

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Peru Town Hall Meeting Room

3 East Main Rd. Peru MA

Monday, November 28, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. State recording status
4. Pledge Allegiance to the Flag
5. Review and Approve BOS Meeting Minutes 10/31/2022, 11/14/2022
6. Updates of Departments
7. Discussion and possible distribution of Town Procurement Cards.
8. Discussion regarding Fire Code Violations at Town Buildings.
9. Interview Joseph Sniezek for the Position of Part-Time Police Officer
10. Discussion and Possible vote to appoint Joseph Sniezek to the position of Part-Time Police Officer.
11. Public input
12. Review and Approve Accounts payable, Treasury Warrant, Payroll Warrant.
13. 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

Posted November 23, 2022 @ 11:55am , *Kim Leach, Town Clerk*

TOWN HALL 3 EAST MAIN ROAD PERU, MA 01235

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: November 28, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.

Peru Town Hall Meeting Room

Verne Leach, Chair Selectman/ACO
Bruce Cullett, Selectman/Police Chief
Doug Haskins, Selectman/Fin Com
James Welch, Town Administrator
Terry Walker, Administrative Assistant
Justin Russell, Highway Superintendent
Jesse Pelkey, Fire Chief

Public Attendees:

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

Item 2: Roll Call: Chairman Leach present, Selectman Cullett present, 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 10/31/2022, 11/14/2022:

Selectman Leach motion to approve 10/31/2022 minutes, Selectman Cullett second, 2-0.

Selectman Leach motion to approve 11/14/2022 minutes pending changes, Selectman Cullett second, 3-0

Item 6: Updates of Departments:

Highway Superintendent has taken care of the transfer station violations and signed off by Highway Superintendent and Board of Health Inspector. The Board of Selectmen have a copy the report. Highway Superintendent mentioned that the pickup truck repairs are completed. All invoices for East Windsor Road have been sent to MassWorks for reimbursement. Highway Superintendent also mentioned that the backhoe has a leaky wheel seal, this will be a \$13,000 job and he cannot do the work. Also, the tractor needs a PTO clutch and Superintendent Russell mentioned that he will try and fix it. He mentioned that all trucks are in good condition and the gate sensor at the transfer station needs to be repaired. The Electronic speed signs did not arrive, East Windsor line painting will not be paid out of the grant and lines will be painted next spring.

EMD Cullett mentioned that EMG grant was submitted last week, and MEMA asked for clarification on a few items. Chief Cullett attended active shooter training in Dalton last week.

Fire Chief Pelkey mentioned that he received an emailed that the windshield for engine 3 came in on Wednesday. Chief Pelkey will attend an EMT class in North Hampton on Thursday with the command vehicle and asked permission to stop at a funeral home to pay his respects on his way back to Peru. The Board of Selectmen gave Chief Pelkey permission to stop at the funeral home. Chief Pelkey mentioned that the remainder of the vehicles will be inspected next week.

TA Welch mentioned that a cleaning company from Florence, MA is interested in cleaning the town hall and will send a quote. They have been in business for 30 years. Selectman Haskins will check with a cleaning company in Pittsfield. Selectmen Leach suggested a cleaning fee not an hourly paid position.

Item 7: Discussion and possible distribution of Town Procurement Cards: TA Welch distributed procurement cards to 3 department heads. The department heads reviewed and signed off agreeing they understand the policy and will abide by the policy. These procurement cards will not be used for convenience, personal use and cannot be used for cash advances. Also, hotel reservations need prior approval by the Board of Selectmen. Highway Superintendent Russell, Police Chief Cullett, and Fire Chief Pelkey signed off on policy sheet and received their procurement cards.

Item 8: Discussion regarding Fire Code Violations at Town Buildings: Fire Chief Pelkey mentioned that some violations have been fixed, some violations have not been fixed and he is concerned.

Town Hall: Notice of Violation:

- 1.7.8 Imminent Danger Conditions
- Violation: Building/Health Inspector office has combustibles on top of a cabinet close to electrical panel-move away three feet minimum. Exit door from old gymnasium going out to East Main Road has clutter blocking means of egress-move so path is clear. Downstairs electrical panel has combustibles within three feet.
- 12.6 Contents and Furnishings
- Violation: Curtains hanging in office area and downstairs
- 14.12.1.1: 14.12.1.2
- Illumination of Means of Egress
- Violation: all exits, and emergency lighting failed to work in the old gymnasium - fix or replace.

Emergency lights in the meeting room do not work. Curtains have not been removed from the building upstairs and in downstairs-TA Welch asked Fire Chief Pelkey if he can take down curtains. Fire Chief Pelkey gave approval for TA Welch to remove curtains. Violation: paper cannot be within 3 feet of an electrical panel upstairs or downstairs. Fire Chief mentioned that everything must be brought up to code. Selectman Leach mentioned that the curtains have been there for 25 years. Fire Chief Pelkey stated that the curtains are not 701 compliant and are combustible. Fire Chief Pelkey stated that some codes go back to the 70's and plastic blinds are ok. Selectman Haskins ordered batteries for the emergency lights, but the batteries didn't fit so he will order new emergency lights. The emergency lights will be fixed soon. Chief Pelkey also stated the paperwork on the building department filing cabinet needs to be removed.

Highway Garage: Notice of Violation

13.6 Portable Fire Extinguishers

13.6 – Fire extinguishers shall be installed and annually inspected serviced by a licensed fire extinguisher company. Violation no fire extinguisher on fuel island.

41.1 Welding, cutting and other Hot Work

41.1.1.1 Terms

- Hot Work, Work involving, burning, welding or a similar operation that is capable of initiating fire or explosions
- Hot Work Operator. A qualified person and if required, shall be certified pursuant to the provisions of this chapter and standards referenced in this chapter
- Qualified person. A person who has successfully completed the training criteria pursuant to section 41.7
- Violation: No person on the highway crew has the hot work certification.

Highway Superintendent Russell spoke on these violations. The highway crew do not do any torching or welding inside the highway garage. All the torching and welding is done outside. Highway Superintendent Russell states there is no violation and the Board of Selectmen agreed with Highway Superintendent Russell. Fire Chief Pelkey mentioned that all towns and cities need to follow fire safety codes and he is writing up the highway department to prevent issues. Fire Chief Pelkey said there are cutting and welding supplies and this needs to be PIA certified. Therefore, this is a violation

because no person on the highway crew has a hot work certification. Highway Superintendent Russell stated that all torching and welding is done outside the building. Superintendent Russell stated that last year the Fire Marshall inspected the highway garage, he recommended welding curtains and welding curtains were installed. Highway Superintendent Russell agreed that he will become certified now that the \$1,000,000 MassWorks project is completed. Highway Superintendent will not do any welding inside the building until he receives his certification. The board agreed that snow plowing, and public safety is a priority before certification. Highway Superintendent agrees he will watch a hour video to gain his certification. Fire Chief Pelkey stated that his concern is only prevention. Selectman Cullett stated that Highway Superintendent Russell will get certified.

Highway Superintendent Russell stated that Fire Chief Pelkey's report on 300 gallons of combustible fuel at the highway garage is incorrect. Superintendent Russell states that 2 barrels hold water and 2 barrels are empty. TA Welch asked Fire Chief Pelkey if he was assuming what is in the barrels and he should listen to department head. Selectman Leach asked Highway Superintendent what the maximum gallons of stored fuel is. It was decided that 100 gallons is max. Selectmen Cullett stated that there may be DEP issues if we store 100 gallons and incorrectly say 300 gallons. Fire Chief Pelkey was told he should provide answers when he cites a violation and not have to contact the state for answers every time he cites a violation. Selectman Haskins stated that the highway garage needs a permit for 100 gallons.

Selectman Leach let the Fire Chief know that only the President of The United States and the Governor can instruct communities to drop the flag to half-mast. It is an insult to veterans for our flag to be flying at half-mast for no reason.

Item 9: Interview Joseph Sniezek for the Position of Part-Time Police Officer: Chief Cullett mentioned that Joseph Sniezek cannot make the interview tonight.

Item 10: Discussion and Possible vote to appoint Joseph Sniezek to the position of Part-Time Police Officer: Selectman Haskins and Selectman Leach discussed Joseph Sniezek's resume and Selectman Haskins made a motion to appoint Joseph Sniezek as a part time police officer pending background check, Selectman Leach second, 2-0 Selectman Cullett recused himself.

Item 11: Public Input: N/A

Item 12: Review and Approve Accounts Payable, Treasury Warrants and Payroll Warrant: Tax Collector/Treasurer mentioned that the town auction will take place in the Meeting Room at 9:00 a.m. on December 1st.

Item 13: Adjourn: Selectman Leach made motion to adjourn the 11/28/2022 BOS Meeting, Selectman Haskins second, Vote 3-0. The 11/28/2022 BOS Meeting adjourned at 8:54 P.M.

Articles used:

Minutes- 10/31/2022, 11/14/2022

Warrant 23-11P, V12-2023

Notice of violation town hall

Notice of violation highway garage

Joseph Snizek resume

Joseph Snizek Appointment Paper

Mass DEP report

P-Card Policy and Approval Letter

Respectfully Submitted,

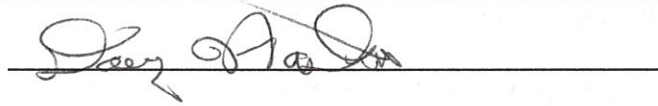
Terry Walker

Administrative Assistant

Verne Leach, Chairman



Doug Haskins, Selectman



Bruce Cullett, Selectman



Date Approved: 12-12-22

RECEIVED 12-12-22
Kim Leach Town Clerk