

TOWN OF PERU

Selectboard Meeting

February 15, 2023

Present: Jon Mowry, Chuck Black, Edward Bridgeman, Sajo Music, Lisa Cronin, Tom Cronin, Patrick McMahon, Diana Green, Tatianna Wright, Brian Sullivan, Jaime Brown, Juliette Britton, Melinda Beebe. Josh Witkin attended remotely.

Meeting Called to Order: Jon called the meeting to order at 6:35pm

Review/Approve Minutes: Jon made a motion to approve the previous minutes; Chuck seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

Request to Change Agenda: None

Public Comment: None

Road Foreman Report: Wayne reported to Jon that the roads are holding up well.

New Business: Short term Rental Ordinance: Jon gave some history about how and why this ordinance was created. The main reason for this ordinance is public safety. The town needs this ordinance to be in place in order to track short term rentals and to have some recourse when problems do arise. Everyone in attendance was provided a copy of the ordinance.

Concerns were raised about how this ordinance came to fruition. Jon stated that all the groundwork/creation was done by the Planning Commission, Zoning Administrator and legal counsel for the town. All progress of this ordinance was made public through the Town Web site as well as agenda's being posted at the Town Office and the Post Office.

Discussion about the regulation that states there needs to be a caretaker available 24/7, within 30 minutes of the property. Many in attendance thought this was not realistic. Chuck states that these are both about safety. Fire safety is a major concern, as well as any other crisis that could occur

during a rental. Josh Witkin spoke about the specific benefits of having a caretaker that was an active part in short term rentals.

Occupancy limits were also of concern to those in attendance. Jon advised that this is a safety issue that needed to be addressed. The number of bedrooms is directly related to the septic capabilities of a property.

In conclusion Jon and Chuck both made it clear that this ordinance was not meant to target anyone in particular but rather to keep all concerned safe and to preserve the quality of life we have all enjoyed thus far here in Peru.

Chuck made a motion to pass the Short Term Rental Ordinance; Jon seconded; motion passed.

Noise Ordinance: Jon stated that this ordinance applies to all residents of Peru and closely follows the noise ordinance of the State of Vermont. Concerns were expressed about the time frame for special events. Jon stated that as long as the noise level was “within reason” there shouldn’t be a problem.

Jon motions that the Noise Ordinance be accept with an amendment to 2H that reads “Use of fireworks without a proper permit are forbidden”; Chuck seconded; motion passed.

Old Business: None

Other Business: The selectboard approved and signed 3 overweight permits. N E Quality Service, Barrett Trucking & G W Tatro Construction, Inc.

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

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Melinda M. Beebe

Town Clerk

Subject to Approval