

Town of Peru Selectboard Meeting
March 4, 2015

Present: Charlie Howard, Todd Williams, Gail Acosta, Hope Richardson, Bob Stelz, Barbara Petra.

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Charlie Howard at 6:31pm.

Request to Change Agenda: None.

Review/Approve Minutes: Todd made a motion to approve minutes as posted. Gail seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

New Business

Elect Chairperson of Selectboard: Todd nominated Charlie Howard to chair the Selectboard for the coming year. Gail seconded, all in favor, motion passed. Todd made a motion that the Selectboard chair has authority to act with executive decision in an emergency situation. Gail seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

Town Meeting Recommendations: The Selectboard discussed issues which were brought up during the March 4th Town Meeting. Further investigation will be made into the feasibility of an exterior fire escape, fire extinguishers, fire rated door, etc. in regard to the Community House.

Environmental/Energy: Hope Richardson spoke with the Selectboard in regard to the use of plastic bags in local businesses in the Town of Peru. She advised them that JJ. Hapgood and Bromley Market do not use plastic bags. However, the ski shop up on Bromley Mountain does. She asked how to place a ban and or tax on the use of plastic bags. After some discussion, Hope will investigate other town's policies and procedures in dealing with the situation. It was suggested that she form a committee to help in the fact finding end of this. Hope will put together a notice that can then be posted on the Towns' website asking for committee members. She also said that she attended the open house at the Burr & Burton Mountain Campus Wednesday night. The students have been active in writing to state legislators in Montpelier about energy efforts throughout the state.

Paper of Record: The Selectboard chose the Rutland Herald to be the paper of record for Peru.

Appointed Positions: The Selectboard reviewed the list of Appointed Town Officers. They will be contacting some people to see if they would like to continue or take over certain positions.

Audit: Bob Stelz, as a former auditor, spoke with the Selectboard regarding the Audit Report that was presented in the Town Report. He appreciated the way that Charlie responded to the question on why the former auditors all resigned after the 2014 Town Meeting. Bob wanted to bring a couple of points to light and clarify others. The auditors do not provide the figures for the financial statements; they should not be reconciling bank statements since there are other internal controls in place; a report cannot be turned down; and recommendations can be made for improvement of the audit process. Bob also said that an outside CPA auditing firm might be a good idea for the upcoming year's audit.

Road Foreman Report: Wayne Blanchard was not in attendance. Todd Williams reported that all was going well with the road crew and remaining supplies for maintenance of winter roads. All equipment is up to snuff.

New Selectboard: Time was spent just bringing the new Selectboard member, Gail Acosta, up to speed regarding procedures, attending conferences and seminars for new members, etc.

Liquor License: The Selectboard reviewed and signed off on liquor licenses for the Bromley Market.

Old Business: None

Review/Approve Bills: All bills were reviewed and approved for payment.

Adjournment: Charlie adjourned meeting at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Petra
Assistant Town Clerk
Town of Peru, VT
March 12, 2015