

Town of Peru Selectboard Meeting December 3, 2014

Present: Charlie Howard, Grant Braddish, Todd Williams, Stewart Beattie, Barbara Petra

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Charlie Howard at 6:33 pm.

Request to Change Agenda: Request by Charlie Howard to go into executive session.

Review/Approve Minutes: Motion made by Grant to approve minutes from the November 19, 2014 Selectboard meeting. Charlie seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

New Business:

Johnny SeeSaws: Upon notice of The Inn Thing filing for bankruptcy, counsel has advised the Selectboard that there is no further action to take. Charlie said he will be sending copies of the outstanding bills to Rob Woolmington.

Peru Fair: Fran Tobia conveyed a message to the Selectboard about putting a padlock on the garage doors to their new storage area. All agreed it was a good idea.

Tax Exemption for Veterans: The Selectboard received a letter from a veteran requesting that an article be presented at the next Town Meeting increasing the exemption status of veterans who have a 50% or greater disability. Charlie was going to look into this and respond.

Old Business:

Proposed Budget: The Selectboard reviewed and revised the proposed budget for the upcoming FY2015-16. They discussed and decided that \$38,000 from surplus would be applied to the tax rate. After discussion, a motion was made by Charlie to rescind the special article for the capital improvements at the Town Garage. Motion seconded by Todd, all in favor, motion passed. The anticipated improvements to the garage and fire department will be a line item in the budget under capital

improvements. After discussion, a motion was made by Charlie to set the budget at \$691,950. Grant seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

Street Lights: Charlie reported that after much investigation that our street lights that are owned by Green Mountain Power and have a depreciated value. Efficiency Vermont will absorb that value and GMP will be able to replace the current lights with LED's at no cost to the Town. Motion was made by Charlie to go forward with the application, Grant seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

Other Business:

Traffic Control: As constable, Stewart Beattie reported of the increasing necessity for better parking in the village. Stewart reminded that he has come before the Selectboard several times over the years and feels that with the resurgence of the village, no more time can go by without addressing the issues. He recommends that stop blocks be painted at the stop signs, trimming trees and improving the end of the village where people are parking for church and other community events. Todd said he and Wayne have already discussed the plowing back of snow in order to create more width for parking of cars. The Selectboard said they would follow up on his concerns.

Executive Session: Charlie called an executive session at 7:45 pm to discuss personnel. Regular meeting resumed at 8:02 pm.

Employees: Charlie made a motion to increase Wayne Blanchard's hourly wage by \$ 1.50 starting on December 15, 2014, motion was seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

Bills/Invoices: Pay order was reviewed and approved.

Meeting Adjourned: Charlie adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Petra
Assistant Clerk
Town of Peru
December 4, 2014