

Peru Selectboard Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2020

Present: Jon Mowry, Chuck Black, Todd Williams, Donna Williams, Jane Worley, Jennie Freeman, Bill Taylor

Meeting Called to Order: Jon called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm

Review/Approve Minutes: Jon made a motion to approve meeting minutes from December 2, 2020. Chuck seconded. All in favor; motion approved.

Request to change agenda: None

Public Comment - None

Road Foreman Report

Todd asked about storing picnic tables for winter. Discussion about bringing them down to skating rink. Jon will ask a few people to move them.

NEW BUSINESS:

Update from Jane Worley - Taconic and Green Board Member

Jane provided an overview of her role on the school board, will act as our local representative and hopes to keep Selectboard informed of the school board work. Goals of the school board include community engagement, equity, and legislative action. Board needs to be more proactive in talking with legislatures and perhaps inviting them to meetings. Two student representatives serve on school board. They receive a stipend and bring perspective to school board.

Act 162 - Australian Ballot for reviewing and approving financial budget for school year. Average cost of pupil education listed on website for K-6th is \$14,263 and 7th-12th - \$15,933. Anticipated 9% for all taxpayers for education funding in 2021 - K-6th - \$14,859 and 7-12th \$16,233

Town Meeting Plan: Research is being done to run Peru Town meeting via informational remote meeting and Australian ballot for voting, either in person by absentee ballot. Selectboard will vote at first meeting January regarding this change in structure for this year.

OLD BUSINESS:

Assistant Clerk Position Opening - The town is going to list a job opening for an Assistant Clerk/Assistant Treasurer opening. Stephanie can support this transition once a replacement is found.

2021-2022 Budget Discussion: Jon motioned that the Selectboard approve for the 2021-2022 expenses to be set at \$926,275 with \$616,650 to be raised in taxes. Todd seconded. All in favor; motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Jon spoke with lawyer from VLCT. We do need to include an article to combine the two pavement reserve funds.

Discussion regarding possibility of combining Town Green and Town Park funds. To be revisited at January 5, 2020 meeting.

Todd inquired about the status of the forest service project. Chuck met with forester and walked west side of road. The town's old plan needs to be updated. Should be excess of 100,000 board feet; a substantial sale. It will be worth waiting until we are able to ask for multiple bids as this could be sizable for the town.

Review Bills and Approve for Payment:

Jon made a motion to approve the pay order based on being checked by Jon and tomorrow by Todd. All in favor; motioned passed.

Adjournment: Jon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25. Chuck seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennie Freeman
Peru Town Clerk

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL