

**ORDER OF BUSINESS  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
Berkshire, ss**

To either of the Constables of the Town of Peru, in said County.

**GREETINGS:**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Peru, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to vote meet in the Peru Community Center, 3 East Main Road Peru, MA at the Outdoor Lower Parking Lot on Saturday, June 20, 2020 at 6:00PM for the Annual Town Meeting, then and there to take action on the following articles, namely:

*The meeting was called to order at 6:04PM by Town Clerk Kim Leach and then turned over to Moderator Alan Gordon.*

**Article 1:** To choose a Moderator for the Annual Town Meeting if the elected Moderator is absent.

*Moderator Alan Gordon was present.*

**Article 2:** To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the several Town Officers.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to Transfer from Free Cash the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents for the Central Berkshire Regional School District Capital Assessment (\$15,000.00) or to Take any other action relative thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following Central Berkshire Regional School District FY20 Assessment, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|                               |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Transportation Assessment     | \$ 44,113.00          |
| Net Operating Assessment      | 849,072.00            |
| Capital Assessment            | <u>128,328.00</u>     |
| Total Town of Peru Assessment | <b>\$1,021,513.00</b> |

*A motion was made and seconded to amend the article to read FY21 instead of FY20 and to amend the Capital Assessment amount to 113,328.00 replacing the amount of 128,328.00 making the Total Town of Peru Assessment 1,006,513.00 replacing the amount of 1,021,513.00*

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as amended  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to fix salaries of all elected officers as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of M.G. L., or take any other action relative thereto:

Selectboard

|        |             |
|--------|-------------|
| Member | \$ 3,471.00 |
| Member | 3,471.00    |
| Member | 3,471.00    |

|            |          |
|------------|----------|
| Town Clerk | 8,078.00 |
|------------|----------|

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to fix salaries of the following appointed officers, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Assessors'                |             |
| Member                    | \$ 3,471.00 |
| Member                    | 3,471.00    |
| Member                    | 3,471.00    |
| Treasurer                 | 9,469.00    |
| Tax Collector             | 9,469.00    |
| Accounting Officer        | 9,469.00    |
| Animal Control Officer    | 1,749.00    |
| Police Chief              | 31,824.00   |
| Forest Fire Warden        | 870.00      |
| Inspector of Animals      | 870.00      |
| Veterans' Agent           | 2,250.00    |
| Council on Aging Director | 590.00      |
| Fire Chief                | 1,178.00    |
| Cemetery Sexton           | 306.00      |
| Town Auditor              | 1.00        |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or take any other action relative thereto:

|                                 |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Assessors' Salaries             | \$ 10,413.00 |
| Selectmen's Salary              | 10,413.00    |
| Tax Collector's Salary          | 9,469.00     |
| Town Clerk's Salary             | 8,078.00     |
| Treasurer's Salary              | 9,469.00     |
| Accounting Officer's Salary     | 9,469.00     |
| Animal Control Officer's Salary | 1,749.00     |
| Forest Fire Warden's Salary     | 870.00       |
| Inspector of Animals Salary     | 870.00       |
| Veterans' Agent Salary          | 2,250.00     |
| Council on Aging Director       | 590.00       |
| Fire Chief                      | 1,178.00     |
| Police Chief                    | 31,824.00    |
| Cemetery Sexton                 | 306.00       |
| Town Auditor                    | 1.00         |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following wage accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|                                 |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Administrative Assistant        | \$ 8,204.00 |
| Elections & Registrar's Account | 4,850.00    |
| Assistant Town Clerk            | 2,484.00    |
| Compactor Attendants            | 6,611.00    |
| Assistant Assessor's Salary     | \$19,278.00 |
| Town Administrator's Salary     | \$20,400.00 |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|                                    |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Assessors' Expense                 | \$ 1,000.00 |
| Bank Service Expense               | 100.00      |
| Animal Control Officer's Expense   | 1,000.00    |
| Selectmen & Other Expenses         | 2,500.00    |
| Tax Collector's Expenses           | 1,500.00    |
| Tax Collector's Tax Taking Charges | 1,500.00    |
| Town Clerk's Expense               | 2,200.00    |
| Town Report Expense                | 2,000.00    |

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Treasurer/Accounting Expense | 1,500.00  |
| Treasurer Tax Title Expense  | 5,000.00  |
| Board of Appeals Expense     | 100.00    |
| U.S. Postal Expense          | 2,500.00  |
| Health Department Expense    | 11,000.00 |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Assessors' Annual Computer Support      | \$ 4,500.00 |
| Computer Supplies & Maintenance         | 23,500.00   |
| Treas./Acct. Annual Computer Support    | 11,470.00   |
| Tax Collector's Annual Computer Support | 9,388.00    |
| Assessors' Tax Map Maintenance          | 1,600.00    |
| Continuing Education                    | 6,530.00    |
| Office Supplies                         | 2,000.00    |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Conservation Commission Expense | \$ 400.00 |
| Interest on Loans               | 1,000.00  |
| Legal Expense                   | 10,000.00 |
| Officers' Mileage               | 2,000.00  |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| Elderly Outreach | \$ 525.00 |
| Council on Aging | 400.00    |
| Veterans Service | 10,000.00 |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Medicare – Town Share        | \$ 6,500.00 |
| Health Ins/Life & Dental     | 123,241.92  |
| Town Insurance - All         | 45,000.00   |
| Mass. Unemployment Insurance | 600.00      |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Partridgefield Playground                                   | \$ 1,500.00 |
| Peru Library  | 5,340.00    |
| Mowing: Cemeteries, Town Hall,<br>Town Park and Town Green: | 6,300.00    |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Town Buildings' Maintenance             | \$ 16,000.00 |
| Utilities – Electric                    | 12,500.00    |
| Utilities – Heating                     | 16,500.00    |
| Utilities - Telephone                   | 1,500.00     |
| Internet Communication Lines            | 8,000.00     |
| Town Website Design, Hosting, & Support | 3,500.00     |
| Town Hall Janitorial Services           | 2,160.00     |
| Board of Health Expense                 | 450.00       |
| Cemetery Expense                        | 600.00       |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Compactor                               | \$ 35,000.00 |
| Northern Berkshire Solid Waste District | 2,378.00     |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|                                    |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Berk. County Sheriffs Dispatching  | \$ 10,477.36 |
| Berk. County Reg. Planning Comm.   | 691.73       |
| Berk. County Retirement Assessment | 41,097.00    |
| Hinsdale Ambulance                 | 2,000.00     |
| Town Fire Station Mortgage Payment | 15,508.63    |
| Police Wages                       | 40,056.00    |
| Police Expenses                    | 4,150.00     |
| Police Cruiser Maintenance         | 3,400.00     |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Peru Volunteer Fire Department Operating Expenses   | \$ 20,000.00 |
| Peru Volunteer Fire Department Insurances           | 7,000.00     |
| Peru Volunteer Fire Department Building Maintenance | 1,500.00     |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 19:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty One-Thousand Two Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$61,200.00) for the Highway Superintendent's annual wage account, or to take any other action relative thereto:

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 20:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the following accounts, or to take any other action relative thereto:

|                                      |              |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Gas & Fuel Account                   | \$ 27,630.00 |
| Maintain Hard Surface Roads          | 28,000.00    |
| Material, Gravel Roads               | 20,000.00    |
| Road Machinery Maintenance           | 25,000.00    |
| Snow Roads, Private                  | 500.00       |
| Snow Roads, Public                   | 80,000.00    |
| Town Highways & Bridges              | 16,750.00    |
| Town Highway Garage Mortgage Payment | 12,020.00    |
| Highway Employee Wage Acct.          | 86,000.00    |
| Future Machine/Vehicle Purchase      | 10,000.00    |

|                             |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Highway Department Uniforms | 3,700.00  |
| Tree Removal                | 20,000.00 |
| Temporary Summer Help       | 5,000.00  |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 21:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money for the vocational education and transportation accounts:

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Vocational School Tuition        | \$184,000.00 |
| Vocational School Transportation | 36,266.40    |

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 22:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Dollars and No Cents (\$5,630.00) for a Paid Librarian for the Peru Library, or to take any other action relative thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 23:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$1,500.00) from the dog license fees to the Peru Library Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 24:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) for the Reserve Fund or take any other action relative thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 25:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Five Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Five Dollars and No Cents (\$5,765.00) to purchase a Boom Mower hydraulic Motor for the Highway Department or to take any other action relative thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 26:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) into the Future Equipment and Vehicle Purchase Account or to take any other action relative thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 27:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Three Thousand Four Hundred Six Dollars and No Cents (\$3,406.00) for the purchase of a hydraulic Hose Crimper Machine for the Highway Department or to take any other action relative thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 28:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$3,500.00) for an Assessor Utility Appraisal or to take any other action relative thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 29:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Twenty Eight Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$28,000.00) to fund an Architectural and Engineering Assessment of the Town Hall/Community Center to identify the structural, electrical, mechanical, security, and ADA needs of the facility.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 30:** To see if the Town will transfer from Free Cash the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000.00) for the Town of Peru 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration or take any other action thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 31:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Chapter 90 funds that are, or may become, available to the Town during the FY20 for Roadway Projects and Repairs, and to authorize the Treasurer to borrow such amounts in anticipation of reimbursement by the Commonwealth, or take any other action in relative thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to amend the article to read FY21 instead of FY20  
A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as amended  
Article carried by voice vote*



**Article 32:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, or other Town Departments with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to apply for and accept grants from the Federal Government, Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any other source, and to expend the same for purposes received without further appropriation, or to take any other action relative thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 33:** To see if the Town will vote to rescind the Peru Wetlands By-Law and Administer and Enforce the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (Chapter 131, Section 40) and Wetlands Protection Regulations (310 CMR 10.00) or to take any other action relative thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 34:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to consider a current member of the Board of Selectmen for the position of Police Chief while he currently serves on the Board of Selectmen subject to the restrictions in Section 20 of the Conflict of Interest Law.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 35:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Overlay Surplus the sum of Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Five Dollars and No Cents (\$7,805.00) for the further Preservation of Town Records or take any other action thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

**Article 36:** To see if the Town will vote to change the Tree Warden from an elected position to an appointed position as authorized by G.L. Chapter 41, Section 1 or take any other action thereto.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the article as written  
Article carried by voice vote*

*A motion was moved and seconded to close this Annual Town Meeting at 7:13 pm*

*There was a total of 46 registered voters in attendance and 7 guests.*

ATTEST: This is a true copy.

*Kim A Leach*

Kim A. Leach Town Clerk, Certified: July 21, 2020

ATTEST:

This is a true copy.

*Kim Leach*

Kim Leach  
Town Clerk

Certified: June 11, 2020

You are directed to serve this warrant with your doing thereon to the Town Clerk or the Board of Selectmen at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 10 day of June, 2020.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

*Verne Leach*

Verne Leach, Chair

*Bruce Cullett*

Bruce Cullett, Member

*Edward F. Munch Jr.*

Edward Munch Jr. Member

I have served this Warrant as directed above.

Places of Posting: Bulletin Board/Town Hall/Transfer Station/Library/Community Center/Website: Townofperuma.com

ATTEST:

*Peggy White*

Constable

Peggy White

6-11-2020

Date

11:05 AM

Time

Posted: June 11, 2020