIVED**  
APR 25 2022  
*Kim Leach*  
TOWN CLERK  
TOWN OF PERU