

Peru Selectboard Meeting

March 17, 2021

Present: Jon Mowry, Todd Williams, Chuck Black, Jennie Freeman, Jay Reichman, Martina Barnes, John Murphy, Josh Witkin

Meeting Called to Order: Jon called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

Elect a Board Chair: Chuck nominated Jon Mowry to continue as board chair. Jon seconded. All in favor; motion passed.

Review/Approve Minutes: Jon moved to approve minutes from the February 17, 2021 meeting. Chuck seconded. All in favor; motion passed. Minutes from town meeting will be posted “subject to approval”.

Request to change agenda: Approve overweight permits and town pay scale.

Public Comment: None

Road Foreman Report: None

NEW BUSINESS

Martina Barnes - US Forest Service Manchester District Ranger – Martina provided an overview of areas of interest for Peru. The town of Peru has 17,104 acres of forest service land. Hapgood Pond - planning to have return volunteer host this summer. Possibility of a golf cart being used for water testing. To be followed up on when more details are known. They are hoping to install an automated fee machine this summer so that folks can pay with credit card. Youth Fishing Derby is cancelled this year due to Covid 19. Area trails got high use this past year. Forest service is working to manage all of the trails. Due to increased use, the Green Mtn. Club will be hosting 4 weeks of Long Trail trail crew to maintain some local trail segments.

Jon inquired about the logging job on Old Job. Hunter Excavating won the contract. These contracts are 5 year contracts. Hunter could start next winter, or it could be another year or two out still. That lumber will be hauled through Peru.

Appoint Town Officers: Jon moved to appoint the following officers:

- LJ Petra and Mike Gayda - Planning Commission
- Peter Bradford and Josh Witkin - Zoning Board
- Carl Holcomb - Sexton
- Melissa O'Brien - Town Service Officer
- Mike Gayda - Health Officer
- Josh Witkin - Deputy Health Officer
- Todd Williams - Road Commissioner
- Todd Williams and Chuck Black - Emergency Managers
- Jay Reichman – Peru representative to BCRC (Bennington County Regional Commission)
- Will Goodwin – Zoning Administrator

Chuck seconded. All in favor; motion passed.

Jon Mowry moved to appoint John Murphy to replace Stewart Beattie, who resigned, to the cemetery commission. Chuck seconded. All in favor; motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Hiring update: Melinda Beebe has been hired as Assistant Clerk.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Overweight permit applications: Jon moved to approve permits for David Chaves Excavating, Newton Construction and Cardinal Logistics Management Corp. Chuck seconded. All in favor; motion passed.

Green Mtn. Power is terminating their water heater lease program. They will give it to us, remove it, or offer recommendations for replacements. It may be at the fire house.

Child Abuse Awareness Month – Pinwheels will be placed on the town green with an explanation of their symbolism in support of Child Abuse Awareness Month.

Maintenance: Slates on roof to be checked. Windows in office may need some reinforcement.

Review Bills and Approve for Payment: Correct payroll summary needed. Selectboard viewed and approved pay order for payment.

Jon moved to approve the pay scale for town employees as received. Chuck seconded. All in favor; motion passed.

Adjournment: Jon moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 pm. Chuck seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennie Freeman

Peru Town Clerk