

Town of Peru
Selectboard meeting, draft minutes
402 Main Street
May 6, 2026
5:30PM

Board members in attendance: Laurie Gayda, Ben Foltz, Andy Dahlstrom
Other visitors: Road Foreman Wayne Blanchard, Assistant Clerk Harriet Dahlstrom, Hilary Dahlstrom

Meeting Call to Order: Meeting commenced at 5:32pm

Review / Approve Minutes, from 04/15/2026: Foltz moves to accept minutes, Gayda seconds. Unanimous vote in favor.

Request To Change Agenda: none

Public Comment: Harriet Dahlstrom tells the Board about her recent meeting with Silloway Networks, the computer consultant providing service to the Town Center. Dahlstrom outlined the changes Silloway proposed to save the Town some money in monthly services charges. Dahlstrom asked Silloway for a cost estimate to add wireless printing for the office.

New Business:

1) Motion to replace culverts and pave upper portion of South Rd.

Following meetings with Fuller Sand and Gravel Inc about paving, Hunter Excavating about culvert replacement, and VT Dept of Environmental Conservation about permitting, and Jim Henderson of BCRC about re-allocating grant money already earmarked for culverts, Blanchard and Dahlstrom have updated the South Rd maintenance proposal, by recommending new paving of the upper portion this summer, following the installation of upsized culverts.

The Town does not have the bid for culvert installation from Hunter yet, but will estimate based on Blanchard's prediction.

Dahlstrom moves to approve \$306k for the South Rd maintenance project: \$285,404 for Fuller for grinding, grading, compacting, and paving, and up to \$20,000 for Hunter for the installation of culverts. Gayda seconds. All vote in favor of the motion.

2) Follow-up on passage of Local Option Taxes at Special Town Meeting. Confirmation that the Town has passed both the 1% LOT on meals and alcohol, and the 1% LOT on sales. (The resulting tax rates after the LOTs are added will be: 10% on meals, 11% on alcohol, and 7% on sales (excluding all the items exempted from the State of VT sales tax).

Road Foreman:

1) Strategy on lower portion of South Rd., paving fund, annual budget
The recommendation for the lower portion of South Rd is to leave it as is, not to grind the existing pavement and grade as dirt. Fuller wants a thorough testing of the road base before he will consider paving it again, giving how quickly and dramatically the pavement shifted even in the first year after paving it a decade ago.

Blanchard raises the question of the annual allotment of town money to the paving fund; at the current rate of \$50k/year, the town will not have sufficient savings for another paving project for a lot time.

Old Business:

1) Taconic & Green School Board representation

A vote by the T&G School Board on Monday, May 4 confirmed Ben Tuff as a new board member, representing Peru.

Other Business: none

Review Bills and Approve Payments: to be signed following the close of the meeting.

Adjourn: Foltz moves to adjourn, Gayda seconds. Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm