

**Town of Peru Selectboard Meeting**  
**March 18, 2015**

**Present:** Charlie Howard, Todd Williams, Gail Acosta, Wayne Blanchard, Bob Stelz, Chuck Black, Margaret Cobb

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Charlie Howard at 6:30pm.

**Request to Change Agenda:** Charlie made a change under Old Business from Bromley vs Krammer Lawsuit to Bromley vs Hammer Lawsuit.

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

**New Business:**

**Town Roads & Bridges Excess Weight Permit:** The Selectboard reviewed applications from David Chaves Excavating and United Natural Foods. Chaves Excavating has a crusher in its fleet of vehicles that weighs 149,000 lbs. Excess weight permits are granted by Selectboard members, municipal officials, to companies for exceeding the prescribed limits of Class 2, 3 and 4 town highways under whatever conditions of maximum weight decided to be appropriate. When a permit is submitted it must include a certificate of liability insurance form. The State has been posting signs with seasonal restrictions (spring posting) to prevent damage during periods when spring-time breakup makes road structures susceptible to damage.

Bob Stelz mentioned his oil was delivered two weeks early because his fuel company had been told the road would be closed to overweight vehicles as of April 15<sup>th</sup> due to possible road damage.

Road damage did occur on Lovers Lane requiring 2 loads of ¾” stone to fill ruts when a truck hauling a crane drove down the road. The company involved had not submitted an excess weight permit to the Town. This will be investigated with reciprocity to be determined.

**Auditors Report:** Basic acknowledgement of the auditor’s job is to review the accounts of local officials and report the findings directly to the tax payers for review. Chuck stated it is his responsibility as an auditor to review and reconcile monthly bank statements thus providing a check and balance. Chuck and Bob discussed the role of the auditors and where and when the auditor’s report should be reviewed. Chuck read from the Auditor’s Handbook statute 24 V.S.A. §1681, “If there is disagreement between the treasure’s statements and the auditor’s report, the auditors should present to the treasurer the areas of discrepancy and attempt to correct the treasurer’s statements. Professional auditors do not adjust accounts, but simply examine them for

errors. The local town auditor, on the other hand, by statutory authority, has the right to adjust accounts”.

**Bennington County Regional Commission:** Allison Langsdale, representative from the BCRS, is asking for updated Local Emergency Operation Plans, from the Town. Charlie asked Todd to be Peru’s contact and board member. Todd agreed and will complete this application. Having a LEOP plan in place saves the Town money because FEMA is more willing to provide compensation.

**New House Inspection Policy:** A public hearing on the proposed administrative rules to govern the practice of property inspection will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup> the office of Professional Regulations in Montpelier.

**Old Business:**

**Appointed Positions:** After contacting members for their approval the Selectboard appointed the following positions with the motion moved, seconded, all in favor and passed;

Planning Commission - 3 year term David Farnum and Peter Berman

Zoning Board - 3 year term Peter Bradford

All the following are 1 year terms

Zoning Administrator - John LaVecchia

Fence Viewer - David Farnum and James Daley

Sexton - Carl Holcomb

Town Service Officer - Margaret Dawedait

Health Officer - Dr. Roger Fox

Deputy Health Officer - John LaVacchia

Assistant Town Clerk/ Treasurer - Barbara Petra

Emergency Manager - Chuck Black

**Community House:** Charlie would like the Selectboard to do a walk through at the Community House and make suggestions for upgrades to fire extinguishers and smoke alarms.

**Town Garage Construction:** Peter Nadler, from Efficiency Vermont, made recommendations for the Peru Town Garage project including obtaining quotes for the installation of a floor boiler and a ceiling unit. Compare cost, reliability and annual maintenance charges. The largest source of heat loss occurs when the bay doors are opened. The lighting was recently upgraded to T8 bulbs. Wayne said the overhead unit would save room. Gail will investigate possible grants that would include improvements, remodeling and reconstruction. A fire proof cabinet will be purchased to store combustibles.

**Bromley vs Hammer Lawsuit:** The Town of Peru was accidentally included in this lawsuit between Bromley Mountain Condo Association and Hammer. This complaint was cleared when Hammer paid the settlement. The Town of Peru will not sign off until the back taxes have been paid.

**Other Business:**

**Liquor Licenses:** The Selectboard should look for three items when reviewing applications;

- Proof of when the last class was taken.
- A health license obtained from the Vermont Department of Health.
- Trade name registered with the Secretary of State office.

The Selectboard signed liquor licenses for The Lodge at Bromley.

**Selectboard Training:** Gail will attend a VLCT Selectboard training class in Montpelier.

**Road Foreman Report:** Spring is coming! The check engine light has been coming on in the International truck so Monday morning at SG Reid of Claremont it will be given the once over. The 550 was reprogrammed at CJ Stewarts and it is still under warranty. There are two frozen culverts, one at Beechwood and Beechnut and the second on Little Michigan Rd. Wayne has attempted to unplug them using chloride with no success. His suggestion is to use a specially designed culvert thawing pressure washer. He will check with Trevor to determine if Peru can rent the unit owned by Winhall. Various summer paving and resurfacing projects were discussed and will continue to be considered. Wayne will price out the cost for these projects. Brian Bills will be up for his sixth month review soon.

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

**Adjournment:** Charlie adjourned the meeting at 8:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Cobb  
Peru Town Clerk  
Town of Peru, Vt  
March 21, 2015