

Peru Select Board Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2016

Present: Todd Williams, Gail Acosta, Chuck Black, Jon Mowry, John Maher, Alex Sheets, Olivia Rukat, Kevin Beattie, Wayne Blanchard, Barbara Petra

Meeting Called to Order: Todd called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

Review/Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: Gail made a motion to approve and accept the previous meeting minutes; Chuck seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Request to Change Agenda/Public Comment: John Maher requested to speak in regard to delinquent tax payments on properties in Peru (old business). Jon Mowry asked to speak to the Select Board about the changes that the US Forest Service will be doing on existing and proposed bike paths (new business).

New Business

Emergency Shelter/Generator at Flood Brook School: Kevin Beattie updated the Select Board on the plans for a generator at Flood Brook. The Town of Londonderry has received notification of being awarded the grant, will sign the agreement and will now move forward in bids for the work to be done. The generator will power the gymnasium, kitchen, some bathrooms and necessary lighting during an emergency situation. Kevin said he was also pursuing Red Cross certification which would be beneficial. He said that the Select Board of Londonderry would be contacting the Peru Select Board in regard to the sharing of the cost of the project. Some discussion ensued regarding equitable agreement on this matter. Kevin assured the Board that he would be seeing this project through to the end and would be available for any questions or concerns.

Discontinuance of Road: As agreed, Todd met at Olivia Rukat's property to inspect the situation of an un-used portion of Hapgood Pond Road. The Select Board advised Olivia that a letter should be sent with her request along with as much information on deeds, boundaries, etc as possible. The Board will follow the procedure for discontinuing a highway according to 19 V.S.A. sub sec 771 (on file at Town Office).

Bike Paths: The Select Board has no objection to any modifications that the US Forest Service wants to do concerning bike paths. Chuck made a motion to contact them and give them the go ahead; Gail seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Old Business

Town Garage: Todd and Kevin Felion met with the Fire Inspector for the garage; all looks good and the work can continue moving forward. However, it has been determined that the bathroom is not handicapped compliant. The positioning of the toilet and sink does not allow a wheelchair to turn completely in the space. Gail asked that the contractor/plumber be required to correct the situation as designated on original plans. Todd will meet with him to come up with a solution.

Community House: Moving the library. Jan Georgett will be working to sort through the books that are now in the vestibule of the Community House and relocating most of them to the showcase in the Town Center front hallway. Chuck will be following up with the fire marshal to make an application for inspection of the lift in the Community House.

Changing Town Meeting Time: Discussion ensued that changing the time for Town Meeting can be accomplished by warning it in compliance with state statutes. Further discussion on the changing of day can be crafted as an article for discussion and vote at Town Meeting.

Other Business

Tax Sales: John Maher advised the Select Board that 6 properties have been delinquent for a full two years. John sent final delinquent notice to property owners in March which states that collection of taxes is now in the hands of our attorney, Kevin O'Toole. Kevin will send a demand of payment letter or the owners face a tax sale on the property.

John reminded the Select Board that they must appoint a town representative to bid on behalf of the town if there are no bidders on any property that comes up for tax sale. Chuck made a motion to designate Margaret Cobb as the Town Representative at a tax sale; Todd seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

FairPoint Internet: Following up from last meeting, Alex Sheets presented a letter for the Select Board to review and sign requesting the FairPoint Communications respond to the concerns and needs of the Peru community for upgraded service with

greater capacity and overall better internet access. The Board reviewed the letter and agreed to sign it on behalf of the Town of Peru and its residents. Gail made a motion to sign the proposed letter and forward to FairPoint; Todd seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Local Emergency Operations: Chuck pointed out that if the drainage situation at Lyons Pond was addressed and rectified, Route 11 would have no issues.

Designated Employee Representative: Todd volunteered to become the DER; Chuck said he would be the alternate.

Liquor Licenses: Todd made a motion to approve and sign the liquor license application for Bromley Ski Area; Gail seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Excess Weight Permits: Chuck made a motion to accept and sign excess weight permits for Carlton Trucking, White Construction, Frost Wells and Tatro; Todd seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Newspaper of Record: Gail made a motion to use the Rutland Herald as the newspaper of record; Todd seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Appointed Offices by Select Board:

Auditor: After review of an application for the auditor position, Chuck made a motion to accept and appoint Karen Utiger to fulfill the vacant auditors' position until next Town Meeting; Gail seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Town Service Officer: Margaret Dawedeit. Motion made by Todd; Gail seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Health Officer: Roger Fox. Motion made by Todd; Chuck seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Deputy Health Officer: John LaVecchia. Motion made by Todd; Gail seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Emergency Managers: Chuck Black & Todd Williams. Motion made by Gail; Todd seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Planning Commission: Lucas Hughes & Peter Robertson. Motion made by Chuck; Gail seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

ZBA: David Utiger & John Acosta. Motion made by Chuck; Todd seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Fence Viewers: David Farnum & James Daley. Motion made by Chuck; seconded by Gail; all in favor; motion passed.

Road Foreman Report: Wayne reported that resurfacing and new paving will be done on South Road soon. Bids are being accepted for pricing on resurfacing from the beginning of North Road up to Savage Road and Hapgood Pond Road up through Anderson Road. Bids for the work to be done will be sent to the Select Board by April 20, 2016 and opened for consideration at the Select Board meeting. If the grant comes through, the cabled guardrails will be replaced by new steel guardrails. Wayne reported that there is a culvert that needs to be replaced as soon as possible. He said that he is waiting for pricing on the stop line stencils for the village. Many signs were vandalized recently and need replacement along but not exclusively on North Road. Old Manchester Road will now have an east and west designation.

Review Bills and Approve Payment: The Select Board reviewed all bills and approved payment.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm by Todd.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Petra
Assistant Clerk
Town of Peru, VT