

Town of Peru
Selectboard draft minutes
402 Main Street
April 1, 2026
5:30PM

Board members in attendance: Laurie Gayda, Ben Foltz, Andy Dahlstrom
Other visitors: Road Foreman Wayne Blanchard, Asst. Clerk & Treasurer Harriet Dahlstrom; [remote]: Ben Tuff for school board appointment conversation, Town Health Officer Mike Gayda for Walt's Camp health concern update.

Meeting Call to Order: Dahlstrom called the meeting to order at 5:32pm

Review / Approve Minutes, from 03/18/2026:

Moved by Foltz, 2nd by Gayda. Unanimous vote to approve

Request To Change Agenda:

Dahlstrom moved to shift agenda Old Business item 3 to April 15. 2nd by Gayda. Unanimous vote to change agenda.

Public Comment: None

Road Foreman:

1) South Rd. update: consider price quote and strategy for road maintenance
Discussion of the bids from Fuller (see attached), plus an informally-priced 3rd option from Fuller, which is to gravel over the top of the existing pavement. Lower section of South Rd cost estimate for gravel is \$150k (for the section that is estimated at \$380,940 for paving).
Advocacy from South Rd resident Todd Williams read to the Selectboard.
No action taken. Selectboard will continue to ask resident preferences and share the various bids to publicize costs of different maintenance strategies.

Old Business:

1) Selectboard procedure document review and signing.
No action taken, after detection of typos that need correction. Will be addressed in April 15 mtg.
2) Special Town Meeting for additional Local Option Tax vote: May 2, 2026
Update that special meeting warning is posted.

3) Update on proposal to hire part-time / on-call employee to Road Crew
No action. Moved to April 15 mtg.

New Business:

1) Discuss moving the Short-Term Rental renewal deadline from April 1st , 2026, to June 1st, 2026, for the 2026-2027 rental renewal period.

Discussion of STR registration program. Due to many months without an Assistant Clerk, program stalled. Now it is STR registration renewal season (April 1).

After consideration of the renewal form, Dahlstrom moved to extend renewal application due date from April 1 to May 1 for this registration year only. 2nd by Gayda. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

Assistant Clerk will send out updated renewal form and letter explaining new due date. Assistant Clerk will also alert STR Officer to the changed enrollment date, and forward to the Selectboard the letter announcing this year's STR renewal plan.

2) Motion to enter executive session to discuss the appointment of Ben Tuff as representative to Taconic and Green School Board. Ben Tuff invited into Executive Session. 1 V.S.A. § 313

Gayda moved to enter Executive Session, 2nd by Foltz, unanimous vote in favor. Board exited Executive Session and resumed public meeting.

Gayda moved to appoint Ben Tuff as town representative to the Taconic and Green School Board. 2nd by Foltz. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

3) Discuss USDA Forest Service environmental analysis of Manchester Multisport Event 2026 Project, with comment period deadline of April 3.

The Selectboard reviewed an event proposal that would bring a multi-day bicycle event through Peru on June 23-24. The route description—"...connect with the Mad Tom Notch Trail and then ride west, existing the National Forest for a stretch in Dorset..."—is not recognized by the Selectboard as an existing, passable route or trail. The Selectboard will write to project contact Jen Edmonds, Natural Resource Specialist, to ask for clarification of the intended route. From an EMS preparedness perspective, it would be reassuring to know where 200 people on bicycles intend to go off-road in Peru.

4) Public Health. Discuss concerns of Town Health Officer.

Town Health Officer (THO) called in for speaker-phone conversation. Update that he has checked that Walt's Camp resident is using the waste disposal plan coordinated by THO, Neighborhood Connections, and Door Septic Systems. THO

will continue to monitor for compliance. Discussion of recruiting one or more Deputy THOs, and of adding a stipend for THO work.

Other Business: none

Review Bills and Approve Payments: review and approve session after close of public meeting.

Adjourn: Dahlstrom moved, 2nd by Foltz. All voted to adjourn meeting.