

# TOWN OF PERU

## REMOTE PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING

### NOTICE and AGENDA

The Selectboard for Peru, VT will hold a public informational hearing by electronic means on March 1st, 2021 at 7:00 PM to discuss the Australian ballot articles on the 2021 Town Meeting Warning.

#### Information on how to access the remote hearing:

**By telephone:** Dial 1 646 876 9923. When prompted, enter the meeting ID and passcode if requested:

**Meeting ID: 957 0484 8031**

**Passcode: 629505**

#### Using ZOOM:

Join meeting directly by clicking here or entering the following into your web browser:

<https://zoom.us/j/95704848031?pwd=OUtqQmV5OEJUbdZ0cDIBQ0dHQ1I4UT09>

You may be prompted to enter the meeting ID or passcode above

**The link can also be accessed directly by going to [peruvt.org](http://peruvt.org) and clicking the link at the bottom of the left column.**

If you have not yet, by smartphone, tablet, or other device, you may have to download and open the ZOOM app. You may have to create a free account or sign into your existing account. Select the option to join meeting and enter the meeting ID shown above.

Please review our "Informational Handout for Remote Public Hearings" at the bottom of this document to understand how this electronic hearing will be managed.

To ensure smooth access, we recommend that you test your remote hearing software in advance of the meeting.

## AGENDA

- **7:00 PM: Call to Order**
- **Additions or deletions to the agenda**
  - **Public comment**
  
- **Review and discuss Article I: To elect a Town Moderator**
  - **Public comment**

- **Review and discuss Article II:** To elect all Town Officers as the law directs.

- A. Town Clerk for a term of one year;
- B. Town Treasurer for a term of one year;
- C. Selectboard member for a term of three years;
- D. Lister for a term of three years;
- E. Auditor for a term of three years;
- F. Cemetery Commissioner for a term of five years;
- G. First Constable for a term of one year;
- H. Second Constable for a term of one year;
- I. Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one year;
- J. Grand Juror for a term of one year;
- K. Trustee of Public Funds for a term of one year;
  - Public comment

- **Review and discuss Article III:**

Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses for the 2021-2022 fiscal year of \$926,275, of which \$616,650 shall be raised by taxes and \$309,625 by non-tax revenues?

Shall the voters establish the date of payment of such taxes as July 1st, 2021 through September 30th, 2021.

- Public comment

- **Review and discuss Article IV:** Shall the Voters authorize the Treasurer to collect current taxes?

- Public comment

- **Review and discuss Article V:**

Shall the voters vote a sum of money to the following organizations which serve the community

	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Bennington County Conservation District	<b>\$300</b>
BROC Community Action	<b>\$200</b>
Cemetery Commission	<b>\$5,000</b>
The Collaborative	<b>\$750</b>
Center for Restorative Justice	<b>\$300</b>
Flood Brook Athletic Association	<b>\$1,000</b>
Green Up Vermont	<b>\$50</b>
Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad	<b>\$4,000</b>
Mountain Valley Health Council	<b>\$3,000</b>
Neighborhood Connections	<b>\$1,000</b>

Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE)	\$150
Rural Fire Protection Task Force	\$100
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging	\$200
Vt. Ctr. Of Independent Living	\$140
Bennington County Coalition for Homeless	\$500
Visiting Nurse & Hospice	\$2,700
Bennington County Child Advocacy Ctr.	\$500
South Londonderry Free Library	<u>\$1,000</u>
 TOTAL REQUESTS	 \$20,890

- **Review and discuss Article VI:** Shall the voters approve a veteran’s exemption to include an amount up to \$30,000. The State of Vermont currently provides a maximum exemption of \$40,000 with the first \$10,000 provided by the state. The total exemption is deducted from the appraised value of the parcel.
  - Public comment
  
- **Review and discuss Article VII:** Shall the voters approve combining the New Pavement Reserve Fund with a balance of \$69,429.66 and the Highway Resurface Fund with a balance of \$61,383.89 plus any accrued interest into a new Reserve Fund called the Highway Surfacing Fund?
  - Public comment
  
- **Review and discuss Article VIII:** Shall the voters approve combining the Village Green Reserve Fund with a balance of \$5,243.45 and the Peru Park Reserve Fund with a balance of \$2,907.01 plus any accrued interest into a new Reserve Fund called the Town Park Reserve Fund?
  - Public comment
  
- **Review and discuss Article IX:** Shall the Town of Peru vote a sum of money not to exceed \$200,000 to construct a multi-use pavilion on the Town Green.
  - Public comment
  
- **Discussion of other non-binding business (if applicable)**
- **Entertain motion to adjourn hearing.**

## INFORMATIONAL HANDOUT FOR REMOTE HEARINGS

### Remote Public Informational Hearing

The public informational hearing will be conducted remotely via electronic means. The public will also be able to access and participate in the remote hearing by dialing in through telephone.

### Accessing the Hearing

Please refer to the hearing notice and agenda for information on how to access the remote hearing. Please note that whether you join by telephone, computer, or device, you may be put on hold or in a waiting “room” until granted access to the hearing. You also may be muted or restricted from using any chat function until the public comment portion of the hearing.

### Participation

The Selectboard will follow its agenda and allow public attendees to participate through voice (audio) means where feasible or alternatively using any chat function during the designated public comment periods on the agenda and at other applicable times as needed.

Initially, the hearing host/organizer will mute all participants. This is necessary to control background noise. The host/organizer will then unmute participants or allow participants to unmute themselves when invited to speak by the Selectboard Chair.

Please review the following guidelines:

- The Chair will invite comment:
  - during the time designated on the agenda for public comment;
  - during any open public comment period, if applicable; and
  - other times as determined by the Chair.

- When a participant/attendee is unmuted, they must state their name before commenting.

When the Selectboard adjourns the hearing, the host/organizer will end the electronic hearing by turning off/closing the remote hearing software. Attendees will be automatically disconnected.

Minutes and other public records that were part of the hearing will be made available in accordance with VT’s Open Meeting and Public Records Laws.

**To learn more about Remote Public Hearings and the Open Meeting Law, please visit the Secretary of State’s Municipal Assistance webpage at**

**<https://sos.vermont.gov/municipal-division/laws-resources/covid-19-response/>**.